

## **Voices of Minority Women at UN Minority Forum**

The 4th Forum on Minority Issues was held in Geneva on November 29 and 30, 2011. The session's focus was "guaranteeing the rights of minority women," with participants from around the world, including representatives of UN systems and mechanisms, member states and civil society organizations. Dalit women from India and Nepal also participated. The session's agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
2. International and regional human rights frameworks and recent global initiatives relating to minority women's rights
3. Minority women and girls and the right to education
4. Minority women and effective political participation
5. Minority women and effective participation in economic, social and cultural life
6. National practices and experiences: positive measures/affirmative action and role models
7. Concrete steps aimed at guaranteeing the rights of minority women
8. Concluding remarks

Yuriko Moto, member of the IMADR-JC Planning Committee, participated in the session and delivered oral statements under agenda items 4 and 7 above, from the perspective of minority women in Japan, including Ainu, Okinawa, Buraku, Korean and migrant women.

The draft recommendations adopted by the fourth session can be found here:

<http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/minority/session4.htm>