

ORAL STATEMENT delivered by:

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23) and New Humanity

Thank you Madam Chair for giving me the floor.

I am Maria Mercedes Rossi speaking on behalf of the Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII and New Humanity. Our two organisations are on the fore front working for development all over the world and are very close to the people living in extreme poverty.

First of all, we would like to thank most sincerely the High Level Task Force for the immense work they have done as well as NAM and Egypt for the impressive exercise they carried out. Both documents in front of us are very valuable.

Nevertheless, if we consider the core norm well described in the document A/HRC/15/WG.2/TF/2/Add.2, in page 8, that says that the right to Development is the right of peoples and individuals to the constant improvement of their well being and to a national and international enabling environment conducive to just, equitable, participatory and human centered development respectful of all human rights and we look at the table that follows, listing the attributes, criteria, sub-criteria and indicators, we think that something is missing.

There is really the risk of diluting and missing the peculiarity and the vision of the right to development if the concept of a national and global enabling environment is not spelt out properly and the national and international responsibilities are not well balanced.

Furthermore, it seems to us that the criteria and sub-criteria are lacking the human rights language but are more reflecting the MDGs agenda: e.g. it is mentioned food security instead of right to food, health instead of right to health etc.

Since the criteria and subcriteria should reflect all the articles of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the preamble of the declaration and its spirit should be reflected as well. In this regard, the principle of international solidarity and the right to self determination of peoples are also missed in the table grouping the criteria and sub-criteria while the preamble of the Declaration clearly refers to it.

Hence, we would like to propose of taking away the three attributes or adding a fourth one entitled “Enabling national and international environment” so that all the spirit and contents of the Declaration may be well reflected. We propose also to re-group the criteria and sub-criteria taking into account the two documents in front of us. (Add. 2 and NAM document).

Finally, we make an appeal to the Member States to overcome polarisation and politicisation and embark in a constructive dialogue in order to produce a working document that can really constitute a step ahead for the implementation of the Right to Development.

Thank you.