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PRESENTATION OF THE THEMATIC REPORT

Mr. Bonny IBHAWOH, Chair, Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

The Chair introduces the Expert Mechanism's [annual report](#) on two thematic studies, namely Operationalising the Right to Development in International Development Cooperation, led by Mr. Mihir KANADE, member of the Expert Mechanism, and Climate Justice, Sustainability and the Right to Development, led by Mr. Bonny IBHAWOH himself.

Operationalising the Right to Development in International Development Cooperation

This study explores the cross-cutting normative principles of the right to development that can be mainstreamed across cooperation practises. It focusses on bilateral and triangular cooperation, providing lessons that can apply to other practises, including development banks, financial institutions, and trade organisations. The study underscores the importance of international cooperation in realising human rights and sustainable development against a context where the [2030 Agenda is derailed](#), progress on poverty and hunger has thawed or even reversed, and many developing countries face a monumental financing gap, being either in or at risk of debt distress.



Global partnerships and enhanced cooperation are critical, especially for least-developed countries and other low-income countries. But when cooperation is ineffective, it can be harmful to the right to development of individuals and peoples. In most cases, **conditionalities** undermine the recipient's development priorities and goals, as well as its welfare policies, and certain trade and investment agreements can limit the governance and policy space of states. This study analyses the principles of effective north-south, south-south, and triangular cooperation, identifying good practises in each context.

It further shows that operationalising the right to development at all stages of development cooperation can help to ensure effectiveness, making it possible to make a conscious effort to **humanise cooperation**. Some of the normative principles of the right to development that the study elaborates are development is an inalienable right of all individuals and peoples, not a privilege. The right holders should be able to self-determine their priorities. The process by which outcomes are achieved is as important as the outcomes.

Receiving states have a duty to respect, protect, and fulfil the right to development. States must not obstruct others' right to development, including on cooperative practises and unilateral coercive measures. States able to assist should do so in line with their extraterritorial obligations to realise the right to development. **Cooperation is a duty, not charity**. Impact assessments are essential. Mutual accountability is crucial, including transparency, public availability of information, and remedies.

Climate Justice, Sustainability, and the Right to Development

This study examines how the right to development can be effectively incorporated into established and emerging climate practises and policies. It reconciles environmental sustainability and development aspirations. **Climate justice** is presented not only as a guiding framework, but as a central objective for meaningful and effective climate action.

The study sets out how each core principle of the right to development, such as equality, meaningful participation, self-determination, and international cooperation, can be applied in the context of climate action to enable more equitable outcomes, strengthen legitimacy, and address accountability gaps. The study offers a normative framework and a set of practical strategies to advance climate justice, highlighting promising practises. It offers concrete recommendations to address critical gaps in climate governance and finance, including:

- The establishment of climate finance hubs to enhance coordination and provide technical assistance.
- The creation of a dedicated climate justice fund, and the appointment of climate justice Ombudspersons at both national and international levels.
- A reform of global intellectual property rights regimes, which currently restricts equitable and timely access to vital technologies for climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Broader structural reforms of the global financial system, international trade policies, and transfer of technology.

Climate action must respond to lived realities, priorities, and aspirations of those most affected by the climate crisis. The Expert Mechanism calls for aligning climate strategies with right to



development principles to enhance legitimacy, bridge accountability gaps, and deliver more equitable and impactful solutions. The Expert Mechanism trusts that the two studies will serve as valuable contributions to the deliberations of the UNHRC and offer practical guidance in advancing the right to development.

The **ongoing liquidity constraints** continue to affect the work of the Expert Mechanism, but despite these challenges, the experts strive to continue engaging with supporting member states, civil society, and other stakeholders through various platforms and avenues. Looking ahead, the experts are preparing for their 12th session, which will take place from 27 to 29 October 2025.

PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACTIVITIES

Since its last report to the UNHRC, the Expert Mechanism has held two sessions actively involving member states, civil society, experts and practitioners. The Mechanism has also engaged with **international negotiations** to promote full consideration of the right to development and continue to closely coordinate with the Chair of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development and Special Rapporteur Surya Deva, amongst others.

During its 10th session in Geneva last year, the Expert Mechanism undertook meaningful exchanges about ways in which the right to development could be featured in ongoing international discussions, agreements and instruments. The Mechanism discussed **two draft studies** and held **six interactive thematic dialogues** aimed at drawing upon experiences, good practises and strategies to address present global challenges.

At its 11th session in New York earlier this year, the Mechanism explored how states and other stakeholders could face the new global context at multilateral and national levels, looking ahead to the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development. It discussed **two draft studies** and held three in-focus discussions. As a result, the Expert Mechanism issued a package of recommendations for mainstreaming the right to development in the outcome document of the **Financing for Development 4th Conference**. These documents are available on the Expert Mechanism's website.

REPLIES AND CONCLUDING REMARKS

Mr. Bonny IBHAWOH welcomes the engagement of delegations and other stakeholders with the studies presented, in particular the study on climate justice and the study on international development cooperation. Appreciating the support expressed by delegates for the draft legally binding instrument, the Chair notes that the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development is through **intergovernmental negotiations in New York**. It is gratifying that delegates, states and NGOs are robustly engaged with this process.

The Chair particularly pleased that the European Union has declared a continued commitment to be engaged in this process. He further positively notes **UNDP's** engagement with many of the issues raised in the report focussing on climate justice, particularly the response to the call for participation of marginalised people in climate mitigation and adaptation strategy. It is also worthy to note that UNDP is working with states and other stakeholders to ensure that climate justice principles outlined in the Expert Mechanism's studies are fulfilled.



On the statements delivered by Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), notably the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu, the Chair acknowledges the points they raised about the **centrality of climate justice to any mitigation and remediation efforts** to address climate change. As SIDS bear the brunt of the devastation of climate change, and so it is important that their perspectives are considered when having these conversations about climate change and climate justice.

Turning to the centrality of the right to development to the **operationalisation of the 2030 Agenda** at both national and international levels, suggestions on how to operationalise the right to development - particularly with regard to the obstacles to the implementation of the right to development - can be found in the Expert Mechanism's annual report and in the two studies presented during this interactive dialogue. They offer some concrete steps on what states can do to address these challenges which also identified in this study.

The right to development is a national obligation, but it is also an **international obligation**. States have the primary obligation to fulfil the right and operationalise the right to development. The states also have a **duty to cooperate**, so the right to development has a uniquely international dimension.

On the questions of the **international dimensions** of the right to development, states also have an obligation to cooperate, as outlined in the Declaration on the Right to Development, to ensure that development has a positive impact on the lives of ordinary people, particularly the most marginalised. In addressing the **obstacles to the right to development**, one of the points emphasised in both reports presented today is participation. The states must put in place structures, institutions, and mechanisms that ensure that those affected by development policies have a say, a meaningful say, in policies and actions that affect their development.

On how to ensure that **businesses do not pose obstacles** to the right to development, the Expert Mechanism recognises that, although states are the primary duty bearers for the fulfilment and operationalisation of the right to development, operationalising the right to development is not an exclusive obligation of states. Non-state actors also play a critical role in the right to development. The Draft Covenant on the Right to Development has elaborate provisions for implementation, including provisions for a conference of state parties. These **implementation mechanisms** enshrined in the draft legally binding instrument will be effective in holding not just states accountable, but also non-state actors for their obligations to operationalising the right to development.

The Expert Mechanism has provided some very concrete principles and good practises that states may adopt individually or collectively to ensure the operationalisation of the right to development. On the translation of **climate justice principles into practice**, the Mechanism has recommended the development of climate finance hubs to provide capacity to states and non-state actors to ensure climate justice in mitigation and adaptation initiatives. The Mechanism has also recommended the creation of dedicated **climate justice funds** and national and international Ombudspersons responsible for ensuring that those who have contributed the least to the climate crisis do not disproportionately bear the burden of climate change.

International cooperation and capacity-building are central to **ensuring funding for LDCs**. In the two abovementioned studies, the Mechanism has recommended the **reform of the**



international financial architecture to ensure that the system serves the needs of developing states and do not pose an obstacle to the right to development. Drawing to a close, the Chair is grateful for the delegations' robust engagement with the Expert Mechanism and for the support it has enjoyed. Lastly, the Chair invites all stakeholders to participate in the 12th session of the Expert Mechanisms that will be taking place in Geneva between 27-29 October (EMRTD) and will discuss current challenges to the realization of the right to development.

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Views Expressed by State Delegations

Algeria on behalf of the Arab group reiterates its support to the right to development as a universal human right as well as to the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development. This should be done according to the priorities of the countries and to take into account climate financing, climate change, transfer of technology, and according to the principle of *common but differentiated responsibilities*. Firmly supporting the full and effective participation of women in the implementation of the right to development, the Arab group reiterates that the international community should shoulder its responsibility to stop the genocide by the occupying power against the Palestinian people that is under blockade in Gaza and to end the occupation that destroyed all the components of development in Palestine. The Arab group further calls to enhance financing for development by restructuring the international financial structure, find solution to the high indebtedness, and to also support countries in restoring their stolen assets.

Algeria stresses that the right to development is a universal, inalienable right in the very spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The right to development requires international cooperation and assistance. However, concerned at shortcomings and gaps that hamper the exercise of the right to development, Algeria urges support for developing states in the furtherance of their right to development, thereby calling for the strengthening of triangular cooperation, South cooperation as well as North-South cooperation. Algeria has provided a billion dollars to support development projects in Africa, and has also organised the fourth exhibition on cooperation across African states. To conclude, Algeria stands ready to collaborate with all member states to bolster international cooperation to ensure it will serve as a driver for international cooperation, development and human dignity.

Bangladesh welcomes the thematic studies and reiterates that the right to development is a fundamental right. It is central to the realisation of all human rights and indispensable for the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The progress towards is disease off track. Half of the targets are failing. Poverty and hunger are on the rise and developing countries face a yearly financing gap of \$4 trillion. Moreover, more than half of the low-income states are in debt distress. At the same time, climate change constitutes an existential threat that further exacerbates the global disparities. These realities expose systematic shortcomings in global partnership and underscores the need for revitalising multilateralism. Bangladesh reaffirms the urgent need for reform of the international financial architecture to address the financing gaps for development, debt burden and other emerging and complex development challenges. International cooperation must be effective, people-centred and inclusive, free from conditionalities to ensure meaningful participation for all, particularly those in vulnerable and



marginalised situations. Bangladesh attaches high importance to the prompt adoption of a legally binding instrument on the right to development and remains committed to engaging constructively with the international community to that end.

Bolivia is grateful for the presentation and believes that to correct historic injustice and disparities, climate finance should be articulated according to the principle of shared but differentiated responsibilities. In relation to the report on the right to development and international cooperation for development, the Expert Mechanism clearly identified the challenges and best practises for North, South, South, South and triangular cooperation. It highlighted that incorporating the right to development can contribute to better efficiency and legitimacy of collective action. To improve efficiency, a human rights-based approach shall be adopted, including considering the right to development not just as a goal, but as a universal right assorted with cooperation as a duty incumbent upon states to ensure effectiveness. On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the UN Charter, Bolivia reiterates its call for strengthening international cooperation to tackle international challenges that may be social, cultural, humanitarian, including the right to development.

Brazil reaffirms its commitment to the right to development, essential for reducing domestic and global inequalities. For Brazil, international cooperation and the recognition of development as an individual and collective right must underpin relations amongst nations. Brazil strongly supports international cooperation and calls on the international community to provide sufficient financing, effective technology transfer and robust capacity-building as essential elements of development cooperation. The country is pleased to note initiatives involving Brazil in the Expert Mechanism's report on cooperation, thereby stressing that such partnerships underscore Brazil's commitment to development as a responsibility grounded in human rights and consistently aligned with national priorities. With regard to climate justice, it constitutes the foundation of an effective global response to climate change, with particular attention to the human rights of vulnerable communities. Developed countries must assume their historical responsibilities within the international community on climate issues, embedding the right to development into every policy. This approach is essential to securing a low-carbon future while addressing the unsustainable consumption patterns of the world's wealthiest. As the host country of the COP30 in the city of Belém in November 2025, Brazil call on states and non-state actors to participate in fruitful discussions on climate injustice as well as just transition during that conference.

Burkina Faso commends the Expert Mechanism for its high quality report and reaffirms its commitment to the right to development as a universal human right. Burkina Faso calls on the Expert Mechanism to tackle unilateral coercive measures through a development lens whilst adopting a human rights-based approach, international cooperation and allowing room for manoeuvre for developing countries. Looking at violations of human rights and the right to development in particular, Burkina Faso calls for supporting small and medium-sized companies (SMEs); drafting national action plans with a view to combating corruption; and providing individuals with access to justice, including extraterritorial mechanisms. Furthermore, at governmental level, it is worth noting the transformative effect of artificial intelligence, while drawing the Council's attention to potential risks in connection with AI, including the deepening of global inequalities. Burkina Faso calls for a fairer world and an inclusive dialogue that respects the inherent rights of states and fosters the right to development.



Chad appreciates and fully supports the work of the Expert Mechanism. As one of the Council's priorities, the right to development should help forge a social order that allows for the realisation of all human rights. LDCs including Chad are facing an unprecedented development challenge to try to bring its population out of poverty whilst adapting to climate change. Against this backdrop, the right to development is an important mechanism to help bolster this process. Some significant efforts have been made in Chad in terms of resources, but these are under strain and investment is needed to generate resources to fund development.

China welcomes the thematic study of the Expert Mechanism focussing on international development cooperation, climate justice and women's participation. China notes in the report the withdrawal of major donors including USAID and the decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA) which have jeopardised the development of states and multilateralism. China urges countries concerned to fulfil their commitments to development aid and climate finance so as to avoid further undermining the rights to subsistence and development for vulnerable groups. The right to development is a universal inalienable human right. Yet developing countries continue to face significant challenges in its full realisation. The enduring legacy of colonialism in various forms coupled by a certain state wielding the big stick of UCMs as a coercive tool. This has resulted in adverse outcomes such as economic exploitation, inequality both within and among nations and structural discrimination, thus directly undermining the rights of women, girls and vulnerable groups, and severely hindering the enjoyment by the Global South of all human rights, including the right to development. States concerned must assume their responsibilities. China invites the Expert Mechanism, the UNHRC and the broader international community to pay more attention to these violations and adopt country-specific measures to address them.

Colombia emphasizes the importance of the right to development and the shared responsibility of states to create conditions supportive of its realisation. This right is a pillar for building fairer, more inclusive societies whilst upholding civil and political rights. Since 1986, Colombia has supported the Declaration on the Right to Development and other UN General Assembly resolutions in this field. Colombia further highlights the report's focus on business and human rights, and agrees that the ongoing process towards the adoption of a legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights should play a crucial role in addressing the impacts of transnational corporations that exceed national regulatory capacities. In closing, Colombia asks the Expert Mechanism what elements it considers particularly relevant for this instrument to strengthen the alignment of business practices with sustainable development, promoting a global business environment that respects and protects all human rights.

Cuba appreciates the work of the Expert Mechanism that reaffirms the core role of the right to development as an indivisible and interdependent human right. This right cannot continue to be relegated. It needs to occupy a priority role in international agendas. It needs to be understood as an integral process that guarantees the welfare of people, equal access to resources and fair participation of all states in global decisions. There can be no development without social justice, economic sovereignty and respect for economic growth models, economic blockades such as that of the US versus against Cuba, UCMs, inequality of access to finance and the non-fulfilment of commitments for official development assistance, external debt, the violation of the principles and rules of international trade and other factors are direct violations of the right to development.



It is pressing that the international community acts with responsibility and coherence to eradicate these barriers. International cooperation needs to be based on mutual respect and strengthening national capacities. It is not possible to condition this with political or economic interests. Contributing not this does not contribute to sustainable development, access to technology and bolstering national capacity. The right to development can be achieved if only any form of foreign interference is eradicated and a fairer, more inclusive order, focused on the interests of the peoples, is set in place.

Egypt affirms that the right to development is an inherent and inalienable human right, whereby every human being and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural, and political development. Against the backdrop of accelerating global challenges that are hampering development efforts and placing unprecedented burdens on the realization of the right to development and interrelated rights, this requires concerted international efforts to address the deep-rooted problems that impede development, such as poverty, food security, climate change, tax evasion, illicit financial flows, and recurring economic crises, as well as changing patterns of development support. In this regard, Egypt points out the negative impact of the increasing debt burden in developing countries on the realization of the right to development and the provision of basic services that are closely linked to human rights, as more than 3 billion people around the world currently live in countries that spend more on debt servicing than on education and health. This necessitates a review of the mechanisms of the global economic system, including the reform of international financial institutions. Egypt looks forward to the adoption of the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development, some 40 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as the realization of the right to development is still far from becoming a reality for many peoples of the world. This requires reaffirming that all human rights are interrelated and indivisible, as well as the importance of equality between different rights and not giving preference to some rights over others.

Eritrea thanks the Expert Mechanism for its annual report and for advancing the global discourse on the right to development. Reflecting on the Expert Mechanism's findings, Eritrea underscores the importance of cooperation grounded in mutual respect and aligned with national development priorities. The country welcomes opportunities to reinforce North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation while ensuring that partners are engaged through frameworks that recognise states' agency and ownership in shaping development programmes. Eritrea values the report's alignment with principles such as national ownership, non-conditionality and mutual benefit principles that resonate with their own development philosophy. In line with the thematic study, Eritrea emphasises climate justice as a necessary lens for sustainable development, and reaffirms its commitment to equitable climate action that safeguards socio-economic development, recognises differentiated responsibilities and ensures that climate finance mechanisms including loss and damage are accessible, fair and aligned with the needs of vulnerable populations. Eritrea stands ready to work closely with the expert mechanism and fellow member states. Lastly, it asks the experts to elaborate on how the Mechanism could better support states in ensuring that climate justice and the right to development are translated from principle into concrete practise.



Ethiopia appreciates the comprehensive report and strongly aligns with the call for a shift from development as charity to development as a human right and legal obligation of states. For Ethiopia, the right to development is a lived reality. Development cooperation must be grounded in equity, justice, solidarity and country ownership, not donor-driven priorities. Ethiopia recognises the right to development in both its constitution and its international obligations. The national 10-year development plan, aligned with the SDGs and the homegrown economic reform agenda, promotes inclusive growth, private sector development and climate resilience. Initiatives like the Green Legacy demonstrate our commitment to sustainable development. Despite the global reaffirmation, implementation remains limited. Inequalities, unilateral coercive measures and global crisis continue to undermine progress. Ethiopia calls for the international cooperation that respects national priorities, mobilises united financial resources and supports South-South cooperation. In conclusion, Ethiopia supports development and the adoption of a legally binding instrument to fully operationalise the right to development and ensure fair, inclusive and accountable global progress.

The **Gambia** appreciates the Expert Mechanism for their timely report that rightly underscores inclusive participation, climate justice and financing reform as pillars for realising the right to development. For the Gambia, the right to development is not aspirational but actionable. The recovery-focused national development plan and the emerging Vision 2050 Climate Strategy are aligned with the African Union Agenda 2063 and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the social level, the Gambia is among the first African countries to establish a comprehensive census-based social registry now covering the vast majority of households nationwide. This enables us to target the most vulnerable families with precision and transparency, ensuring that social protection programmes reach those most in need. Bangladesh echoes the Expert Mechanism's call for reforms to the international financial architecture which aligns with the African position that reforms to the international financial architecture must deliver fair outcomes for developing countries. For the Gambia, this means debt relief that creates fiscal space for investment in people, climate finance that is predictable and accessible for adaptation and resilience and technology transfer that bridges the digital divide. These are obligations of solidarity and justice essential to realising the right to development.

Ghana on behalf of the African group appreciates the expert mechanism in providing expertise and guidance on global implementation of the right to development and reiterates its full support for its work. The African group reaffirms its commitment to the Declaration on the Right to Development, which recognises development as an inalienable human right rooted in dignity, justice, and self-determination and achievable only through strengthening international cooperation and solidarity. In line with the African Union's 2025 theme, the group emphasises the urgent need to reform the global financial system to a fair and equitable international financial architecture that prioritises the promotion and protection of human rights for African peoples, fosters sustainable development, eradicates poverty, and upholds human dignity. The African Union's dedication of the year 2025 to reparations and structural justice underscores that addressing historical inequities is not only a moral imperative but also a prerequisite for equitable realisation of the right to development. This can only be achieved through debt restructuring, fair and responsible financing practises, transparency, accountability, and good governance. Finally, the group calls for the adoption of the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development,



emphasising that further delay undermines the urgent need to address global inequalities. A timely adoption accelerates the realisation of the right to development for all.

India reiterates its steadfast support for the full and effective implementation of the right to development and urges OHCHR to extend all possible support and resources to the Expert Mechanism to ensure that it can effectively carry out its important mandate. Turning to the thematic studies on operationalising the right to development in international development cooperation and climate justice, sustainability and the right to development, India has always viewed humanity as one family and stressed the significance of South-South as well as North-South cooperation. Guided by the need to strengthen development cooperation and to support developing countries in achieving the SDGs, India has expanded its development partnerships with developing countries, including LCDs and small island developing states (SIDS). India's cooperation has always been guided by its partners' development priorities. Contributing to global climate action and addressing the challenges of global warming, India has taken initiatives such as the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. Lastly, India remains committed to the operationalisation of the right to development and will continue to engage constructively with the international community towards the conclusion of the international covenant.

Iran welcomes the experts' report which highlights the importance of international cooperation including both North-South and South-South partnership as essential for the full realisation of the right to development. The report also identifies key challenges including financial and structural obstacles that hinder countries from achieving sustainable progress and equitable development. In this context, Iran emphasises that strengthening cooperation, solidarity and respect for national priority are crucial. Iran calls upon states and international community to support initiatives that empower developing countries and foster inclusive and just international development framework. In light of these findings, Iran would appreciate if the Expert Mechanism could elaborate on concrete measures that the state and international actors could take to overcome financial and structural obstacles and ensure effective implementation of the right to development.

Iraq is committed to promoting the right to development as a fundamental human right in line with the Sustainable Development Agenda, which are a roadmap for international and national policies for the realization of the development. Iraq underscores the importance of including the right to development in a cross-cutting way within the UN system, including Human Rights Treaty Bodies, and invites the international community to bolster international cooperation. In conclusion, Iraq calls on member states to bolster international cooperation and solidarity to address global challenges such as poverty, hunger, climate change and water scarcity, in order to give full effect to the right to development.

Jamaica on behalf of the CARICOM group welcomes the report of the thematic study on climate justice, sustainability, and the right to development, and underscores that the Expert Mechanism has a critical role in fostering greater understanding, inclusivity, accountability, and the delivery of fair, equitable, and sustainable climate action to promote climate justice. The CARICOM region continuously grapples with the deleterious effects of climate change, including rising sea levels and extreme weather events. These effects negatively impact our enjoyment of the right to



development as hard-won development gains are frequently reversed, despite current resilience-building measures. Climate justice requires embedding the principles of the right to development in existing and new initiatives that ensure equity and inclusivity when tackling the climate crisis, effectively contributing to broader frameworks and processes such as the Loss and Damage Fund, COP outcomes, and the attainment of the SDGs; and addressing the double inequality of the climate debt through reform of funding initiatives that require the most vulnerable developing countries to contribute significant financial resources disproportionate to their role in creating the climate crisis. The principles of the right to development must reinforce the commitment of member states to enact climate justice and achieve a just transition, particularly for climate-vulnerable nations. The CARICOM group calls on the Expert Mechanism to facilitate the required actions to ensure that in enacting climate justice, those least responsible do not suffer the most.

Malawi welcomes the annual report of the Expert Mechanism and commends its role in providing the Council with specialised knowledge and expertise on the right to development, as well as identifying and sharing best practises and promoting global implementation of the right. Malawi notes with concern that during the reporting period, the liquidity situation in relation to the United Nations regular budget affected the ability of the Expert Mechanism to fully deliver its mandate. At the national level, the right to development is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Malawi. The country is implementing the Malawi Agenda 2063, which is the overall national blueprint aimed at transforming Malawi into a self-reliant and industrialised upper middle country by 2063. Malawi reaffirms its unwavering support to the right to development as a universal human right, central to the 2030 Agenda and reducing global inequalities. Malawi emphasises the urgency of realizing the right to development amidst global crises and advocate for international solidarity, structural reforms, fair systems, people-centred approaches, inclusive cooperation and a policy space for developing countries.

The **Marshall Islands** appreciates the Expert Mechanism's study and its emphasis on aligning climate justice with the right to development. Climate injustice is not a distant problem. It is a lived reality for our people. As a small island developing state (SIDS), the Islands are responsible for a tiny proportion of global emissions. Yet, rising sea levels, displacement and extreme weather events already threaten local communities, their way of life and their fundamental human rights to life, health and culture. The Marshall Islands welcomes the reminder that all states should be incorporating climate justice into their development plans and strategies at the national level. The Islands established the *Tile Til Eo Committee* to implement the national 2050 Climate Strategy and the Low-Emission Climate-Resilient Development Strategy under the Paris Agreement. But the Marshall Islands cannot do this alone. Climate justice and the right to development must be central to all climate action initiatives. The Islands support the integration of right to development principles into climate policies, ensuring a fair and equitable future that leaves no vulnerable nations or community behind.

Nepal thanks the Expert Mechanism for its annual and states that the right to development is an inherent human right in both its individual and collective forms. It covers a wide range of human rights, including the economic, social, cultural, as well as environmental rights. Ongoing conflicts, trade tensions, coupled with the impacts of climate change and global resource constraints have jeopardised the realisation of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. As financing for development remains as the major challenge in operationalising the right to



development, Nepal calls upon all stakeholders to act towards strengthening development cooperation and enhancing access to finance in true spirit of partnership and solidarity. In closing, Nepal requests the Expert Mechanism to suggest innovative ways to support the least developed countries (LDCs) and to optimise the allocation of necessary resources towards the effective realization of the right to development.

Nigeria appreciates the role of the Expert Mechanism in advancing the operationalisation of the right to development, while remaining deeply concerned that the current international financial system does not adequately serve the needs of the global South. Nigeria therefore calls for urgent reform of the global financial and development cooperation architecture, the one that is fair, equitable and with strong focus on debt relief, transparency, accountability and good governance. Nigeria stresses that international cooperation is the duty of states, not charity. Therefore, genuine cooperation must respect the national development priorities of recipient states and must not compel them to compromise their sovereignty in exchange for assistance. As an active member of the South-South cooperation, Nigeria recognises the importance of solidarity based partnership founded on equity, equality, non-conditionality and mutual benefits. Through South cooperation, Nigeria gains access to knowledge, technology and expertise while strengthening national capacities, self-reliance and regional partnership. Moving forward, Nigeria urge that the right to development be fully operationalised across all forms of cooperation so that development is recognised and implemented as both human right and collective responsibility.

Oman appreciates the work of the Expert Mechanism. As a fundamental human right, the realization of the right to development requires international cooperation for fairness and equity. Therefore, any cooperation has to be based on equal partnership while respecting the right of peoples to define their own developmental path and according to their national priorities and needs. Enhancing cooperation between the North and the South and South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation are an effective model to exchange the expertise, the transfer of technology and building capacities to achieve development. Transparency in the development of cooperation and partnership while adhering to human rights and avoiding any transparency or any discrimination or exclusion are essential. Oman is in favour of a fair and equitable partnership that achieves the right to development and serves all the rights of peoples without any discrimination whatsoever.

Pakistan welcomes the Expert Mechanism's thematic studies on topics that are both urgent and important. As one of the countries that has contributed least yet suffers most from climate change, climate justice remains an imperative for Pakistan. Overcoming challenges of sustainability and financing constraints require the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities to remain at the centre stage. Pakistan appreciates the thematic study for acknowledging this centrality as well as for underscoring the need for reform of the global financial architecture. International cooperation is vital to avert climate change's worst impacts and to realise the right to development. The sharp decline in development assistance and conditionalities both are at odds with the right to development. Lastly, Pakistan welcomes discussions on vital cross-cutting themes at the expert mechanism's regular meetings and look forward to continued engagement in support of its mandate.



The **Russian Federation** appreciates and supports the work of the Expert Mechanism, while noting the scale of the work accomplished and the ambitious plans of the experts. Russia is convinced that the efforts deployed by the Expert Mechanism and its achievements will be useful for the practical implementation of the right to development. Convinced that the right to development is a universal and inalienable human right, Russia believes that its full realization will contribute to the realization of all human rights, as well as to ensuring the well-being of countries and peoples and overcoming social and economic inequality both within and between countries. Russia believes that one of the main obstacles to the full realization of the right to development is the introduction by a number of states of unilateral coercive measures against certain undesirable governments – a vicious practice strongly condemned by Russia. Such illegitimate restrictions are a tool for punishing sovereign states for pursuing independent domestic and foreign policies, a mechanism for exerting systematic strategic pressure on them in order to contain or weaken their economic and technological capabilities. Russia regards this as a clear sign of the intensification of global competition, which is becoming increasingly sophisticated and irreconcilable.

Saudi Arabia read with interest the report on ‘Climate Justice, Sustainability and the Right to Development’ and shares the Expert Mechanism's view that there is still no globally agreed definition of climate justice in multilateral frameworks, but that this concept is embodied in many widely recognized principles and concepts, including the principle of equity; the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities; the concept of historical responsibility; climate finance commitments, and the concept of just transitions. Together, these principles enshrine the values of justice and equity. Addressing the issue of sustainability and the right to development in the context of climate change requires taking into account the development priorities and varying national circumstances of countries, as well as the right of developing countries to pursue their full development potential on par with developed countries. In this regard, Saudi Arabia supports the recommendation of the Expert Mechanism calling on countries to prioritize just transition policies, ensuring that those affected by the gradual transition away from fossil fuels are not marginalized. For many developing countries, natural resources are a matter of survival; their extraction and use is not a luxury, but rather the main means by which countries lift themselves out of poverty, guarantee the fundamental rights of their citizens, and build societies capable of withstanding crises in a sustainable manner.

Sudan appreciates the work of the Expert Mechanism and recalls the recommendations underscoring the importance of international cooperation based on justice, to ensure that developing countries - including Sudan - can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Sudan attaches particular importance to this right, as demonstrated by the 2023 National Strategy based on the principles of sustainable development. However, rebels and militia have undermined the development efforts taken, such as the pillaging of resources. 25,000 people have been killed and 10 million are now internally displaced. Sudan's economy has considerably slowed, thereby negatively affecting the country's development. Armed conflicts jeopardise the possibilities for countries to be able to honour the rights of the people. In spite of Sudan's own challenges, on top of which are UCMs and debt, Sudan calls for international support to uphold the country's development process and the right to development of its own people, and further



urges the international community to bolster international cooperation to alleviate debt and fund the reconstruction of the country.

Tunisia expresses its strong support for the right to development as a fundamental and universal human right that must be guaranteed to all individuals and peoples, and vocally calls for the rapid adoption of a binding international covenant on the right to development. Converging with the Expert Mechanism on the decline in official development assistance, the debt burden, tax evasion, illicit financial flows, and climate change as serious obstacles to developing countries' efforts to achieve sustainable development and exacerbate poverty and inequality between and within countries, Tunisia further supports the report's assertion that the right to development must be integrated into international development cooperation in accordance with the priorities and development plans of beneficiary countries, and that international development cooperation must be strengthened to address climate change, particularly through climate finance and technology transfer, in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. At the national level, Tunisia attaches great importance to the right to development and continues to implement the 2030 Agenda. It has also enshrined economic and social rights in the 2023-2025 National Development Plan and the Tunisia 2035 Vision. The country calls for strengthening international development assistance and solidarity, building capacity, and facilitating technology transfer to developing countries for a sustainable industrialization and upgrade of their infrastructure. The country also calls for a reform of the international financial system and a fair and equitable solution to the debt problem that burdens the economies of developing countries. In closing, Tunisia stresses the need for full cooperation from countries where looted funds are located in order to facilitate the return of these funds to the countries from which they were stolen, so that they can be used to finance development.

Uganda extends its appreciation to the Expert Mechanism for their work and stresses the importance it attaches to the right to development as a fundamental human right and an integral pillar to the enjoyment of all other rights. The achievement of the 2030 Agenda will only be possible with realisation of the right to development. Issues of poverty, underdevelopment, marginalisation and political instability cannot be divorced from meaningful discussion relating to human rights. On this premise, Uganda invites all states to finalise the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development that will pave a legal path and responsibilities for states to collectively and individually ensure promotion and protection of the right to development. Finally, Uganda reassures the Expert Mechanism of its support and reiterates its commitment in the promotion of the right to development for the Ugandan people.

Uganda on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) expresses its sincere appreciation and unwavering support to the Expert Mechanism for their work, and reaffirms the centrality of the right to development to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this vein, the NAM urges all member states to pay particular attention to the right to development in the context of the elaboration of their national policies in line with the 2030 Agenda. The NAM further calls upon the United Nations, its specialised agencies, funds and programmes to mainstream the right to development in their policies and operational activities as well as in policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading system. Furthermore, the NAM expresses its deep concern about the challenges and obstacles that continue to affect the Expert Mechanism on the right to development, thereby recalling that all states have the duty

to take steps to facilitate the full realisation of the right to development, including supporting the work of the Expert Mechanism.

Vanuatu underlines the inseparable nature of the right to development from climate justice and sustainability. In a small island developing state, Vanuatu's survival and right to development are under direct threat from rising seas, stronger storms and biodiversity loss. The recent ICJ advisory opinion on 23 July 2025 initiated by Vanuatu is a milestone for climate justice. The Court confirmed that states have binding obligations under international law to prevent significant environmental harm, to act urgently in line with science and to protect the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Crucially, the ICJ recognised that inadequate climate action may amount to an intentionally wrongful act and the obligations are owed to all humanity. This clarifies that vulnerable nations have long known climate inaction undermines the right to development, especially for those who have contributed least to the crisis. The right to development must therefore be realised through equitable climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building; sustainable models that safeguard future generations; and accountability for both states and private actors, including major emitters. Vanuatu urges the UNHRC to anchor its work in the principles affirmed by the ICJ - that climate justice is not optional, but a legal and moral duty.

Venezuela attaches great importance to development cooperation in its various forms, and promotes voluntary and solidarity-based cooperation with the aim of jointly addressing common problems. In this context, Venezuela highlights initiatives it promoted such as Petrocaribe, a program focused on energy cooperation to strengthen the socioeconomic development of countries in the Caribbean and Central America. The Bolivarian Republic has reported extensively on the US Government's attacks against Venezuela, which have been escalating in recent years through the illegal application of unilateral coercive measures, smear campaigns, and disregard for Venezuela's legitimate institutions, reaching an unprecedented level of threat today, especially following the deployment of US military forces in the Caribbean. In this regard, Venezuela appreciates that the Expert Mechanism's report points out that unilateral coercive measures violate international law and undermine the right to development, exacerbating inequalities and marginalizing vulnerable groups. Furthermore, Venezuela respectfully urges the experts to join in rejecting threats of the use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, which jeopardize the full enjoyment of human rights, and in particular peoples' right to development.

Venezuela on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defence of the UN Charter attaches great importance to the promotion and protection of all human rights without distinction in terms of level or category. In that context, the right to development, which the Group of Friends believes to be a universal inalienable human right, is one of the rights of the peoples and its implementation and enjoyment is of the most urgent, particularly in as much as economic and social inequalities, which have been sustained and historic among the countries of the Global North and those of the South, continue to increase. This situation emphasises the relevance of reaffirming the right to development enshrined in the UN Charter and as a right which must be guaranteed by all states and fully recognised by international human rights law. The Group of Friends notes with concern that full implementation of the right to development continues to be blocked, *inter alia*, by the application of unilateral coercive measures which are an obstacle to

the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Strongly committed to their shared mission of ensuring that development is fully recognised as a universal and inalienable human right for all, the Group of Friends emphasises determination to support as a priority, as an urgent matter, all the efforts towards that end.

Zambia appreciates the experts' report and reaffirms that the right to development is fundamental in achieving the SDGs. Addressing debt sustainability, climate finance and inclusive growth is critical for our shared prosperity. Gender equality and the right to development are mutually reinforcing. Zambia supports the call for stronger participation, equitable resource sharing and intersectional approaches. For Zambia, ensuring that women's voices are central to policy from communities to national strategies is essential. Empowering women and girls not only drives development but also builds inclusive and resilient societies. For Zambia, the link between climate justice, sustainability and the right to development is a lived reality. The Zambian people face recurring floods, droughts and changing rainfall patterns that threaten food security and development gains. With disproportionate impact on women and girls, yet there is an opportunity to build a path that is resilient, inclusive and fair. Zambia welcomes the call to operationalise the right to development, especially in climate policy. As a climate vulnerable country, Zambia stresses that adaptation, finance and decision-making must integrate gender equality at every step.

Views Expressed by Intergovernmental Organizations and UN Entities

The **European Union** emphasises that inclusive and sustainable development can only be achieved through the full realisation of all human rights for which each state has the obligation and primary responsibility. It is essential that the right to development is rooted in universality, indivisibility, interrelation, and interdependence of all human rights. Full and effective implementation of existing international human rights obligations is a key to sustainable development. The EU considers that existing human rights treaties, mechanisms, and bodies with the centrality of the 2030 agenda are key in guiding states. The EU is a strong and reliable partner and continues to work together towards those objectives. Using a human rights-based approach to build the human rights economy ensures that the furthest left behind are reached first. The EU reiterates its strong concerns and pending questions on the current draft of a legally binding instrument on the right to development leading to diverging views. The EU stands ready to continue engaging in future discussions. In its furtherance of a just and fair climate transition, the EU remains the world's largest contributor to international public climate finance. Since 2013, the Union has more than doubled the contribution to climate finance to support developing countries with a strong commitment to continue delivering on climate finance in the future.

UNDP welcomes the study of the Expert Mechanism and shares the commitment to advance rights-based development and climate justice. UNDP welcomes the report's recommendation for rights-based climate policy and LCDs. As the largest provider of assistance on climate action in the UN, UNDP supports more than 140 countries. UNDP also leads the collaborative effort of 30 UN entities to support the development of the latest round of national pledges under the Paris Agreement. Such efforts are delivered through gender-responsive and socially inclusive climate action encompassing women, youth, Indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. Secondly, UNDP echoes the recommendation for the participation of marginalised populations

in climate action and governance. Across UNDP's climate change and disaster risk reduction programming, UNDP prioritises community-led solutions including crisis response, advancing the just transition and solutions to loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change. Thirdly, UNDP is actively working to advance the call in the report for equipping legal institutions to deal with climate injustice. UNDP is supporting judges to enhance their climate expertise to decide cases in Georgia, Malawi, Kyrgyzstan and across the Western Balkans. In closing, UNDP reaffirms its commitment to supporting countries in delivering rights-based development solutions and climate actions, and looks forward to working closely with all partners.

Views Expressed by National Human Rights Institutions

The **Ethiopian Human Rights Commission** points out that the Ethiopian Constitution recognises the right to development and affirms citizens' right to participate in national development and to be consulted on policies and projects that affect their community. Ethiopia has made efforts to align the national development plan with the Sustainable Development Goals, notably through the 10-year development plan. However, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission has observed gaps in the implementation of development projects. Armed conflict and insecurity in some parts of the country has affected the right to development due to damage to infrastructure and disruption of services, also diverting attention and resources away from development activities. These challenges have a direct impact on the realisation of human rights, including access to education, health and livelihoods, particularly in conflict-affected areas. The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission calls on the government to ensure that human rights-based approach is fully integrated into all stages of development planning and implementation. It also reiterates its call for peaceful dialogue and a sustainable conflict resolution.

Views Expressed by Non-Governmental Organizations

Shivi Development Society stresses that the right to development is an inalienable right of individuals that leads to realisation of all other human rights. People-centric developmental initiatives are the foundation on which right to development is built. Recognising this fact, there is an augmented focus in India on guaranteeing this right to people through several policy initiatives, including women-orientated interventions, financial inclusion schemes or increased access to public health, highlighting India's intent to universalise access and opportunity. While India and its people understand the challenges that need to be addressed, the youth of the country feels that results are on the right path. As India moves forward in its path of development, the recent terror attack in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir, which left 26 civilians dead, is a stark reminder that terrorism is a direct affront to right to development of people of Jammu and Kashmir. It was not only an assault on human life, but also on the development aspirations of the region, tourism, livelihoods and social cohesion. The adverse impact of terrorism that India has been facing over three decades, especially in Jammu and Kashmir, has been acutely felt by all Indians, and more so by young Kashmiris. Kashmir is not only a geopolitical question, but also a development one. The Organisation seeks meaningful understanding on this issue, which demands a cohesive and meaningful approach towards terrorism.



Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23) draws the Council's attention to the current world scenario marked by a very tangible fragility of the multilateral institutional legal framework, with multilateralism which has been a cornerstone of diplomacy and governance for decades in a severe crisis. Ongoing conflicts are marked by a concerning disregard for international human rights and humanitarian law, the declining trust in international institutions, the rising of nationalism, and challenging in addressing pressing global issues, are all obstacles to the realisation of a more just and peaceful world, and to the UN Charter's dream for states to act in a spirit of brotherhood as a human family. APG23 highlights the importance of the right to development as a holistic approach to addressing global challenges. It also advocates for the Draft International Covenant on the Right to Development to be soon adopted to ensure accountability and sustainability. APF23 calls for people-centred, human rights-based, transformational and transparent governance in global economic systems, and echoes the recommendation by the Expert Mechanism for an renewed commitment to cooperation, bilateral, multilateral and intergovernmental, to uphold the right to development and create an enabling environment for sustainable progress.

Community Human Rights and Advocacy Centre (CHRAC) points to the Expert Mechanism's reference to the nexus between climate justice, women's participation and equitable finance, yet these principles ring hollow if situations like Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir are ignored. Since the unlawful abrogation of Article 370, Indian-occupied Kashmir (IOK) has been open to predatory corporate land grabs, reckless lithium and coal extraction and mega-infrastructure projects, all imposed without the free, prior and informed consent of the Kashmiri people. This has unleashed mass deforestation, glacier depletion and toxic runoff that now endanger the entire Indus Basin. What India brands as development is actually an environmental destruction, economic exploitation and cultural erasure. IOK epitomises the report's central warning when states silence civil society and hand policy to corporations. Both human dignity and collective rights are extinguished. CHRAC calls on the Expert Mechanism to undertake an urgent country visit to IOK to assess compliance with right to development principle; and ensure that the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) commitments prohibit financing for projects imposed on occupied people without consent.

Il Cenacolo stresses that the right to development is one of the basic human rights in order to promote the quality of life and secure the guarantee of men and women. However, what the Sahrawis of Tindouf camps are experiencing is in total contradiction with the philosophy of the right to development. The host country authorities turn the camps into a lawless space under the control of armed groups, under a complicity between the army and the Algerian authorities that are preventing Sahrawis from the right to development, to ownership, etc. In contrast, the Sahrawis in the southern provinces of the Kingdom of Morocco enjoy policies that promote the right to development, especially through a development initiative launched by the Kingdom of Morocco since 2015 with investments exceeding \$8 billion, which improved the environment of education, health, infrastructure, employment opportunities, and this is recognised by all UN reports. For these reasons, Il Cenacolo calls on the UNHRC to monitor the situation of the inhabitants of these camps and to hold the host state accountable for the violation of its international obligations and to secure the rights of civilians to enjoy their right to development equally with their peers in the southern governorates of the Kingdom of Morocco.



India Water Foundation fully agrees with the Expert Mechanism's report recognising that climate justice is integral to the right to development. Climate justice must be gender responsive, adequately funded, and rooted in international solidarity. The burdens and the benefits of the climate action should be shared equitably with special attention to those countries which pollute less but bear the consequences as an unarguable view. Global North is a historic polluter. India's national mission integrates gender considerations enabling women's leadership in water management, renewable energy adaptation, and climate resilience agriculture. The National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change supports community-led solutions while targeting, financing, empowering women, farmers, and entrepreneurs to adopt sustainable practises. As India has called for scaled-up climate finance beyond the 100 billion USD, commitment to ensure developing nations can pursue low-carbon climate resilience pathways without compromising development priorities. The Foundation actively promotes South-South cooperation, sharing affordable, renewable technologies, disaster risk reduction expertise, etc. India remains committed to ensuring that climate justice is not an abstract ideal but as a practical reality, inclusive and effective in safeguarding the planet while advancing the right to development for all.

Centre Europe - Tiers Monde (CETIM) appreciates the reaffirmation of its individual and collective dimension as well as the crucial role of international cooperation, climate justice, and the meaningful participation of women in its implementation, which must be ensured at all levels. A notable step forward is the mechanism's characterisation of climate justice as a decolonial approach. This highlights the need for an approach that integrates human security, human rights, equity, and participation while recognising that systemic transformation is imperative to achieve just and sustainable development. Yet, development cooperation today remains driven by donors, corporations, and financial markets when it should be based on genuine solidarity. Austerity policies imposed by the IMF and World Bank disregarding the rights to development destroy livelihoods and deepen inequalities. CETIM urges the Expert Mechanism to examine the systemic impediments of this right - militarism, armed conflict, repression of social movements, corporate capture, economic extractivism, and the vestige of colonialism undermining people's sovereignty and self-determination. The right to development is not an act of charity. It is the result of daily struggles by people and movements against oppression and domination. CETIM supports these struggles and calls on states to commit to making this right a tangible reality for all.

Action Canada for Population and Development welcomes the expert mechanism's comprehensive annual report which clearly articulates why a people-centred human rights approach to the right to development is necessary to address our global crisis. This report comes at a time when global solidarity is fraying due to shrinking international development cooperation, unfulfilled financial pledges, unfair and unequal trade practises and policies, unilateral coercive measures, exclusion and marginalisation, disregard for biodiversity and climate change, and economic systems that continue to facilitate genocide and occupation. Ten years after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and almost 40 years after the Declaration on the Right to Development, Action Canada urges states to take overdue actions for the full realisation of the right to development. In conclusion, Action Canada would like to know from the Expert



Mechanism what the role the latter may play in the context of the UN80 initiative, especially since achieving the right to development appears increasingly out of reach.

Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute emphasizes that development as an inalienable human rights requiring participation, equality, and sustainability. Four main barriers impede the realisation of this right today. First, persistent poverty restricts access to resources and opportunities needed for economic and social progress. Second, armed conflicts disrupt development by destroying infrastructure and displacing populations, undermining stability essential for growth. Third, systemic inequalities, whether based on gender, ethnicity, or class, limit equitable participation, perpetuating exclusion from development benefits. Fourth, climate change inflicts severe environmental degradation, threatening livelihoods, and hindering sustainable development efforts. As an organisation specialised in development and empowerment, the Charity Institute urges the Expert Mechanism to adopt more focused efforts not only to address these key obstacles, but also to expose and mitigate the risks posed by these aggravating factors to the right to development and the broader human rights framework.

The **Chunhui Children's Foundation** leads the Chunhui Mama Programme for orphaned and special needs children aged 0 to 18 years. The Programme embraces inclusive education, follows the lifelong management of the whole-child philosophy, designs courses based on the children's ages and developmental needs, and creates appropriate learning opportunities for each child so as to promote their holistic development. The Programme also trains almost 1,000 frontline Chunhui Mamas to provide responsive care for the children, help them develop secure attachment, and pay consistent attention to their needs. The goal is to help the children thrive in family-like love and care. Chunhui Mama is not only the name of one of its programmes, but also the title of women working with the Foundation's programmes in welfare institutions. They serve both as mamas and as teachers of the children. Since it was launched, the Programme has benefited more than 210,000 children and trained more than 28,000 frontline Chunhui Mamas. United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation

Promotion du Développement Économique et Social (PDES) states that the Expert Mechanism rightly underlines that without security, inclusive governance, and international cooperation, the right to development cannot be achieved. The peoples of North Africa and Sahara region face rising poverty rates, persistent gender-based discrimination, widespread school drop-offs, high levels of child mortality, and insufficient access to health care. Such indicators not only reflect delays in development, but also constitute a direct violation of human rights. The region also faces significant disparities in levels of development and access to rights, highlighting the need for more coherent and equitable regional policies. PDES reiterates that the right to development must go hand-in-hand with fair and sustainable management of natural resources.

FACTS & FIGURES ON ID PARTICIPATION

35 State Delegations

2 Inter-Governmental Organizations and UN Entities

1 National Human Rights Institution

10 Non-Governmental Organizations