



## ASIAN-EURASIAN HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

(Registered in Delhi under Reg. No S. 38641 of 25 January 2001 Affiliated to African Commission for Health and Human Rights Promoters, NGO with UN ECOSOC status)

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Dr. K.N. Pandita  
General Secretary

New Delhi, June 8, 2007

Madam Meena Sur  
Program Officer  
NGO Committee  
ECOSOC  
NY

Ref: 2008 Regular Session of the Committee on NGO (21 January - 30  
January 2008)

Dear Madam,

With reference to your E-mail letter of May 14, 2007, followed by 2<sup>nd</sup> Reminder of 4 June 2007, asking us to furnish by 7<sup>th</sup> June 2007 our reply to two questions raised by the Honourable Committee, we have already submitted that owing to very short time given to us, we could not come back within 24 hours with our reply. Moreover, the undersigned was on NGO's field tour in various parts of the country during the period when your second reminder was received by our office. As only General Secretary is authorized to reply the questions and queries raised by the UN ECOSOC

NGO desk, I have the honour to submit as under our reply to the questions put to us.

I hope that with the following reply, the Honorable Committee will now feel convinced to consider our case for grant of ECOSOC status We would also like to submit here to the Committee that we have been regularly replying every time a new query was raised in each session ever since 2002.

Answer to Q 1.

The human right aspect of the Jammu and Kashmir State dispute, to which our NGO has confined its study, broadly encompasses the following areas:

- a) Peoples' right to self-determination
- b) Right to freedom of expression
- c) Right to life
- d) Right to preservation of identity, culture and ethnic specificities
- e) Right to economic, social and spiritual development

Answer to Q 2:

Owing to communal pogroms that erupted in the aftermath of the partition of the sub-continent in August 1947, some regions in two nascent dominions of India and Pakistan including Jammu and Kashmir State, with pockets of religious minorities were faced with mob frenzy converging on threat to life. Sensing great risk, many of the affected religious minority groups on either side of the line were circumstantially forced to leave their homes and hearths and seek protection across the line of control with their kinsfolk and friends.

We hope this explanation will satisfy the Honorable Committee and it will recommend the grant of ECOSOC status to our NGO, which has been waiting in the wings for more than seven years in the past.

With thanks  
General Secretary,  
Asian-Eurasian Human Rights Forum,