



39th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 10 - 28 September 2018

Item

Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

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Mr President,

APG23 welcomes the OHCHR Summary report on the Intersessional workshop on the right to peace (A/HRC/39/31).

As pointed out during the Intersessional workshop by Ms. Kate Gilmore, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, the fulfilment of human rights is the best path towards peace. Thus, the Human Rights Council should play a leading role in this process.

APG23 believes that it is necessary to ensure the right of everyone to enjoy peace and to achieve lasting and sustainable peace. Therefore, we urge all Member States to make an even greater effort for peace and to create the optimal conditions for a greater development of human rights and the implementation of the right to peace (in their countries).

Based on art 3 of the Declaration on the Right to Peace, which calls for “appropriate sustainable measures” for its implementation, we also encourage them to establish a sustainable national infrastructure for peace, namely a Ministry of Peace. It would be the best measure for making peace a reality. This infrastructure should develop and implement national peace policies and should tackle a wide range of issues: Human Rights, Alternative Dispute Resolution and Reconciliation, Violence and Conflict Prevention, Peace Culture and Education, and Promotion of Peace Policies.

In occasion of the 2018 International Day of Peace (21 September 2018) and given the theme chosen for this year celebration, “The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70”, APG23 and the United Nations-mandated University for Peace have decided to convene a parallel event entitled “Calling for Ministries of Peace all around the World” for launching the proposal for establishing a Ministry of Peace in all countries. We cannot think of a better way to celebrate the International day of Peace than gathering all together to discuss concrete measures for peace. We invite all of you to attend our event in room XXV from 13 to 14.30 hours. During the meeting, it will be distributed a document with further information on our proposal.

As said by the UN Secretary General António Guterres “Let us stand up for human rights for all in the name of peace for all”.

Thank you!