

## Indian Council of South America International Council For Human Rights Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition

Human Rights Council 14<sup>th</sup> Session UPR Qatar Wednesday 09 June 2010 Ambassador Ronald Barnes

Thank Mr. Chair,

The IPNC welcomes the high level delegation from Qatar and congratulates you for your first Universal Periodic Review. You spirit of cooperation

Qatar has hosted many international conferences on issues of development, democracy and human rights to peace and has been a strong supporter for the development of countries of the South, for this we laud you.

The positive acceptance of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in person, especially women and children and the effort to draft a law on combating human trafficking and the draft law on domestic workers is commendable. In this regard we also call upon Qatar to accept more Special Rapporteurs and Special Procedures to your country.

Although Qatar did not accept a moratorium on the death penalty, our organization finds it crucial to the recommendation you accepted to continue the work to ensure fair trials, particularly in cases of the death penalty, ensuring the right to be judged by an independent, impartial and competent court, the right to effective judicial protection, the right to have enough time and facilities to properly prepare the defence of a defendant, the right to the presumption of innocence, the right to appeal and the right for a sentence to be commuted. There are many innocent people who are sentenced to death and executed. It is for this reason that Qatar makes an extra effort, ten steps further to ensure that innocent people are not sentenced and executed.

We call upon you to continue to strengthen its cooperation with civil society organizations in promoting and protecting human rights in areas such as the administration of justice, education, public health, migrant workers and gender equality.

I thank you Mr. Chair.