



The transformative vision of Right to Development

27th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council – Item 2 & 3 – General Debate

Joint oral statement

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII, Association Points Coeur, Caritas Internationalis (Confederation of Catholic Charities), Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers), International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians of Don Bosco, International Volunteerism Organization for Women Education and Development, International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education and New Humanity.

Mr President,

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs take note with appreciation of the report of the Working Group on Right to Development on its fifteenth session and the Consolidated report of the Secretary General and High Commissioner for Human Rights.

In the Fifteenth Session of the Working Group on RTD, no decision was taken on how and when the working group should proceed with the second reading of the criteria and operational sub-criteria.

We feel compelled to raise this urgent question: How long can the international community expect persons and peoples, especially those living in developing countries and in extreme poverty, to wait for an effective implementation of the Right to Development?

The Right to Development has the transformative potential to unleash a paradigm shift that promises to advance human rights, development and peace for us all. If we wish to surmount the challenges to our common future, including poverty, inequality, hunger, unemployment, lack of access to clean water and sanitation, and limited sources of energy and natural resources, we must effectively implement the right to development and ensure respect for all human rights.

Moreover, the post-2015 development agenda must have the right to development at its core procedurally and substantially.

We appeal to the Member States of the Working Group on RTD to consider our proposal of an implementation phase to ensure the effectiveness of the criteria and operational sub-criteria. This phase should come between the first and second reading and before the discussion on measurability, in order to enhance peoples' participation, collect best practices and have practical inputs on measurability and accountability.

Finally, we thank OHCHR for its efforts to serve as champion in mainstreaming right to development and reiterate our support to its office.

Thank You!