



Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul;¹

26th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council – Item 2 and 3 – Interactive Dialogue

Joint oral statement

“The relevance of a declaration on the right to International Solidarity in a changing world”

Mr President,

APG23 and other 9 co-signing NGOs welcome the report of Ms Virginia Dandan, the Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity.

By presenting the first draft declaration on the Right of Individuals and Peoples to International Solidarity, Ms Dandan marks a significant achievement in her mandate, and we are thankful for her outstanding work. We hope that the draft declaration will constitute a step ahead to reach a consensus on this important matter.

The recognition of international solidarity as a human right not only is an ideal goal to be achieved for ethical reasons that are rooted in the notion of being a human family, but because such a recognition is an essential necessity for the survival of the world today. A right of individuals and peoples to International Solidarity will change the rules from the zero-sum game-"In order to win, someone else must lose"-to the new perspective "No one wins unless everyone wins."

In the today's world, it is time to recognize that human rights are a shared responsibility and a common basis of interaction between all members of the international community, States and non-States actors; it is time to create an enabling environment where all human rights, including right to development, can be progressively realized for all.

The draft declaration introduces new perspectives such as international assistance and cooperation applied without conditionalities, prevention and removal of the fundamental causes of the asymmetries and inequalities between developed and developing countries and removal of the structural obstacles and factors that generate and perpetuate poverty worldwide.

It also makes a shift from the notion of development focused only on economic growth to the vision of the Right to Development, taking the social and environmental dimension sufficiently into account.

Furthermore, it includes a broader range of actors and highlights the intra-generational and intergenerational dimension of Solidarity as well as preventive solidarity.

Finally, the co-signing NGOs urge that the draft declaration of the Right of Individuals and Peoples to International Solidarity progress speedily towards the final text and renew their active support to the work of the Independent Expert on International Solidarity and Human Rights.

Thank you!

¹ International-Lawyers.Org (DPI Associated), NGO not yet accredited with ECOSOC, shares the statement;