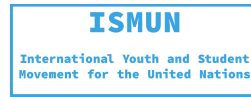




Confédération internationale  
Société de Saint Vincent de Paul



### 51<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 12 September – 7 October 2022 Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development

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

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs welcome the report<sup>1</sup> of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development focusing on the “Response and recovery plans and policies on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic from the perspective of the right to development at the national level “and we share its conclusion and recommendations.

We would like to thank all countries that provided practical examples of ways in which they have integrated the right to development into national COVID-19 response and recovery plans and policies. The large-scale impacts and consequences that the pandemic has had and is still having on the world, are undeniable and incessant. The pandemic has clearly shown social disparity, systemic human rights violations and a lack of a social safety net, aimed at protecting and supporting, in particular, those living in extreme poverty.

We fully agree when the Special Rapporteur says that “COVID-19 response and recovery plans are, ultimately, development plans and that as such they should be in line with the right to development and the commitments Governments made when elaborating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, most importantly the promise to leave no one behind” and that “The view that development is solely an economic outcome is incomplete since it is possible for the development priorities of a population to remain unfulfilled despite economic growth”. It is really time to dismantle the equation “development = economic growth” since it has proven to be a failure that even contributes to the increase of inequities. The right to development offers instead a holistic approach.

A COVID19 response should encompass such a holistic approach through recovery plans based on the RTD perspective. Many of the people suffering today will still be in danger when the next crisis will come, unless the commitments of the 2030 Agenda and a truly transformational approach, based on solidarity and international cooperation, are finally translated into concrete steps. Thank You!

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<sup>1</sup> A/HRC/48/56