



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-fifth session

26 February–5 April 2024

Agenda item 9

**Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related  
forms of intolerance: follow-up to and implementation  
of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

### **Written statement\* submitted by Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee, 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.

[26 January 2024]

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



## **Discrimination against Women in India**

Discrimination against women is often intertwined with discrimination on other grounds such as race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Women and girls around the globe are still subject to significant disadvantage as the result of discriminatory laws and practices. Equality has been achieved in many countries in the world, and pledges to eliminate discriminatory laws have been fulfilled but in country like India where Dalit women singularly positioned at the bottom of India's caste. Dalits women still facing discrimination in various ways. They face violence, abuse, and unequal treatment at home, at work and in their wider communities and are denied opportunities to learn, to earn and to lead. In India, Dalit and schedule caste women are still living in poverty. They have fewer resources, less power and less influence as compared to upper caste women. In India, Discrimination against women is a pervasive issue and women face discrimination in various ways such as Economic discrimination and Gender-based violence. Women are often paid less than men for the same work, and they are also hired to work in low-paying jobs. This economic discrimination limits their opportunities for financial independence and can perpetuate a cycle of poverty. Additionally, women are often excluded from formal employment opportunities and access to credit, which further limits their economic opportunities.

Violence against women is a significant problem in Indian society, and it is often rooted in gender-based discrimination. Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. Gender-based violence can have significant physical and psychological effects on women, and it can also limit their opportunities for education, employment, and social participation. These forms of discrimination against women are often systemic and deeply ingrained in Indian culture and social structures. But it is sad to say that Indian government failed to be addressing these issues. We urge this council to ask Indian government to stop discrimination against women and protect their rights.

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