



IMADR's Eighth General Assembly held in Tokyo

Report by the Editor | FEATURE STORY

Following the two-day board of directors meeting on September 11 and 12, 2011, IMADR's quarterly General Assembly (GA) was held on the 13th in Tokyo with two hundred participants attending, mainly from Japan. It was approved by the GA that for the year beginning October 2011 to September 2012, IMADR will keep its focus on these key issues: 1) elimination of discrimination based on work and descent, 2) elimination of exploitative migration and trafficking in women and children, 3) upholding the rights of indigenous peoples, 4) upholding the rights of minorities including internally-displaced persons and Roma, 5) strengthening international human rights mechanisms and promoting their utilization by minority communities, and 6) crosscutting issues that include the elimination of racism and multiple forms of discrimination, and the human right to peace.

Chaired by IMADR vice-president Kinhide Mushakoji, the GA welcomed brief presentations by its officers from different parts of the world. To begin with, IMADR and IMADR Asia Committee (AC) president Nimalka Fernando made a brief report about activities of the AC, which is based in Sri Lanka. With the cessation of the civil war in the country in 2009, some hundred thousand people in the conflict area were driven away from their homes to become so-called "internally displaced persons." Among them, women and children are in the most vulnerable position, facing multiple forms of discrimination. AC focuses on the empowerment and training of these women to be human rights defenders. Also, the AC is much involved in the serious problem of exploitation and human rights violations imposed on many Sri Lankan migrant women working abroad. Among others, there is an

IMADR IN THE WORLD



Okinawa is a Japanese Colony

An essay by Yasukatsu Matsushima, originally published in the "KAN" Quarterly for History, Environment, Civilization (Autumn 2010) and translated by Erika Kaneko.

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IMADR AND ITS CONCERNS



IMADR Statement on Segregation and Exclusion of Sinti and Roma in Europe

IMADR adopted a statement concerning the segregation and exclusion of Sinti and Roma in Europe at the IMADR Board of Directors Meeting held in Tokyo on September 11 and 12, 2011, welcoming the European Union's Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020, which the European Council adopted in May.

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IMADR AT THE UN