Minutes of FIAN Jharkhand meeting on 27/11/2013
at Hoffman Legal Cell, Mandresa house, Ranchi

Agendas discussed:

1. Follow up of demands of FIAN International letter of 2011, and subsequent order of SDC, is that still being done? Should FIAN write another letter to follow it up?

1.1 How can we best support the follow up of the orders of the Jharkhand High Court? What happened after August 2013? CCL had filed the counter affidavit, so what is the legal situation now?
   At this moment there is no need for a second Petition letter to be sent to the PMO or concerned officials, as this matter is already in the High court in Ranchi and it might have a negative impact as suggested by the lawyer, as the Company & officials may feel over pressurized.

2. Situation of HR defenders:
2.1 What can be done to support and safeguard them?
   To seek support from different organizations for capacity building of HR defenders by organizing & funding back up by FIAN.
   To organize a training program for villagers, communities and Hr defenders on – Basic laws on how to safeguard themselves, from being falsely implicated in court case, and arrested. So that they work within the legal boundaries.
   To ask communities what do they want done? Organize workshops for sharing of our outcomes / study and documentation with stakeholders & people.

2.2 What are the issues at stake?
   Need to provide immediate support to HR defenders, and to seek senior lawyers (in Ranchi) to squash their case in court.

2.3 How are they threatened / intimidated?
   Police, Company or District Administration file false criminal cases against HR defenders branding them Anti-development anti-social elements, naxals or Maoists.

3. Get information / feedback about:
3.1 have a Kusum Tola related activity to second half of February, and instead of having a FFM, rather,
3.2 Organize a sort of Strategy networking meeting or research mission, FIAN Jharkhand recommends that a **Dialogue meeting** with the different stake-holders to begin with and later on it can be strengthened and a strategic networking meeting in the name of “Peoples access to natural resources – Food & livelihood and role of Civil societies / stakeholders, can be organized in February 2014 in Ranchi.

3.3 What is most needed at the moment in order to advance the work on the national case in Jharkhand?

3.4 What about the need for the long planned meeting with BIRSA (JMACC) and IS representation?
FIAN Jharkhand feels and it is not recommended as it might have a negative result. But in due course of time with our action, this friction (misunderstanding) may naturally ease out and find its own course.

4. Legal study, we would need a draft version in order to see if the study goes into the right direction.

Yes. Certainly we are working towards legal analysis and Policy advocacy and Legal advice along with Media advocacy and will apply as advised by our lawyer – The Case of the Cause-way on river Damodar at Kusum tola made by CCL coal mining company can be looked into. FIAN group can make a FFT to collect information / data (photo, samples, report) on the ground realities of if CCL has headed the court directions regarding (by the end of Dec.2013) –
1. Status of the cause-way now?
2. Has the coal dump on the river side been cleared or removed?
3. Is the river water clean and not polluted?

5. FIAN Jharkhand, will they apply to become a chapter at next NEC meeting? have the revised statutes been accepted?
Yes. We are conducting Follow-up and formation of local organization & struggle groups and identifying Resource persons in the field communities. We are advising communities on drafting petition letters for campaign, advocacy and networking.

6. They should come up with a work plan for 2014. Ideally this work plan could already indicate, where support will be needed from 2 Rivers alliance and FIAN International, and other organizations (eg. FFM, RM, conference, film, exhibition,
speakers tour of representatives of Jharkhand in Europe) and highlight karanpura
during World Food day, etc.
Yes. FIAN Jharkhand has undertaken a “Survey & study of the Impact of pollution on the
river Damodar by Patratu Thermal Power Station (Ramgarh district) and KHD Coal mine
washery (Chatra district)”, undertaken by Justin Imam to complete finding report by end Dec.2013 with names of villages affected (case study with testimonies, interviews, video
& photo) with regards to Right to Food, water and Health through textual documentation,
meetings, water samples, photos, data collection, scientific findings, etc.
A separate study is needed covering the whole Damodar river for its mines, industry &
ancillary projects in five districts – Chatra, Hazaribagh, ramgarh, Bokaro, Dhanbad. The
Objective would be – To survey and mapping the Impact of pollution by mines &
industry on the lives of the people in the region- a case study.
FFM can be organized in Oct-Nov 2014 on the Right to Food & water in our campaign
field areas eg. Patratu, (Ramgarh district, Jharkhand), and local peoples group can be
mobilized.
We can prepare a photo-textual collogue of the cases and campaign for Flex printing that
can be displayed and exhibited by FIAN Jharkhand speakers tour of representatives of
Jharkhand in Europe

7. Get updated information on Kusum Tola,
7.1 What happened with the people?
7.2 How far has mining progressed?
7.3 What are the issues at stake with regard to rehabilitation and resettlement?
   FIAN Jharkhand recommends, for Kusum Tola case –
   we should try to provide a Status report as per lawyers
   suggestion with regards to rehabilitation, compensation,
   as it will come after the High Court (Ranchi)
   proceeding, when the coal mining issues will be
   clarified. So FIAN should support the case by providing
   factual information as on the ground with evidence
   (testimonies, photographs) to the Court.

Meeting (27/11/2013), Ranchi Attended by :
1. Suman, FIAN Delhi
2. Ms. Sangeeta, Ranchi
3. Mr. Justin Imam, Hazaribagh 9930124991 justinimam@yahoo.com
4. Mr. Manish Ekka, Hazaribagh
5. Mr. Anup Kumar Agarwal (Advocate), Ranchi -7352516119 anupjohar@gmail.com