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

Written statement* submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), 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.

[19 August 2024]

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



Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, Takes Effective Measures to Protect the Human Rights of the Elderly

With the accelerating trend of global population aging, the protection of human rights for the elderly has become increasingly important in the global scope. Especially with the advent of the digital age, the digital divide and other issues faced by the elderly have become more prominent.

In the ancient Chinese classic "Mencius", it is said: "Expend the respect of the aged in one's family to that of other families; expend the love of the young ones in one's family to that of other families. If you did these above, you could rule the kingdom as if you were turning it in the palm." China has the tradition of filial piety, respect, and love for the elderly, fully guaranteeing their basic rights, providing them with a sense of security, support, happiness, safety. This is one of important goals of China's human rights protection, to achieve which China has taken a series of measures. Take Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, as an example. Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, actively implements the preferential treatment policy for the elderly, vigorously protects the legitimate rights and interests of the elderly, and enables the elderly to share the fruits of reform and development, so as to enjoy a peaceful and happy old age.

1. Improve the system of safeguarding the rights of the elderly. Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, formulated the Measures of the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, for the Implementation of the Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly, issued policy documents such as the Tibet Autonomous Region's (China) Implementation Plan on Promoting the Construction of the Basic Elderly Care Service System, and formulated 18 local standards for elderly care institutions in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China. Including nursing service standards, personnel management standards, emergency management standards, and food safety standards, so as to constantly consolidate the institutional basis for the protection of the rights of the elderly.
2. Improve the level of social security for the elderly. Since January 1, 2024, the basic pension of basic pension insurance for urban and rural residents in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, has reached 245 yuan per person per month, benefiting 300,000 urban and rural residents over 60 years of age in the region. Continuously increasing health subsidies for the elderly for three years. In order to fully protect the health of the elderly, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, has increased the construction of geriatrics. By the end of 2023, 50% of Tibet Autonomous Region's secondary and higher public general hospitals have established geriatrics. In order to facilitate the medical treatment of the elderly, various medical institutions have set up priority windows for the elderly, reserved 24-hour manual window services, opened green channels for elderly medical treatment, and provided convenient services such as registration, charging, taking medication, admission and discharge.
3. Enrich the forms of elderly care services. Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, has established a subsidy system for elderly care services, with an annual investment of nearly 200 million yuan, benefiting more than 60,000 key elderly care recipients. Through government procurement of services, public, private construction and other means, social forces are introduced to carry out elderly care services. Day care centers for the elderly provide daily care, spiritual comfort, and cultural entertainment services for the elderly in the community. Elderly care institutions provide centralized support services for elderly who are willing to do so. At 4,700 meters above sea level, the lowest air temperature in Nierong County, Naqu City, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, is minus 30 degrees Celsius, but in the service center for people with special difficulties in Nierong County, the room is warm. Chuji, an old man who has lived in the center for more than three years, is drinking hot buttered tea. More and more old people like Chuji in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, have realized the beautiful life of having something to depend on and care for when they are old, and embracing the happy "sunset red" period.

4. Promote age friendly construction. Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, distributed the Implementation Plan on Advancing the Aging Adaptation of Families of the Elderly with Special Difficulties during the "14th Five Year Plan" period, with the main goal of "convenient indoor walking, safe toilet bathing, convenient kitchen operation, improvement of home environment, intelligent safety monitoring, and adaptation of auxiliary appliances", to carry out aging adaptation of families of the elderly with special difficulties that meet relevant standards and have basic transformation conditions. As of the end of 2023, more than 1750 households have completed home aging adaptation renovations. In 2023, the first municipal elderly care service quality guidance center in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, will be officially put into use. Based on the establishment of the elderly information database, the center will provide basic services such as physical sign detection and emergency rescue, daily care, and housekeeping services, so as to make the elderly care more intelligent and convenient.
5. Carry out the "Digital Assistance for the Elderly" campaign. In order to help the elderly to use intelligent technology, facilitate their daily life, bridge the "digital divide", and better share the achievements of information development, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, has established an inter office contact meeting system to solve the difficulties of the elderly in using intelligent technology, issued the Tibet Autonomous Region's "Old People's Traditional Service Guarantee Plan", and the Tibet Autonomous Region's "Implementation Plan for Effectively Solving the Difficulties of the Elderly in Using Intelligent Technology (2021-2022)" to protect the legitimate rights and interests of the elderly in the information age through the combination of traditional services and intelligent innovation, and the combination of online services and offline channels. In 2023, Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, Unicom has carried out more than 100 "Science and Technology Helping the Elderly, China Unicom Beautiful" activities in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China.

China is actively responding to population aging and improving policies and mechanisms for the development of elderly care and the elderly care industry. With the further progress of China's comprehensively deepening reform, the human rights of the elderly in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR), China, will be guaranteed at a higher level in the future.
