



**42th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (9 September - 27 September 2019)**

**ITEM 3: General Debate**

Joint Oral Statement delivered by Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

**“Making the Right to Development a reality for everyone”**

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

APG23 and other 11 co-signing NGOs welcome the report of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development and the report of the Secretary General and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the same subject.

Among the items of the agenda of the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the OEIWG, we greatly welcomed the opening of the discussion on a legally binding instrument. In fact, to provide the RTD with a legally binding instrument will offer an opportunity for establishing national benchmarks for the implementation of RTD and a legal framework with the potential to humanize the global marketplace and affirm the need for a programme of international economic justice.

Furthermore, it will reinforce the obligations for international cooperation, give further legal expression to the notion that the ability of States to develop, and to fulfil their human rights obligations, depend also from structural arrangements and actions that eliminate the existing obstacles at international level.

A legally binding instrument on the Right to Development can complement the current human rights regime with a convention that goes beyond individual State responsibility and takes inspiration from principles derived from international development efforts, such as mutual accountability, alignment of policies among partner countries and inclusive partnerships of States and non-State actors.

In regard to the report of the Secretary General and OHCHR, we praise OHCHR for the activities carried out to mainstream the right to development and consider very valuable in the report the analysis made of the implementation of the right to development and existing challenges in reference to SDG 17 on global partnership and its conclusion and recommendations.

We urge the Member States to embark in a constructive dialogue and in the spirit of the consensual agreement on the agenda 2030 on the issue of a legally binding instrument on the right to development, bearing in mind the concern for the common good of humanity and putting at the centre the billions of persons, especially the most vulnerable, whose the very survival and chance to live a dignified life depends also by the speedy implementation of this right.

Thank You!

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