Launching of the Indigenous Peoples Rights International—IPRI

The Indigenous Peoples Rights International—IPRI was established to address the rising global crisis of criminalization and violence committed against Indigenous leaders including imprisonment due to false charges, killings, displacements, land grabbing and other human rights violations; and too often without access to justice.

The yearly report of Global Witness on the alarming rate of extra-judicial killings of indigenous peoples as well as testimonies of indigenous peoples in the different regions demonstrate the need for a concerted and sustained efforts by indigenous peoples to raise global attention and actions on the ground to abate this condition. The mission of IPRI is thereby to spearhead a global campaign to prevent the criminalization of and impunity against indigenous peoples.

IPRI planned to hold a Global Conference on Indigenous Peoples’ Criminalization in April 2020 and to officially launch IPRI but this was not possible due to the COVID 19 Pandemic. However, the founding leaders of IPRI, Mr. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz and Ms. Joan Carling pursued the institutional building of IPRI including its programme implementation despite difficulties due to the impacts of COVID 19 and restrictions and other response measures to the pandemic. The “launch of IPRI” will thereby serve as the occasion to present an overview of IPRI and its progress as well as its plans in working with indigenous peoples in the focus countries, indigenous people’s organizations and networks, advocate institutions, human rights institutions among others. It will also be the occasion for IPRI to present its reports in relation to Indigenous peoples and the state of criminalization in general and in relation to COVID 19 pandemic in particular.