

## Statement by the Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia Batzeveg Enkhbold

Dear Tatiana Nikolaevna, dear colleagues! It is a great honor for me to take part in the meeting of the Eurasian Alliance of Ombudsmen. I am ready to tell you about the practice of human rights protection in Mongolia and the activities of the Commissioner for Human Rights of Mongolia

The State Great Hural (Parliament of Mongolia) enacted the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia act on 7 December 2000. In the following month (January 2001) the State Great Hural approved in plenary session the appointment of Commissioners headed by a Chief Commissioner.

These constituted the first step in the establishment of a national institution in Mongolia with the mandate to promote and protect human rights and freedoms enshrined in the Constitution of Mongolia, domestic laws, and international treaties to which Mongolia party.

The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia is an independent organization established in accordance with the Paris Principles Relating to the Status of National Institutions.

The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia is an internationally recognized organization and full-member institution at the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human rights Institutions and has been reaccredited three times "A" status by the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA).

It is reflected in international agreements that the state has the duty to recognize and confirm, respect, protect and promote human rights. Human rights education is an important and fundamental tool for fulfilling and implementing this function.

Article 3 of UN Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training / A/REV/66/137) recognizes that human rights education and training is a lifelong progress.

It concerns all parts of society, at all levels, including "Preschool, primary secondary and higher education, taking into account academic freedom where applicable, and all forms of education, training, popular education and public information and awareness activities and languages and methods use should be appropriate for the target groups.

Since its establishment, the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia has been doing much effort in human rights education, training, and information activities. In accordance with Article 13.2.5 of the National Human Rights Commission Act, The Commission shall carry out human rights education activities within its mandate".

The Commission has made more than 22 training-of -the trainers manual for public and private organizations, civil society organizations, law enforcement officers, media representatives, and citizens. Also, the Commission continues its classroom and distance learning human rights education activities.

The contents and principles of education in Mongolia and the relations, ensuring the right to education are regulated by such laws as the Law of Higher Education, Law of Elementary and Secondary Education, Law of Preschool Education, and Vocational Education and Training respectively.

The Commission is working to improve and reflect the basic principles and norms of human rights in all levels of curriculum, content, and methodology in the field of supporting the human rights education system.

For example, increasing effective activities of human rights education in the field of preschool education, including the independent subject "Human Rights" in the curriculum of general education and universities, ensuring the right to education of disabled children, training human rights trainers and social workers, specializing in the development of human rights textbooks for students and teachers.

Based on the results of research and analysis, reflected in Status reports on the state of human rights and freedom in Mongolia of 2007, 2015, and 2019, 14 relevant suggestions and recommendations were submitted to the Parliament.

The Commission supervises the implementation of provisions on human rights and freedoms stipulated in the Constitution, laws and international agreements of Mongolia, and as an organization that protects and promotes human rights, carries out the following activities in the field of promoting human rights. This includes human rights promotion, advocacy and human rights education activities.

In particular, human rights training courses for government organizations and officials had been organized in different ways. Since 2016, the Commission has trained about 800 human rights trainers nationwide: 420 employees of 21 provincial government organizations, 85 of police organizations, 38 of court decision enforcement organizations, 45 of the Armed forces and more than 160 employees of non-governmental organizations. Since 2018, the Commission has developed a training program for doctors, medical workers, and lawyers, accredited more 30 topics for human rights education and training, and organized human rights training for more than 1,000 doctors and about 300 lawyers.

The Commissions library has more than 3,000 human rights, legal and other books published in Mongolian, English, and Russian languages. Which 1,600 books are registered in the electronic catalog. In 2018, 1,300 users were added to the e-library, with a total of 2,500 users, and 1,220 books both online and in original. Also, with the support of international organizations, an average of 21,500 books of 32 types are published annually and distributed to the general public.

"Human Rights" magazine (since 2002) aims to bring international, regional and national human rights policies and documents to the public, to promote human rights in Mongolia, to increase human rights education, to develop human rights theoretical research, pressing issues, and theoretical and practical articles, articles, presentations, and promotional materials written by scientists, researchers, and employees of government and non-governmental organizations operating in the field of human rights regarding the possibilities, methods, and implementation of laws and regulations.

Also, the Commission has been making regular recommendations to government institutions on conducting human rights training and evaluating their implementation. For example, the Judicial Research, Information and Training Institute of the General Council of the Judiciary, the National Council for Coordination of Crime Prevention in Mongolia, the Department of Family, Children and Youth Development, the National Gender Committee, the National Institute of Justice, the Training and Research Center of the State Attorney General's Office. In 2022 more than 10,731 officers were trained.

Given the importance to the role and participation of civil society organizations and journalists in the dissemination of human rights education, Civil Society Council and a Journalists' Club under the Commission were established to organize human rights education activities for the public.

Although the Commission has gained more experience in the implementation of numerous projects and programs in the field of spreading and supporting human rights education at the level of government and non-governmental organizations, a long-term sustainable policy and planning is hard to be achieved due to a lack of participation and initiative of relevant state and local administrative organizations and mass media.

In the future, human rights education and training (HRET) should be seen as broader system that is based on an initiative and active participation of the relevant government ministries, agencies, specialized education institutions, international and non-governmental organizations operating in the field of human rights education and training, human rights research as well as human rights defenders and activists.

All these activities were carried out by NHRCM with the purpose of integrating human rights education in the formal education system enabled to formulate and approve the national standards for teaching human rights as a compulsory subject of general knowledge at preschool, general education and higher education as well as vocational training level ensuring that the human rights of all members of the the school community are respected and human rights are practiced within the national education system.

It is the crucial contribution of human rights edication (HRE) to the realization of human rights, duties and responsibilities, creating a favorable learning environment where each pupil can sense their human dignity and worth, be proud of it, and consequently, respect others rights and freedom, assisting pupils in acquiring skills that restore infringed rights as well as to the long-term prevention of human rights abuses and violent conflicts.

The Commission considers that everybody should make a contribution to the progress of educating students, who are the future Mongolia and of building human rights culture in the whole society. Furthermore, it is important to insert human rights as a compulsory course into the Curricula of universities where teachers are trained.

Much effort should be done in order to empower human rights teachers by improving their human rights sensitivity and attitude through advanced and specialized training courses.

Thank you for your attention.