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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by "Women and Modern World" Social Charitable Centre, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[22 August 2022]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



Arbitrary Arrests, Detention, Torture and Extra Judicial Execution in The Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) situation had resulted in the serious human rights violation in the past and is still continuing in some respect. For several decades, the indigenous Jumma people of the CHT of Bangladesh have been subjected to serious human rights abuses including large scale massacres, arbitrary detention, torture and extrajudicial executions. The violence in CHT, developed during years of armed confrontation and allowed human rights violation to be committed in the majority of cases with impunity. The main perpetrators have been the law enforcement agencies and the Bengalis settlers. The consistent human rights abuses including massacres of Jumma people by the Bangladesh security forces and the illegal plain settlers forced Jumma population to seek shelter in Tripura State of India in 1986, 1989 and 1993. My organization wants your attention to the continuing violence and unabated violation of human rights and abuses committed in the CHT area of Bangladesh against the Jumma.

The Government of Bangladesh (Awami League), which came to power in 1996, signed the CHT Peace Accord with Parbattya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti (PCJSS) on 2 December 1997, thereby ending the conflict formally. The peace accord acknowledged the uniqueness of the CHT region and increased the share of the indigenous tribal in the local administration. However, even after over two and half decades since the signing of the peace accord, the situation continues to be grim in the CHT region. The demand for independence by people of Chakma ethnic community, Chakma National Council of India and Tripura, Chakma Students Association etc living in Tripura claiming Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) to be 'integral part' of India keep coming to hit on the deaf ears of Bangladeshi political and military janta, mainly due to the excesses and abuses committed against the Jumma people. Nevertheless, the true implementation of the 1997 peace accord is far from realization and failure to implement the peace accord has resulted critical situation in present time. Past incidents of human rights violations have been rarely investigated.

Human rights Defenders are deeply concerned about the persecution, extrajudicial killings, arbitrary detention, torture and other abuses committed against the minority Jumma/ Chakma ethnic community. It is believed that Jumma people have the right to freedom of speech, expression and preservation of their identity, uniqueness, property and land.

We look forward to a positive response from the UHCHR on the right to life, liberty, security, and protection from arbitrary arrests, and freedom of movement in the light of Articles 3, 9 & 13 of UDHR.
