

ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF LITHUANIA

Vilnius

October 25, 1996

With the view that

- The Tibetan nation has an ancient self-reliant tradition;
- On the eve of the Chinese military invasion in 1949, Tibet was an independent State and possessed all the attributed of independent statehood as recognized under international law: a defined territory; a population inhabiting that territory, a government, and the ability to enter into international relations;
- The 1949 invasion of Tibet by the People's republic of China and its occupation are considered illegal;
- The publicly-acknowledged nation's right to self-determination and independence should apply to Tibet as well;
- The policy of the People's Republic of China with respect to Tibet is not in compliance with rights, justice and basic human rights;
- The Tibetan National identity and culture which makes a considerable part of the world culture are threatened with the real danger of extermination;
- The non-violent policy practiced by His Holiness the XIV Dalai Lama is an example to be followed by all those seeking to resolve conflicts in a peaceful way;
- On the eve of the XXI century we have a unique opportunity to give impetus for the peaceful solution of the Tibetan issue;

Denounces

- The rude violations of basic human rights in Tibet as perpetrated by the People's Republic of China, transfer of Chinese population into Tibet which threatens the existence of the Tibetan Culture and identity;
- Devastation of Tibet's fragile environment through indiscriminate logging and mining, and the on-going persecution of monks and nuns by the Chinese authorities,

Urges the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

- to recognize Tibet as an occupied State;
- to emphasize the right of Tibet to self-determination and independence
- to recognize His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his Tibetan Government-in-Exile as the only legitimate representatives of Tibet;
- to encourage the People's Republic of China to immediately start negotiations without preconditions with the Government of His Holiness the Dalai Lama on the status of Tibet;
- to denounce the human rights violations in Tibet as carried out by the People's republic of China,
- to request the United Nations to include the issue of Tibet on the agenda of its General Assembly;

Decides

- to recognize His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his Tibetan Government-in-Exile as the only legitimate representatives of Tibet;

— to present this resolution to the Chairman of the Seismas of the Republic of Lithuania, Tibet support group of the Seismas of the Republic of Lithuania, and His Holiness the Dalai Lama.