



General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 February 2024

English only

Human Rights Council

Fifty-fifth session

26 February–5 April 2024

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by payamavaran hamyari (chatra), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[4 February 2024]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



The Right to Development and Social Security

Introduction

The right to social security is recognised in numerous human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and is crucial to ensuring a life of dignity. As a fundamental human right, social security is an effective means of combating discrimination and an essential tool for reducing poverty and promoting social inclusion. It aims to provide income security and support to everyone at every stage of life, with particular attention paid to the most marginalised.

The issue of the obligation of states to respect the rights set out in the Universal Declaration was later progressively clarified through the elaboration of the nine main international human rights treaties that created binding law: in particular, the two overarching covenants that cover all rights.

Article 22 states that economic, social and cultural rights are essential to human dignity and the fulfilment of the human personality. This wording is also found in Article 29 and emphasises that the authors of the UDHR not only wanted to guarantee a basic minimum, but also to help us become better human beings.

Meanwhile, social protection encompasses policies and programmes that aim to reduce poverty and vulnerability by promoting efficient labour markets that expose people to fewer risks and improve their ability to cope with economic and social risks such as unemployment, exclusion, illness, disability and old age, which is fully linked to the right to development. The United Nations 2030 Agenda recognises social protection systems as an important factor in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As an organisation working for human rights and development, the NGO payamavaran hamyari (chatra), with its experience and ongoing activities to reduce social harms in the Islamic Republic of Iran, emphasises that the right to development for developing countries must be recognised as a fundamental and indisputable principle.

This right to development should be guaranteed on the basis of the principles of social justice, equality and respect for human rights. To achieve this goal, governments and relevant institutions must strive to guarantee the improvement of people's living conditions and social well-being by proposing effective programmes and policies.

We believe that economic and social development cannot be fully and sustainably achieved without respect for human rights and social justice. Therefore, the Human Rights Council can play an important role in guiding and assisting developing countries in achieving these goals.

We, all members of the global community, must respect and commit to human rights, including the right to development, by committing to the pillars of the United Nations. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, elaborated and proclaimed by the United Nations, refers to the rights of individuals in various areas, including the right to development. Article 6 of this covenant states that all people have the right to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social and cultural development, both nationally and internationally. It emphasises that development must include all people, both individually and collectively, and that all should benefit equally and without discrimination from the fruits of development. The right to development is also emphasised in the Declaration on the Right to Development. This declaration, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1986, affirms that development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process aimed at improving the well-being of all people and peoples. It emphasises that the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every person and all peoples have the right to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realised.

In practise, however, we see today that the commitments of industrialised countries to cooperate with developing countries in the development of all people have been forgotten. It seems that the countries that rely on the natural wealth of many developing countries and call themselves progressive today have easily forgotten their threat to people and human rights.

Recommendations and Suggestions

We Institution suggests that the Human Rights Council plan and implement the following actions to support the right to development in developing countries:

1. Providing financial and technical assistance to developing countries to develop social and economic infrastructures such as improving healthcare systems, education, employment generation, and enhancing transportation infrastructure.
2. Facilitating and establishing international and regional partnerships for technology transfer, fair trade, and empowering local authorities in developing countries.
3. Developing educational programs and awareness campaigns in areas related to improving living conditions and sustainable development.
4. Encouraging governments of developing countries to create national policies and programs for sustainable development and environmental conservation.
5. Establishing effective mechanisms for monitoring the progress and implementation of development programs in developing countries and evaluating their impact on people's living conditions.

By implementing these actions, adherence to human rights and sustainable development in developing countries can be ensured, and the United Nations' objectives in this regard can be enhanced.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the payamavaran hamyari (chatra) urges the Human Rights Council to recognize the right to development as fundamental for developing countries, ensuring it's upheld through principles of social justice and equality. To achieve this, implementing measures like financial aid, international partnerships, educational programs, national policies for sustainability, and robust monitoring mechanisms is crucial. These efforts are vital for enhancing the well-being of people in developing nations and advancing the United Nations' goals.

Furthermore, we urge the Human Rights Council to demand more serious admonitions from developed countries to uphold their commitments and to pave the way for expanding cooperation and interaction between so-called “North” and “South” countries, enabling all human generations to step towards a better future together.

By fostering collaboration between nations, irrespective of their economic status, we can collectively address global challenges and work towards sustainable development, ensuring prosperity and dignity for all individuals worldwide. Let us seize this opportunity to build a more inclusive and equitable world for present and future generations alike.
