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

### Item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development

Joint Oral statement delivered by: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII

*Check against delivery*

Mr. President,

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs welcome the report of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development and thank him for the clarity of the contents.

We agree with the four characteristics through which the conceptual framework of the right to development is identified, namely: self-determination; intersectionality; intergenerational equity; and fair distribution. We share his vision on the right to development having a great role in promoting a human-rights enhancing economy. We also concur on the fact that there is an urgent need to reform the international financial architecture.

Furthermore, we deeply agree on the six challenges identified by the Special Rapporteur, and today we would like to place our attention on the 6th challenge: the neo-colonial and neoliberal order. We couldn't be more grateful for this topic entering the discussion on the right to development.

Our world is living a different but equally damaging wave of economic colonialism. This phenomenon finds its roots in a deep individualism upon which today's world order is grounded. We suggest as an enriching point to the report, a further focus on International Solidarity. The need for cooperation and cohesion in carrying on collective actions and achieving common goals becomes stronger every day. It is vital to see cooperation not just as a tool for solving problems but also as a no-profit-oriented instrument guided by the principles of participation, respect for sovereignty and self-determination, avoiding interactions based on donor-receivers dynamics, and building an equal exchange instead.

Thank you!