



Company of the
Daughters of St
Vincent de Paul

Confédération internationale
Société de Saint Vincent de Paul



50th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (13 June – 8 July 2022)

ITEM 3: ID with Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity

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

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Mr. President,

APG23 and other 15 co-sponsoring NGOs welcome the report¹ of the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity entitled “International solidarity and the extraterritorial application of human rights: prospects and challenges”.

Indeed, we live in a globalized and interdependent world where the notions of sovereignty and territoriality are being significantly reshaped and influenced by the surging of economic powerful actors such as transnational corporations whose globalized activities directly impact on the human rights of individuals and groups and challenge the power of States to regulate and control their actions. Moreover, contemporary cross-border human rights related issues such as climate change, pandemics, global poverty, food security and access to water to name a few, have amply demonstrated how the implementation of extraterritorial obligations is a missing link in the universal human rights protection system. In this regard, we consider the draft declaration on the right to international solidarity² being a remarkable tool at disposal of humanity for the respect of all human rights domestically and extraterritorially.

We are grateful to Mr. Okafor for having provided in his report a robust and consistent evidence on the moral and legal basis of extraterritorial human rights obligations in the international human rights law, including in the context of the right to development, the jurisprudence of international and regional human rights bodies as well of the International Court of Justice. We also appreciate his recommendations and, especially, the invitation to Member States to adopt a business and human rights treaty, not to impose unilateral coercive sanctions that are too broadly framed and can have disproportionate impacts on vulnerable right holders in the target territories as well as the invitation to make much more efforts to comply with their duties to cooperate. We would like to ask Mr. Okafor: “In your report you referred to the draft declaration on the right to international solidarity³; how we can strengthen our joint efforts for its adoption by the Human Rights Council? Thank You!

¹ A/HRC/50/37

² A/HRC/35/35

³ A/HRC/50/37 : paragraphs 34-35-36