



**Company of
the Daughters
of Charity of
St. Vincent de
Paul**



**International
society
for human
rights,
Frankfurt**



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Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development

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

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Mr. President,

APG23 welcomes the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development¹. We truly believe that inequality is one of the main problems that affects our societies and the realization of sustainable development.

We live in a world of plenty. Yet, for millions of people across the world, this is also a period of deprivation. The challenge of today is both to address the deepening inequalities within and among States and persisting poverty and to ensure a life of dignity for all.

It is a known fact that inequality not only undermines development in an economic dimension, but it also threatens democratic life, social cohesion and resources redistribution.

The right to development together with its components of participation, empowerment and accountability should be the tool in addressing these inequalities. The Right to Development, in fact, recalls on the duties of States and the international community to create an enabling environment for a more equitable and prosperous society.

We should bear in mind that the Right to Development places the emphasis not only on the equality of rights but also on equity. Equality and equity differ substantially, being equity a concept that goes far beyond the fair redistribution of benefits and calls for the creation of equal opportunities.

APG23 would also like to make the following recommendations to States and international organizations:

- to measure progress in tackling inequality accurately;
- to adopt national and international policies to narrow the disparities and give equal opportunities;
- to incorporate active, free and meaningful participation, accountability and empowerment of individuals and marginalized groups in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes;
- to endeavour their commitment to ensure inclusive and participatory processes in order to leave no one behind.
- to assess and address the impacts of policies on the achievement of SDG10.

The right to development together with the proposed right to international solidarity and the 2030 Agenda represent valid and effective instruments to achieve a more equitable development and universal access to the elements of development for all people.

Time has come to leave no one behind, and to eradicate all forms of discrimination, for a meaningful participation for all human beings to enjoy an integral development that consists in social, economic, cultural, political and spiritual development.

Thank you!