



# **Ethiopian World Federation**

501(C)(4)NGO

In Consultative Status With the United Nations

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**CSD 18**

**Indigenous Group**

**Thursday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Round Table 4**

**Strategies for Sustainable Chemicals and Waste Management**

**ECOSOC Chamber**

## **Sustainable Restoration**

Greetings Chairman, Governments, Departments, Civil Society and Participants:

Indigenous People in Northern Sudan (Nubia) have lived on the Nile river which borders Egypt and Ethiopia for thousands of years. This is the Indigenous land of the Nubian People.

In 1954 the Egyptian government and Sudanese government signed an agreement to build the High Dam which surrounds the Sudanese Nubian Indigenous land. With the establishment and release of the water from the High Dam the Indigenous Nubians living in Old Haifa were forcibly displaced and driven to the city now known as New Haifa in Eastern Sudan in 1964.

This new area, that the Indigenous Nubian from Old Haifa were forcibly displaced onto, had a completely different climate. The land was much but the water was scarce so another dam was built, the Khash Algrba Dam in New Haifa, to bring water to the people.

There was a small river that formed from the release of dam that became contaminated with much pestilence. The dirty-stagnant water attracted mosquito's which caused malaria and disease amongst the people.

The houses the government built for the Indigenous Nubians in New Haifa are contaminated with asbestos roofs. The Indigenous Nubian People who live in these asbestos roof houses, since the building of the High Dam, have developed many forms of cancer due to the asbestos contamination.

The Indigenous Nubian People living in New Haifa have no where to go so they continue living in these asbestos contaminated homes which are killing the Indigenous men, women and children of Nubia.

The Indigenous Nubian People have lost their Indigenous cultural and traditional land, artifacts, regalia, and much more due to the building many Dams. The Indigenous Nubians are in fear of losing their ancestral language and practices due to immense displacement, unsustainable development and chemical contamination.

Now the Knash Algrba Dam which was the main resource for farming and water sustainability for the Indigenous Nubians in New Haifa has been completely blocked due to silt build up. This unfortunate occurrence has caused drought and famine amongst the displaced Indigenous Nubian People living in New Haifa

Immediate reclamation of sustainable living, farming, water-sanitation-hygiene, trade, learning, holistic medical practices and development are the demands Indigenous Nubian People.

The government has made attempts to assist but the problem is too big. The displacement of the Sudanese Indigenous Nubian People is a violation against their Human Rights and their Indigenous Peoples Rights which are protected by the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People.

The Ethiopian World Federation, International NGO in ECOSOC Status, has developed a Best Practice thru their AD HOC UNIT titled "Policy in Action" which will assist in implementing the transformation from displacement to sustainable development for the Indigenous Nubian People of Old Haifa and New Haifa

The Ethiopian World Federation has also established a subsidiary charter "**Onna Charity Organization For Peace and Development**" in Khartoum, Sudan to partner in protecting and overseeing the rights and sustainable development of New Haifa and Old Haifa

Many Human Rights and Indigenous Rights violations against innocent men, women and children have taken place and we are confident that the United Nations CSD will fully recognize the abuse and begin to rectify this atrocious deed with much urgency.

Human Rights and Indigenous rights must be respected, honored and restored in-order to begin to practice true Sustainable Development.

Thank you,

Fatima Mohamed  
International Representative Vienna  
Ethiopian World Federation