



52nd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 27 February–4 April 2023

FULL-DAY HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT

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

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Mr. President,

The Declaration on the Right to Development provides an essential guide to the manner in which States, the international community and all organs of society shall act and cooperate to ensure an enabling environment for development that is sustainable, just, equitable and inclusive.

Nowadays, inequality has worsened to the point of becoming a threat to our societies undermining progress in the fight against poverty and endangering the future of our planet. Crisis after crisis the long-term structural gaps have widened and consolidated. The implementation of the right to development and the embrace of the principle of international solidarity are of paramount importance and inescapable ways to reduce the many inequalities that threaten fundamental human rights, in particular for those who are marginalised and poor.

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs look forward to the prompt finalisation and adoption of a convention on the right to development, convinced that this will be a further important step for the implementation of such a vital right.

We regret that some States are still reluctant to fully recognise the right to development in all its dimensions and/or promote its realization.

Once and for all, the time has come to free the right to development from the trap of the political games as well as the tendency to cherry-pick its contents and let it fly!

Thank You!