

REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)

34th Session of the UPR Working Group

- ▶ Three main topics will be presented in this summary:
 - Rights of Indigenous People and Minority Issues;
 - Land Rights, and
 - The Rights of Refugees

Rights of Indigenous People and Minority Issues

▶ Issue at stake:

- Climate change and frequent droughts in recent years have had negative impact on the existential livelihoods, food and water of minority groups and indigenous communities.
- Over 2,3 million affected in the whole South and East Angola, most of them women and children;

▶ Recommendation:

- Declaring the State of Emergency, Creating Basic Food Basket Programs and expedite the access to water for the whole of the South and East of Angola;
- Create the space for strategic involvement and partnership with national and international actors, as well as transitional initiatives towards resilience and sustainability in the face of frequent adverse environmental effects, resulting from natural disasters.

Land Rights

▶ Issue at stake:

- Angola Government's initiative to diversify the economy through agriculture while commendable has had adverse effects on rural community land.
- This caused illicit land appropriation by business entities in violation of applicable laws.

▶ Recommendation:

- Ensure businesses and investors adhere to the Land Law and the Constitution when acquiring and using community land for agricultural enterprises;
 - That involves adequate and inclusive community consultations and ensuring free, prior and informed consent prior to communal land acquisition and use.
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Land Rights

▶ Issue at stake:

- Powerful business actors have often engaged in forceful eviction and displacement of suburban and rural communities to acquire and use their land.

▶ Recommendation:

- Prosecute those engaged in illegal land acquisition and use through forceful community eviction and displacement;,
- Set up a robust grievance mechanism and inclusive body to develop, enforce and monitor land concessions.

Land Rights

▶ Issue at stake:

- The Government of Angola has formed a high level interministerial task force to regulate land acquisition and use, demarcate rural land, and build the capacity of community leaders on land rights.
- However, the timeframe of the mandate of that body is too short leading eventually to the exclusion of local communities and civil society actors;

▶ Recommendations:

- Accelerate the process of demarcation of communal rural lands so that the task is completed in 2 years as foreseen in Presidential Decree No. 14/18;
- Map all the stakeholders, especially women and indigenous minority communities who are connected to land assets and livelihoods;

Land Rights

- ▶ Recommendations:
 - ▶ Seek the expertise of international mandate holders, such as the Special Rapporteur on the Right to a Fair Housing, on the development of legislation and policy on relocation of communities from ancestral land to accommodate a business activity.
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Refugees' Rights

- ▶ Issue at stake:
 - Angola hosts about 70,000 refugees and asylum seekers;
 - The Government of Angola has set a good example, by including refugees in its development plans;
 - However, some changes in domestic refugee laws have resulted in lack of coherence between the theoretical legal framework and the practices, rendering the refugees vulnerable;
 - Previous II Cycle of UPR Angola (2014), there was a recommendation n. 134.184 “so as not to create any stateless persons, despite migratory pressures” (A/HRC/28/11 (para. 134))
- ▶ Recommendation:
 - Develop a comprehensive and coherent national action plan and policies to protect the rights of refugees , including the full implementation of the Law no.10/15 on the right to Seek Asylum and the Refugee Statute to have a dignified living in Angola in accordance with international standards that safeguard refugee rights.