

46th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 22 February – 23 March 2021

Annual discussion on rights of the child

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

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Madame President,

APG23 welcomes the annual full-day meeting on the rights of the child on the theme “The rights of the child and the Sustainable Development Goals”.

APG23 is globally committed to the promotion and the whole realization of Children’s Rights and is engaged in programmes in different countries in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We strongly believe that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda should be guided by a right-holders perspective at all levels.

We would like to recall that promoting children’s rights in the framework of the 2030 Agenda requires a holistic and systemic approach, considering the impact derived at policy levels by the interdependencies among the different SDGs, specifically the most children’s rights-sensitive goals (as SDG 2, 3, 4 related to nutrition, health and education).

We believe that participatory mechanisms should be pursued through a Right to Development based approach, to ensure a meaningful participation of the key right holders (individuals and communities) in all the phases of the programs that directly affect their access to and enjoyment of rights, from the need assessment and prioritization to the implementation and its monitoring.

Promoting the active involvement of the right holders in these processes, as well as enhancing their role in designing, implementing, and monitoring the initiatives concerning their basic needs and rights, is a key to effectively ground sustainable development strategies and programs in human rights.

We would like to ask the panellists: which strategies are to be put in place to safeguard the participation of children in the building back better plans?

Thank you!