



36th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 11-29 September 2017

Item 3, General Debate

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

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Mr President,

APG23 welcomes the summary of the panel discussion on realizing the right to health by enhancing capacity building in public health. The panel discussion had the objective among others to reaffirm the necessity of international cooperation in strengthening capacity building in public health.¹

The full enjoyment of the right to health and consequently of other rights is hindered by, among others, financial, economic, infrastructural, social and environmental factors. Our experience is that too many poor people are humiliated in the unfruitful search of health care in areas of the world impoverished by external and internal factors.

Some delegations pointed out the importance of international cooperation and "emphasized the need for equity, mutual respect and solidarity to overcome economic imbalances".²

A fair approach to international cooperation is essential to assure sustainable development for all and avoid creating more poverty and dependency.

As written in Article 2 of the proposed draft declaration on the right to International Solidarity presented by the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity in the 35th session of the Human Right Council, international cooperation is one of the components of international solidarity, together with preventive and reactive solidarity. As Article 9 of the draft resolution states international solidarity should be based on equal partnerships, mutual commitments and obligations, without conditionalities that hinder the exercise and enjoyment of human rights.³

We urge the recognition and implementation of the right to international solidarity as a key action to secure a precious instrument for the full realization of the right to health and to fulfil the promise of leaving no one behind.

Thank You!

¹ "Panel discussion on realizing the right to health by enhancing capacity-building in public health" Draft concept note (as of June 2017)

² A/HRC/36/20

³ A/HRC/35/35