



Company of the  
Daughters of  
Charity of St.  
Vincent de Paul



## 54th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, 11 September – 13 October 2023

### Item 3: General Debate:

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

*Check against delivery*

### **“On the International Covenant on the right to development”**

Mr. President,

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs take note with appreciation of the reports on the right to development. In particular, we would like to thank the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the right to development, Ambassador Zamir Akram, for having presented the Draft international Covenant on the right to development. We also thank him for the recommendation of forwarding the draft covenant to the General Assembly for a rapid adoption.

We are very glad that, after a long negotiation in the Intergovernmental Open-Ended Working Group, the finalized draft text carries the name of “International Covenant on the right to development” with the wish that it may be included in a near future in the Bills of Human Rights as per Resolution of the General Assembly 52/136.

We do hope that such a Covenant will contribute to the effective implementation of the right to development that has for so many years lagged behind and will represent a further important step towards the realisation of a new more humane and responsible social and international order.

Moreover, we hope that it will deploy effective international cooperation initiatives and strengthen the duty of States to co-operate as already stated in the Declaration on the Right to Development. Indeed, accountability mechanisms such as the UPR may be fostered for international cooperation aspects involved by the operationalisation of the right to development that would concern the signatory States.

Thank You!