

The United Nations Consultation Report

Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of all Human Rights

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Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of all Human Rights

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution [41/19](#), the Human Rights Council invited the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) “to strengthen its work relevant to sustainable development, including studies on the role of development in the enjoyment of human rights” (para.13). It also requested the OHCHR “to organize a one-day intersessional seminar (...) on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights, in order to allow Member States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, international organizations, national human rights institutions, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to identify challenges and gaps and share good practices and experiences in this regard” (para.14).
2. In the resolution, the Council emphasized the important role of sustainable development in promoting and protecting human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, as well as civil and political rights, recognized that development contributes to the process of promoting and protecting human rights, Acknowledged that development is the basis for the improvement of living standards and the welfare of the population of each State, and hence contributes to the enjoyment of all human rights. Welcomed the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, which contains a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets. The 2030 Agenda is of unprecedented scope and significance, accepted by all countries, considering different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities; its goals and targets are universal, integrated and indivisible, and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development,
3. In implementing the above resolution, OHCHR commissioned this consultancy study on the role of development to the enjoyment of human rights. The study complements the Advisory Committee’s report on “Contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights ([A/HRC/41/50](#)). The report recommended that “A feasibility study should be carried out regarding the establishment of a research and implementation body (such as a development

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fund for human rights) (...), in particular within OHCHR, that would be responsible for studying and implementing the contribution of development to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms” (para.66).

4. In order to further implement the above resolution, OHCHR invited professor **Xigen Wang** (dean of Law School of Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), director of National Base of Human Rights Education and Training at HUST), with assistance of **Xiaowei Gui** (associate professor at School of Sociology of Wuhan University), to design a specific questionnaire to address the contribution of development to civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, the right to peace, the right to development, environment rights, and digital rights, and to seek for views on the challenges, best practices, and possible resolutions relevant to this theme. The questionnaire was sent to Governments, relevant United Nations and other intergovernmental bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders, with a deadline of 1 March 2021. As of 13 March, 2021, 32 responses had been received, which have provided very constructive opinions from different perspectives and levels.¹

II. Historical Evolution and Normative Basis

5. Since the end of World War II, peace and security, development, and human rights, as three founding pillars established by the UN Charter, has gradually become the consensus of the international community. Although different countries have different considerations on how to achieve these goals, a crucial and unavoidable issue is how to understand the interrelation between human rights and development. How to perceive the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights is an important and urgent task to understand this interrelation. However, recognizing the significance of this issue is not achieved overnight, but has undergone a long process of evolution. In this process, the UN and relevant international organizations have adopted a landmark set of international legal documents, which provide a legal and institutional basis for the promotion of human rights through development.
6. The first stage is from the 1940s to the 1960s. Through a series of international and regional documents, the international community began to realize and acknowledge the interrelation between human rights and development during this period of time. The Charter of the United Nations (UN) firstly clarifies this interrelation. As the Charter emphasized in Article 55, the United Nations shall promote “higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development” and “universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms”.² Consistent with the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights also states that “the peoples of the United Nations...have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom.”

¹ All responses received are available at <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/contributionofdevelopment.aspx>

² Charter of the United Nations, Article 55, <https://www.un.org>.

Meanwhile, “everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization...of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality”.³ These two documents have played a significant role in clarifying the relationship between human rights and development and thus have brought a brighter future especially for newly independent countries of Asia and Africa, and those in Latin America whose independence began a century and a half earlier.⁴ These countries, based on universal rules with an emphasis on human rights, self-determination and equality among countries, strived to correct what was unfair in the international economic order, reshape the asymmetrical relationship between the developed and developing countries, so as to finally obtaining equal opportunities to comprehensively achieve political, economic, social and cultural development.⁵ Furthermore, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights also take the purpose of development as part of universal and inalienable human rights. Both Covenants thus stress that “the ideal of free human beings enjoying freedom from fear and want can only be achieved if conditions are created whereby everyone may enjoy his economic, social and cultural rights, as well as his civil and political rights”.⁶ In addition, many other international and regional documents, such as the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, and The Charter of Algiers,⁷ have also made significant contributions to link human rights and development. For example, the Declaration on Social Progress and Development states that “the primary responsibility for the development of the developing countries rests on those countries themselves...Member States shall have the responsibility...in particular to assist developing countries to accelerate their economic growth.”⁸ The Charter of Algiers also stresses that: “The international community has an obligation ... to create conditions under which all nations can enjoy economic and social well-being, and have the means to develop their respective resources to enable their peoples to lead a life free from want and fear”.⁹

7. The second stage is from the 1970s to the 1990s. During this period, the understanding of the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights has been further deepened. In 1977, “A 30-Year Struggle” issued by UNESCO clearly puts forward the concept of the “third generation of human rights”, which mainly include the right to peace, the right to a

3 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Preamble and Article 22, <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights>.

4 Villaroman, Noel G. 2010 “The Right to Development: Exploring the Legal Basis of a Supernorm.” *Florida Journal of International Law* 22: 299-331.

5 Rajagopal, Balakrishnan. 2013. “Right to Development and Global Governance: Old and New Challenges Twenty-Five Years On.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 35(4): 893-909; Villaroman, Noel G. 2011. “Rescuing a Troubled Concept: An Alternative View of the Right to Development.” *Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights* 29 (1): 13-53.

6 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

7 For a detailed analysis of these documents, see Arts, Karin, and Atabongawung Tamo. 2016. “The Right to Development in International Law: New Momentum Thirty Years Down the Line.” *Netherlands International Law Review* 63(3): 221-249; Akram, Zamir. 2019. “Relationship between the Human Right to Development and Core Elements of the Sustainable Development Goals.” In Xigen Wang eds., *The Right to Development : Sustainable Development and the Practice of Good Governance*. Brill, pp.11-26.

8 Declaration on Social Progress and Development, <https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/ProfessionalInterest/progress.pdf>.

9 Charter of Algiers, Part One, Section 3, <http://www.g77.org/doc/algier~1.htm>.

healthy and ecologically balanced environment and the right to development. The realization of these rights is obviously inseparable from a more balanced global development and cooperation and “can only be implemented by the combined efforts of everyone”.¹⁰ The UN General Assembly then issued the Resolution of the New Concepts of Human Rights in 1977, and stressed that “everyone has the right to participate in, as well as benefit from, the development process. The grave economic situation facing the developing countries noticeably affects the effective promotion and full enjoyment of human rights”.¹¹ Soon after that, the General Assembly, at its thirty-fourth session in 1979, reiterated that “equality of opportunity for development is as much a prerogative of nations as of individuals within nations”.¹² The promulgation of these documents shows that the idea of promoting human rights through development has received more and more attention, and thus lays a solid theoretical foundation for the emergence of the Declaration on the Right to Development in 1986.¹³ The Declaration recognizes that “development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process...the human person is the central subject of the development process...the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized...States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development”.¹⁴ It is the first time for the international community to take the right to development as a fundamental human right, which deepens the connotation and standards of development. Since the adoption of the Declaration, various international mechanisms have been formulated to emphasize the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human

10 UNESCO: A 30-Year Struggle, <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000048063>.

11 The General Assembly: Alternative Approaches and Ways and Means within the United Nations System for Improving the Effective Enjoyment of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/32/130>.

12 A/RES/34/46, <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/34/46>.

13 Actually, the concept of the right to development has profound theoretical origins. In 1949, Raul Prebisch, the director of Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean, had introduced the argument of the structural disadvantage of developing countries into international discussion in his report of “The Economic Development of Latin American and its Principal Problems”, and thus played a significant role in (See Kirchmeier, Felix. 2006. “The Right to Development: Where Do We Stand.” *Dialogue on Globalization Occasional Papers, Geneva*, <https://library.fes.de/pdf-files/iez/global/50288.pdf>). In 1967, the Charter of Algiers has also conveyed some core elements of the right to development (See Charter of Algiers, <http://www.g77.org/doc/algier~1.htm>). In 1972, Kéba M’baye, the Chief Justice of Senegal, clearly put forward the concept of the right to development for the first time in his address at the International Institute of Human Rights in Strasbourg, France. He advocated that the right to development is a human right, people cannot survive without development, and the realization of all fundamental rights and freedom largely rely on the improvement of subsistence and development (See M’baye, Kéba. 1972. “Le droit au développement comme un droit de l’homme.” *Revue des Droits de l’Homme* 5(1): 503-534). In addition, some other scholars have also made important contributions to the theoretical development of the right to development (See Bulajic, Milan. 1993. *Principles of International Development Law: Progressive Development of the Principles of International Law Relating to the New International Economic Order*. Brill Nijhoff; Chowdhury, Subrata Roy, Erik MG Denters, and Paul JIM de Waart, eds. 1992. *The Right to Development in International Law*. Martinus Nijhoff Publishers; Karimova, Tahmina. 2016. *Human Rights and Development in International Law*. Routledge; Marks, Stephen P. 2010. “Human Rights and Development.” In Joseph, Sarah, and Adam McBeth, eds., *Research Handbook on International Human Rights Law*. Edward Elgar Publisher, pp. 167-195; Sengupta, Arjun. 2002. “On the Theory and Practice of the Right to Development.” *Human Rights Quarterly* 24(4): 837-889; Xigen Wang. 1999. “An Analysis of the Right to Development from the Perspective of Jurisprudence.” *CASS (China Academy of Social Science) Journal of Law* 4: 16-24; Xigen Wang. 2019. *The Right to Development: Sustainable Development and the Practice of Good Governance*. Brill).

14 Declaration of the Right to Development, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/righttodevelopment.aspx>.

rights. In 1993, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action recognizes that “development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights” and the right to development is “a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights”. States and the international community should “ensure development and eliminating obstacles to development through effective cooperation”. This “requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favorable economic environment at the international level”.¹⁵ Based on this Declaration, the UN General Assembly established the post of High Commissioner for Human Rights in the same year. The role of the High Commissioner and its Office (OHCHR), mandated in General Assembly Resolution 48/141, is “the promotion and protection of human rights and the need to improve its coordination, efficiency and effectiveness, as reflected in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and within the framework of a balanced and sustainable development for all people”.¹⁶

8. The third stage is from MDGs to the 2030 Agenda. After more than half a century of evolution, the significance of development in the promotion of human rights has been further strengthened with the promulgation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000. MDGs aims to “create an environment—at the national and global levels alike—which is conducive to development”. It calls on the international community, national governments, civil society and the private sector to work together to eradicate extreme poverty, achieve full gender equality, improve health services, get every child into school, and finally shift the world onto a sustainable path of development.¹⁷ It also stresses that “success in meeting these objectives depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country.”¹⁸ Along this line, the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) in 2001,¹⁹ the Monterrey Consensus in 2002,²⁰ the Istanbul Declaration and Programme of Action in 2011,²¹ Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (Samoa Pathway) in 2014,²² the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024 in 2014,²³ the African Union’s Agenda 2063 in 2015,²⁴ the Addis Ababa Third International Conference on Finance for Development in 2015,²⁵ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 in 2015,²⁶ the Paris Agreement in 2015 on climate change,²⁷ and the

15 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/vienna.aspx>.

16 UN. Doc. A/RES/48/141, 20 December 1993, <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r141.htm>; Meanwhile, several bodies were created in the process, and then serviced by the OHCHR, such as Intergovernmental Working Groups on the Right to Development, and a High-level Task Force set up to provide criteria and operational sub-criteria on the implementation of the right to development. For the detailed work of these bodies, <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/Documents.aspx>;

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/HighLevelTaskForce.aspx>.

17 United Nations Millennium Declaration, http://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/millennium_summit.shtml.

18 United Nations Millennium Declaration, http://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/millennium_summit.shtml.

19 <https://www.nepad.org/>.

20 <https://www.un.org/en/events/pastevents/pdfs/MonterreyConsensus.pdf>.

21 <http://unohrlls.org/about-ldcs/istanbul-programme-of-action/>.

22 <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/samoapathway.html>.

23 <https://unohrlls.org/custom-content/uploads/2015/03/Vienna-Programme-of-Action.pdf>.

24 <https://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/au/agenda2063.pdf>.

25 <http://www.undocs.org/A/RES/69/313>.

26 https://www.preventionweb.net/files/43291_sendaiframeworkfordren.pdf.

27 https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf.

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015²⁸ have interpreted and analyzed the scope and content of promoting human rights through development, and the challenges and recommended ways regarding to its promotion, protection and fulfilment in different regions from different aspects.²⁹ Among them, the 2030 Agenda provides a more specific time-bound roadmap for the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights. It stresses that “sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security; and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development... the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies...are based on respect for human rights (including the right to development), on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and on transparent, effective and accountable institutions.” The Agenda thus, relying on 17 SDGs, resolves to “end poverty and hunger everywhere; to combat inequalities within and among countries; to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies; to protect human rights and promote gender equality; and to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources”. All these targets are “integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental”, and cover the improvement of all human rights. Meanwhile, the Agenda promises to pay special attention to the challenges facing the most vulnerable countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, the middle-income countries, and countries in situations of conflict.³⁰ Through these efforts, the Agenda puts people and planet at its center, gives the international community a framework for tackling the many challenges confronting humanity, and aims to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”.³¹

9. The fourth stage is from the adaptation of “Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights” in 2017 to the present. Although the 2030 Agenda has had positive achievements with the consensus of the international community, how to promote human rights through development still faces many challenges. Among them, a major obstacle is the limitation of the human rights-based approach as a guide for development policies. It is true that development cannot be fully achieved without the realization of human rights. However, it is also true that the protection of human rights cannot be fully achieved without the realization of sufficient development. This argument is based on a harsh reality that is the crisis of development is bringing about a crisis of human rights. Whether it is at the international or domestic level, the lag, imbalance, or even regression of development is greatly destroying and infringing on human rights. In other words, the fundamental aspects of development, such as no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, clean water and sanitation, lays a solid foundation for the promotion of human rights. This further means that the achievement of sufficient development is the precondition of the full protection of human rights. On this point, it is necessary to reflect on the current human-rights based approach to development. In this context, “The Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights”, co-sponsored by more than 70 countries, was adopted by

28 <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>.

29 The background of the mandates of the different established UN bodies linked to human rights and development is accessible via: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/Documents.aspx>.

30 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 3, <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>.

31 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 3, <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>.

UN Human Rights Council in its resolution 35/21 in 2017. The resolution recognizes “the common aspiration to build a community of shared future for human beings”, and calls upon all States to “spare no effort to promote sustainable development...as it is conducive to the overall enjoyment of human rights”. It reaffirms that “the realization of sustainable development in all its three dimensions (i.e., economic, social and environmental) contributes to the promotion and protection of human rights for all”.³² In resolution 41/19 adopted by the Human Rights Council in 2019, the fundamental role of development has been further enhanced. The resolution stresses the importance of development in ensuring that “no one is left behind”, recognizes that development and human rights are “interdependent and mutually reinforcing” and affirming that “meeting the aspiration of the people for a better life is the priority of each State”. The Human Rights Council then requested the Advisory Committee to conduct a study to explore the ways of how development can contribute to the enjoyment of all human rights by all. It reiterated that “States should cooperate with each other in ensuring sustainable and inclusive development and eliminating obstacles to development, and that the international community should promote effective international cooperation in that regard”.³³ These documents affirm that development contributes significantly to the enjoyment of all human rights, and welcome further efforts to promote development initiatives with the aim of promoting partnerships, win-win outcomes and common development.

10. The aforementioned ideas have once again been vividly embodied in the process of fighting against the COVID-19 through global cooperation. As stated in the UN Comprehensive Response to COVID-19 in 2020, “the COVID-19 pandemic is more than a health crisis, it is an economic crisis, a humanitarian crisis, a security crisis, and a human rights crisis. This crisis has highlighted severe fragilities and inequalities within and among nations”.³⁴ In order to come out of this crisis, it is necessary to “overcome the severe and systemic inequalities exposed by the pandemic” and “delivery of a large-scale, coordinated and comprehensive health response”, that “address the devastating socioeconomic, humanitarian and human rights aspects of the crisis”.³⁵
11. The same idea is also manifested in the UN’s report of The COVID-19 and Human Rights: We Are All in This Together in 2020. It stresses that “Responses that are shaped by and respect human rights result in better outcomes in beating the pandemic, ensuring healthcare for everyone and preserving human dignity. But they also focus our attention on who is suffering most, why, and what can be done about it. They prepare the ground now for emerging from this crisis with more equitable and sustainable societies, development and peace.”³⁶ In addition, the UN has formulated some other policies, covering most of the important aspects about promoting human rights through development, such as A UN framework for the

32 <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1302362>.

33 A/HRC/41/50.

34 <https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/UN-response>.

35 United Nations Comprehensive Response to COVID-19: Saving Lives, Protecting Societies, Recovering Better, <https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un-comprehensive-response-to-covid-19.pdf>.

36 The COVID-19 and Human Rights: We Are All in This Together, <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/COVID-19-and-Human-Rights.pdf>.

immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19,³⁷ Shared Responsibility, Global Solidarity: Responding to the Socio-economic Impacts of COVID-19,³⁸ the Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security and Nutrition,³⁹ Education during COVID-19 and beyond,⁴⁰ and the World of Work and COVID-19.⁴¹

III. Reviewing the Current Situation of the Role of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights: Challenges and Achievements

12. Despite the aforementioned efforts and achievements, major obstacles still stand in the way of transforming the aspirations raised by the resolution entitled “The Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights” into reality for the hundreds of millions of people.

A. Challenges

13. More than 70 years after the adoption of the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, some countries still have a rather vague attitude towards how to understand the role of development in the promotion of human rights, although none of them explicitly oppose the right to development.⁴² The lack of political will thus is at the core of all the reasons that hinder progress. More specifically, there are mainly four main viewpoints on the relationship between human rights and development. The first argues that the full respect for human rights is the prerequisite of a truly effective, sustainable and just development, and development should be pursued in a human rights way. It stresses that “a body of international human rights laws...provides a comprehensive guide for appropriate official development assistance”.⁴³ “Insufficient development cannot be invoked to justify a limitation of human rights. There will never be a truly sustainable and inclusive development without the respect for human rights.”⁴⁴ The second viewpoint claims that development takes priority over

37 See <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-04/UN-framework-for-the-immediate-socio-economic-response-to-COVID-19.pdf>.

38 <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/SG-Report-Socio-Economic-Impact-of-Covid19.pdf>.

39 https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_on_covid_impact_on_food_security.pdf,

40 https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_policy_brief_covid-19_and_education_august_2020.pdf.

41 https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/the_world_of_work_and_covid-19.pdf.

42 The differences on this issue are not only reflected in how to understand the obligations of the international community and states in promoting an enabling environment for the improvement of human rights, but also reflected in how to formulate criteria, sub-criteria and indicators for evaluating and measuring the implementation of the right to development. See Marks, Stephen. P. 2003. *Obstacles to the Right to Development*. Harvard University Press, pp. 2-6; United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development: An Introduction to the Mandate,

https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Development/SR/SRRRightDevelopment_IntroductiontoMandate.pdf.

43 Frankovits, Andre and Earle, Patrick. *The Rights Way to Development: Manual for a Human Rights Approach to Development Assistance*. Human Rights Council of Australia Incorporated, 1998; Häusermann, Julia. *A Human Rights Approach to Development*. London: Rights and Humanity, 1998.

44 This viewpoint comes from some countries’ responses to questionnaire submitted in February and March, 2021. In order to better understand the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights, the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee established a drafting group in December, 2020. The group then designed a specific questionnaire to seek for viewpoints on the challenges, best practices, and possible resolutions related to this issue. It finally collected 31 responses from Governments, relevant United Nations and other

respect for human rights, and that the realization of human rights must await a certain level of development. In other words, just and successful development lays a solid foundation for the realization of human rights. This is especially necessary when undemocratic global governance and imbalanced global trades cannot create an enabling environment for those developing countries, especially those most vulnerable ones.⁴⁵ It is true that insufficient development cannot be used as an excuse for the violation of human rights, but it is also true that one-sidedly stressing the role of human rights for development will lead to the ignorance of development and finally jeopardize the realization of human rights. On this point, there is also the third eclectic viewpoint, which does not oppose development and human rights, but advocates a specific analysis on the relationship between the two based on different categories of human rights. It argues that civil and political rights are negative rights, which are cost-free and can be realized without state intervention. These rights should be protected no matter how developed a country is.⁴⁶ By contrast, economic, social and cultural rights are positive rights, which are resource required and cannot be realized without the benefits from states. The improvement of these rights thus largely depends on a country's level of development.⁴⁷ However, as the UNDP Human Rights Report 2000 stated, both categories include positive and negative rights and their realization thus all require resources. In the context of development, all human rights, not just the right that appears most relevant to the task at hand, must be holistically considered.⁴⁸ In addition to the aforementioned three viewpoints, the fourth argument considers development itself as a human right. It takes the proclamation of the Declaration on the Right to Development as an opportunity to resuscitate the new international economic order of the 1970s and to affirm an obligation on donor countries to reduce resource constraints on their development. However, how to translate the hopeful and ambiguous language of the Declaration into concepts that are useful for the reflection of the development process is still a serious challenge.⁴⁹ The aforementioned four viewpoints discuss the relationship between human rights and development from different perspectives and based on different backgrounds. They all have both reasonableness and shortcomings, and one point of view cannot be opposed to another. Just as a country stated in its response to the questionnaire of this report, "there can be no development without the respect for human rights, just as there can be no full enjoyment of human rights without developed society".⁵⁰ Actually, one of the most serious challenges facing the international community is still the insufficient understanding of the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights. The challenges, such as extreme poverty, economic crisis, climate change, technology risk, and the spread of the COVID-19, have not only eroded the foundation of development, but also threaten the realization of human rights. Therefore, when discussing human rights-related

intergovernmental bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and other stakeholders on 13 March, 2021. The responses quoted below are all from this survey.

45 For the detailed statement of this viewpoint, please see General Assembly Resolution 56/150, para 20 and 21, <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/56/150>; The note 12 of this report also provides some discussions of this viewpoint.

46 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Germany.

47 Scott, Craig. 1989. "The Interdependence and Permeability of Human Rights Norms: Towards a Partial Fusion of the International Covenants on Human Rights" *Osgoode Hall Law Journal* 27(4): 769-878.

48 UNDP Human Rights Report 2000, Box 5.5, http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/261/hdr_2000_en.pdf.

49 Stephen P. Marks. "The Human Rights Framework for Development: Seven Approaches", In Basu, Mushumi, Archana Negi, and Arjun K. Sengupta eds., *Reflections on the Right to Development*. New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2005, pp. 23-60.

50 A response to the questionnaire, submitted in March, 2021.

issues, we should bear in mind that different people may have different interpretations regarding their different social and cultural backgrounds and different levels of development. Our world is a diversified one, which implies that there is always more than one solution to the same challenge. In order to promote human rights, dialogue and cooperation rather than finger-pointing and confrontation are, if not the only way, at least the more preferable approach and the right way to secure a brighter future.

14. Another major obstacle regarding the promotion of human rights through development is the absence of international peace and security. As stated by the UN Secretary-General António Guterres, “It’s widely recognized that there is no peace without development and no development without peace; it is also true that there is no peace and sustainable development without respect for human rights”.⁵¹ However, as showed by Global Peace Index 2020, world peacefulness has declined for the ninth time in the last twelve years, with the average country score falling by 0.34 per cent and 80 countries recording deteriorations over the past year.⁵² We are now residing in an increasingly divided world. Some regions enjoy peace, security, and prosperity, whereas others are deeply trapped by endless conflict and violence. In such a negative environment, some states are still striving for self-determination and respect for sovereignty. It is impossible for them to enjoy fair and equal trading relations, and non-preferential international assistance system. As a result, the use of force, terrorism, and selective assistance have prevented the emergence of a favorable environment for development. This in turn seriously hinders the realization of human rights.

15. The North-South divide and imbalanced development is also a serious challenge for the improvement of human rights through development. While many millions of people have been out of absolute poverty because of very significant global development gains over the last decade, the inequality between the world’s richest and poorest countries is widening. As revealed by Oxfam Report 2020, the world’s 2,153 billionaires have more wealth than the 4.6 billion people who make up 60 percent of the planet’s population, and the 22 richest men in the world have more wealth than all the women in Africa.⁵³ According to Oxfam Report 2021, since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the increase in the 10 richest billionaires’ wealth is more than enough to prevent anyone on Earth from falling into poverty due to the virus, and to pay for a COVID-19 vaccine for everyone.⁵⁴ Even within developed countries, the gap between the rich and the poor is still shocking. According to the Fed data in 2020, the top 1% of U.S. households hold 15 times more wealth than the bottom 50% combined.⁵⁵ This tremendous gap between the rich and the poor greatly hinders the realization of human development as well as the protection of human rights.

51 Challenges and Opportunities for the United Nations, <https://www.antonioguterres.gov.pt/vision-statement/>.

52 Global Peace Index 2020, <https://www.visionofhumanity.org/maps/#/>.

53 The Oxfam 2020 Report, “Time to Care”, <https://oxfamlibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/620928/bp-time-to-care-inequality-200120-en.pdf>.

54 The Oxfam 2021 Report, “The Inequality Virus”, <https://oxfamlibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/621149/bp-the-inequality-virus-250121-en.pdf>.

55 Top 1% Of U.S. Households Hold 15 Times More Wealth Than Bottom 50% Combined, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/tommybeer/2020/10/08/top-1-of-us-households-hold-15-times-more-wealth-than-bottom-50-combined/?sh=72690f515179>.

16. Extreme poverty and inequality are another two significant challenges on the same issue. According to the Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report 2020,⁵⁶ the COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to push an additional 88 million to 115 million people into extreme poverty in 2020, with the total rising to as many as 150 million by 2021. Armed conflict is also driving increases in poverty in some countries and regions. In the Middle East and North Africa, extreme poverty rates nearly doubled between 2015 and 2018, from 3.8 percent to 7.2 percent.⁵⁷ Actually, Africa has been the world's last frontier in the fight against extreme poverty for many years. In 2019, one in three Africans (i.e., 422 million people) still live below the global poverty line. They represent more than 70% of the world's poorest people.⁵⁸ In the Middle East, "Poverty and the huge disparity in the distribution of wealth are all factors that constitute a real obstacle to a solid democracy and to effective and democratic development".⁵⁹
17. Generally speaking, the cause of poverty is the lack of a stable environment for peace and development. To dig deeper, an important reason of poverty is the lack of government leadership that closely links human rights and poverty reduction. In other words, strong leadership is the foundation for the effective operation of a government, the prerequisite for fully mobilizing all resources, and the key to ensuring that development is always people-oriented.⁶⁰ Furthermore, the current development model is leading to growing social and economic inequalities, which "stifle equal opportunity, lead to laws, regulations and institutions that favor the powerful, and perpetuate discrimination against certain groups, such as women".⁶¹ Even so, some developed countries still aggravate the situation through decreases in official development assistance, and/or by imposing aid conditionalities and development policies that are not necessarily human rights compliant.⁶² In addition, some corporations also privilege their rights above the rights of people through inequitable trade rules. For example, in order to supposedly smooth the way for business and investment, many countries around the world, under pressure from international financial institutions,⁶³ are continuing cutbacks to social spending, including on essential public services and social protection programmes.⁶⁴ These austerity measures have led to the systematic under-resourcing of policies, goods and services essential for fulfilling human rights, and thus resulted in severely detrimental human rights impacts, especially on women, people living in poverty and other already-disadvantaged groups.⁶⁵ However, despite the endorsement of the

56 <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/34496/9781464816024.pdf>.

57 The Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report 2020, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/34496/211602ov.pdf>.

58 Poverty in Africa is now falling—but not fast enough, <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2019/03/28/poverty-in-africa-is-now-falling-but-not-fast-enough/>.

59 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, input submitted by Lebanon.

60 Samson Obiora, "Impact of Leadership and Governance on Poverty Alleviation in Africa", https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3576621.

61 Philip Alston. Report of the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, A/HRC/29/31.

62 See Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights, Concluding Observations on the United Kingdom, E/C.12/GBR/CO/6, paragraphs 14 & 15.

63 The IMF, Gender Equality and Expenditure Policy, <http://www.brettonwoodsproject.org/2017/09/imf-gender-equality-expenditure-policy/>.

64 Ortiz, Isabel and Cummins, Matthew. 2013. The Age of Austerity: A Review of Public Expenditures and Adjustment Measures in 181 Countries. See <file:///C:/Users/1017/Downloads/SSRN-id2260771.pdf>.

65 See Special Rapporteur on poverty 2011, <https://edoc.coe.int/en/fundamental-freedoms/7304-the-impact-of-the-economic-crisis-and-austerity-measures-on-human-rights-in-europe.html>.

UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, business involvement in human rights abuses continues with impunity.

18. A country's low level of development in agriculture, industry and relevant fields is also an important challenge that hinders its realization of human rights. Low-level agricultural development has resulted in the inability to guarantee the basic right to subsistence. While many once-poor countries are now developing rapidly, the world as a whole has failed to meet the first Millennium Development Goal target of halving, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of the world's population who suffer from hunger. Though the proportion of undernourished people in the world has fallen, the pace of reduction has slowed and a number of countries—mostly in Africa and South Asia have seen no improvement at all.⁶⁶ According to the 2021 Global Report on Food Crises, the number of people facing acute food insecurity and requiring urgent food, nutrition and livelihoods assistance is the highest in the report's five-year existence, driven by persistent conflict, pre-existing and COVID-19-related economic shocks, and weather extremes. 155 million people in 55 countries/territories were in Crisis or worse (IPC/CH Phase 3 or above) or equivalent. 28 million people in 38 of the 43 countries/territories with IPC/CH analyses were in Emergency (IPC/CH Phase 4) and needed urgent action to save lives and livelihoods. 133, 000 people in Burkina Faso, South Sudan and Yemen were in Catastrophe (IPC/CH Phase 5) and needed urgent action to prevent widespread death and total collapse of livelihoods. Meanwhile, 15.8 million children under 5 years in the 55 food-crisis countries/territories were wasted. Over 75 million children under 5 years in the 55 food-crisis countries/territories were stunted.⁶⁷ Eliminating hunger and malnutrition, and achieving wider global food security are still two of the most important challenges humanity faces. Therefore, the protection of the right to food is urgent, and this is inseparable from the emphasis on development.⁶⁸ Low-level agricultural development and poverty also relates to very backward infrastructure construction. Transportation and communication in some remote mountainous areas are extremely underdeveloped. This contributes to keeping the population in these areas at a relatively low level of education. Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report 2020 issued by UNESCO notes that poverty is the main obstacle for adolescents to access education. "An estimated 258 million children, adolescents and youth, or 17% of the global total, are not in school. The number out of school in sub-Saharan Africa is growing. In low- and middle-income countries, adolescents from the richest 20% households are three times as likely as those from the poorest to complete lower secondary school; of those who complete, students from the richest households are twice as likely as those from the poorest households to reach minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics".⁶⁹ Backward education in turn inhibits development, leading to a vicious circle. The low level of industrial development has also brought a series of development obstacles. Some developing countries are at the bottom of the industrial chain and rely on selling cheap labor to survive; while some developed countries master high-end technology and therefore

66 For the details of solving the food crisis, see <http://www.oecd.org/development/solving-the-food-crisis.htm>.

67 The 2021 Global Report on Food Crises, https://docs.wfp.org/api/documents/WFP-0000127343/download/?_ga=2.240741633.342359583.1620358941-2109183470.1614682388.

68 Golay, Christophe. 2010. "The Food Crisis and Food Security: Towards a New World Food Order?" *International Development Policy* 6 (1): 215-232.

69 <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000373718>.

derive huge profits from the industrial division of labor, which aggravates the polarization between the rich and the poor. This in turn leads to extremely fragile industrial systems in these developing countries, so the companies in these countries are extremely incapable of undertaking the social responsibility of human rights protection. The poor level of development in these countries has fundamentally restricted their corporates' responsibility of protecting human rights.⁷⁰ Finally, a low-level agricultural and industrial development has caused stagnation of service industries, transportation, trade and finance, construction, and education in some developing countries. This further leads to an extremely fragile foundation for these countries to realize human rights.

19. Disadvantaged and marginalized groups face various impediments to the enjoyment of their human rights. How to improve their development situations thus is a serious challenge. The dire situation of these groups is often exacerbated by numerous and complex factors. They are often denied equal access to quality education. Their employment possibilities are usually limited to the most low-waged and precarious options. They are commonly poorly represented in political structures and thus have little control over decisions that affect them. When disasters strike, they are most likely to be at the back of the line for humanitarian assistance.⁷¹ Taking children as an example, according to UNICEF, there are at least 140 million orphans in the world. This number is still increasing because of wars and conflicts, natural disasters, epidemics, poverty and mass migration.⁷² In the report called *A New Era for Girls* issued by UN Women in 2020, 1-in-10 female youth are still illiterate today, each year 12 million girls are married in childhood, 970,000 adolescent girls between the ages of 10 and 19 are living today with HIV, 1-in-20 girls between the ages of 15 and 19 has experienced rape in her lifetime.⁷³ Meanwhile, the regression of women's human rights is still a risk all over the world. The systemic absence of a policy of professional equality keeps women in a situation of social and professional inferiority, and thus have had a negative impact on the evolution of women's status. The use of algorithms could also lead to structural inequality if women are not fully engaged at all levels of the digital system.⁷⁴ Therefore, in order to "reach the furthest behind first", both the international community and states should give special attention to those disadvantaged and marginalized groups, and social protection programmes must employ the utmost sensitivity with regard to their needs. On the basis of these measures, "all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment".⁷⁵
20. A looming debt crisis is also catastrophic for the poorest countries. According to the World Bank, the debt of the world's poorest countries hit a record \$744 billion in 2019 prior to the

70 The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide, https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/HR.PUB.12.2_En.pdf.

71 Marginalized Minorities in Development Programming: A Resource Guide and Toolkit, <https://www.ohchr.org/documents/issues/minorities/undpmarginalisedminorities.pdf>.

72 Orphans, UNICEF, <https://www.unicef.org/media/orphans>.

73 *A New Era for Girls: Taking Stock of 25 Years of Progress*, <https://data.unicef.org/resources/a-new-era-for-girls-taking-stock-of-25-years-of-progress/>; *World Remains A "Violent, Highly Discriminatory Place" for girls*, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/03/1058531>.

74 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by AMELINE on 9 March, 2021.

75 *Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, <https://sdgs.un.org/zh/node/24494>.

coronavirus pandemic, and meanwhile, the debt for the 73 poorest nations grew 9.5 percent year-on-year.⁷⁶ As António Guterres, Secretary-General of the UN, warns, one-third of the world's least developed countries now find themselves in, or at high risk of, debt distress. Rising levels of debt and declining ODA levels make them “not on track” to achieve SDGs.⁷⁷ As pandemic rages in 2020, the debt burden on developing countries grows, at least 42 countries are currently in or at high risk of debt distress, including 6 developed countries, 27 emerging market economies, and 9 least developed countries.⁷⁸ The greatest burden born by the poorest countries has eroded the social welfare of millions of poor people across the third world and denied their economic, social and cultural rights. This in turn has severely weakened the foundation for these countries to realize civil and political rights. Under this situation, many developing countries will suffer another “lost decade”, unless decisive action is taken on debt and liquidity challenges. Thus, it is urgent for creditors and borrowers alike to collaborate to stave off the growing risk of sovereign debt crises.⁷⁹

21. Environmental issues can also pose serious constraints on the realization of human rights through development. Global climate change threatens to derail or even roll back development progress for many countries. As detailed by the World Bank, the effects of climate change have come and will continue to come through the water cycle; droughts, variable or unpredictable rainfall for agriculture or herding, pollution and contamination, and floods or extreme weather can have devastating impacts.⁸⁰ When encountering these risks, the poorest countries and communities suffer the earliest and the most. The World Bank estimates that, as of March 2021, roughly 2.2 billion people around the world do not have safely managed drinking water services, 4.2 billion people do not have safely managed sanitation services, and 3 billion lack basic handwashing facilities.⁸¹ Water insecurity further leads to food insecurity. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, almost 690 million people in the world are estimated to have been undernourished in 2019. This figure could exceed 840 million by 2030, if current trends continue.⁸² Pollution is another threat to development and human rights protection. The impact of pollution is more severe in developing countries, leading to ill health, death and disabilities of millions of people annually. As the UN Environment Programme estimated,⁸³ 6 and 7 million people die prematurely each year as a result of pollution, and that around 90 percent of the world's population breathe polluted air.⁸⁴ The UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment thus calls on

76 Debt of poorest countries hit record \$744 billions in 2019, says World Bank, <https://english.alarabiya.net/business/economy/2020/10/12/Debt-of-poorest-countries-hit-record-744-bln-in-2019-says-World-Bank->.

77 Declining Aid, Rising Debt Thwarting World's Ability to Fund Sustainable Development, Speakers Warn at General Assembly High-Level Dialogue, <https://www.un.org/press/en/2019/ga12191.doc.htm>.

78 Guterres Urges Decisive Action to Stave Off Debt Crisis in Developing World, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/03/1088502>.

79 Liquidity and Debt Solutions to Invest in the SDGs, <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/sg-policy-brief-on-liquidity-and-debt-solutions.pdf>.

80 How Climate Change and Water and Food Insecurity Drive Instability, <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/security/reports/2017/11/30/443465/climate-change-water-food-insecurity-drive-instability/>.

81 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/water/overview>.

82 Global hunger fell for decades, but it's rising again, <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/global-hunger-rising-food-agriculture-organization-report/>.

83 https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27539/GEO6_2019.pdf.

84 Clean Air is a Human Right-UN Special Rapporteur, <https://unfccc.int/news/clean-air-is-a-human-right-un-special-rapporteur>.

countries to take urgent action to improve air quality in order to fulfil their human rights obligations. However, without substantial economic, technological and financial support, developing countries cannot compensate for their economic losses associated with pollution improvement, especially reduction in CO₂ emissions.⁸⁵ On this point, it is necessary to establish global cooperation involving a concerted action by countries at different development stages. For the same reason, the United Nations Development Programme adopted in 2020 a new experimental index on human progress which counts countries' carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint into evaluation. According to this new index, the poorest countries in the world would experience up to 100 more days of extreme weather because of climate change each year by 2100. However, this number could be cut in half if the Paris Agreement on climate change is fully implemented. This means that “the next frontier for human development is not about choosing between people or trees; it’s about recognizing, today, that human progress driven by unequal, carbon-intensive growth has run its course,” and “by tackling inequality, capitalizing on innovation and working with nature, human development could take a transformational step forward to support societies and the planet together”.⁸⁶

22. With the rapid advancement of science and technology, technology risk, or information technology risk is also a noticeable obstacle for promoting human rights through development. While enjoying the many conveniences brought by technology, people are wary of the high risks that go with them, which will be an ordinary state in future life. The development and utilization of atomic energy technology that was expected to completely solve the dilemma of the Earth's limited resources have increased the risk of nuclear war. Genetic technology aimed at conquering terminal illnesses has caused humans to face multiple ethical and even survival crises due to their abuse. The development and application of artificial intelligence and automation engineering technology, while greatly facilitating life, will also be driven by greedy capital to gradually deprive the people of opportunities and rights to create wealth through labor. More urgently, digital technology is rapidly invading people's private space. It is foreseeable that in the near future, whether citizens enjoy the right to privacy and personal dignity will become an option, which could be given up by themselves as a cost of their involvement in the smart life. Furthermore, artificial intelligence algorithms will create extremely convenient conditions for the systematization and universalization of discriminatory consequences that are contrary to justice, public order and good customs. To make matters worse, the spread of various risks is expanding with the development of digital information technology. Therefore, how to build a protection system for digital rights in a risky society has become an arduous mission for scholars. In addition, lack of innovation also increases the risk of development. As implied by the 2019 Global Innovation Index, from 2016 to 2019, the global trend of high investment in innovation and research and development has significantly weakened.⁸⁷ Meanwhile, intellectual hegemony is on the rise. As global

85 Environmental Pollution is Inevitable in Developing Countries, <https://breakingenergy.com/2014/09/23/environmental-pollution-is-inevitable-in-developing-countries/>.

86 Broken societies put people and planet on collision course, says UNDP, <https://www.asia-pacific.undp.org/content/rbap/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/broken-societies-put-people-and-planet-on-collision-course--says.html>.

87 Creating Healthy Lives: The Future of Medical Innovation”, https://www.wipo.int/edocs/pubdocs/en/wipo_pub_gii_2019.pdf.

economy slows, intellectual protectionism is rising, hampering the promotion of innovative ideas. As a result, most developing countries still lack innovation capacities, and this further reinforces the global innovation divide and the digital divide. Actually, the digital divide has severely threatened the promotion of human rights through development. According to the Resolution of The Promotion, Protection and Enjoyment of Human Rights on the Internet adopted by the Human Rights Council, “many forms of digital divide remain between and within countries, and between men and women and boys and girls”.⁸⁸ The gender digital divide, for example, includes significant gender disparities in access to and use of information and communications technology, and thus undermines women’s full enjoyment of their human rights. The incapability of accessing information on the Internet also sets constraints for digital literacy and thus affects the enjoyment of the right to education.⁸⁹

23. Inconducive global development environment also sets obstacles to the enjoyment of human rights. Since the 2008 financial crisis, the Group of 20 (G20) economies have implemented approximately 1,500 new trade restrictions.⁹⁰ As predicted by the IMF, the prolonged China-US economic and trade frictions will result in losses of up to \$455 billion. The trade war between the United States and the European Union has caused a 0.1% drop in Germany’s GDP for the second quarter of 2019 compared to the first quarter.⁹¹ In addition to bilateral sanctions, various types of unilateral coercive measures (UCMs) also bring harm to the development process of a target country. These include comprehensive or sectoral sanctions against a target country’s economy, and targeted sanctions against entities (e.g., companies, organizations) or individuals that are critical to the development of a target country. These sanctions negatively affect the enjoyment of rights that are essential for development to occur, such as the rights to food, health, an adequate standard of living. However, the number of countries using UCMs is increasing and their negative impacts on development are growing.⁹²
24. Meanwhile, inherent defects of existing development mechanisms have led to the incapability of effectively coordinating global cooperation. While emerging markets and developing countries have already contributed 80% of global economic growth,⁹³ developed countries still hold the discourse power and leadership of existing global development mechanisms. What is even worse, most international mechanisms have very limited means for dealing with the members who refuse to abide by relevant development agreements. Taking official development assistance (ODA) as an example, up to 50% of the 550 educational aid projects implemented in developing countries turned out to be unsustainable.⁹⁴ All these constraints

88 The Promotion, Protection and Enjoyment of Human Rights on the Internet, <https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/38/7>.

89 Ibid.

90 OECD, “OECD Economic Outlook (2019),” Issue 2, No.106, 2019, https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/economics/oecd-economic-outlook-volume-2019-issue-2_9b89401b-en.

91 Rong Min, “Trade Protectionism a Wake-up Call for the Global Economy,” *China Trade News*, August 22, 2019.

92 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Alena Douhan, UN Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights.

93 Xi Jinping, “Keeping Abreast of the Trend of the Times to Achieve Common Development,” *People’s Daily*, July 26, 2018.

94 Li Xiaoyun, Wang Yanlei, et al., *International Development Assistance*, World Affairs Press, 2015, p.68.

have hampered efficient international development cooperation and the enjoyment of human rights for quite a long time.

25. The last and most important challenge for promoting human rights through development is brought by the COVID-19. The COVID-19 crisis is testing the world's humanity and resilience at a time that is already marked by acute inequality.⁹⁵ From December 2020 to March 2021, only three months, over 68 million people have contracted the COVID-19 virus and 1 million have lost their lives worldwide.⁹⁶ Without sufficient resources to protect themselves from health risks, access healthcare or pay for essential goods, vulnerable and marginalized groups find themselves in precarious situations. The pandemic has accelerated vulnerabilities, exposed pre-existing social and economic inequalities and narrowed social services.⁹⁷ According to the Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2021, the global economy has experienced the worst recession in 90 years, with the most vulnerable segments of societies disproportionately affected; around 114 million jobs have been lost, 120 million people have fallen back into extreme poverty.⁹⁸ 23 million of them in Sub-Saharan Africa and 16 million of them in South Asia.⁹⁹ Meanwhile, as the World Bank confirmed, the global economy would shrink \$8.5 trillion in 2020. Nearly half of the global workforce, as the International Labor Organization warned, could see their livelihoods destroyed due to the continued decline in working hours brought on by lockdowns. Lower-skilled, low-paid, and women workers were hit hardest, especially in developing economies.¹⁰⁰ For example, according to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean 2020 Annual Report, poverty and extreme poverty in Latin America reached levels that had not been seen in the last 12 and 20 years because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The total number of poor people rose to 209 million by the end of 2020, affecting 22 million more people than in the previous year. Of that total, 78 million people found themselves living in extreme poverty, or 8 million more than in 2019.¹⁰¹ In the face of the epidemic, how to protect human life and health is another significant challenge. However, according to UN Secretary-General António Guterres, "progress on vaccinations has been wildly uneven and unfair. Just 10 countries have administered 75 per cent of all COVID-19 vaccines. Meanwhile, more than 130 countries have not received a single dose. Those affected by conflict and insecurity are at particular risk of being left behind".¹⁰² As WHO Chief stressed, in order to alleviate this inequality, we must resolutely oppose "vaccine nationalism" and meanwhile establish "ever more united nations", the multilateral cooperation on a global scale is our only choice against COVID-19,¹⁰³ and

95 COVID-19 and Human Rights: Protecting the Most Vulnerable,

<https://www.unglobalcompact.org/academy/covid-19-and-human-rights-protecting-the-most-vulnerable>.

96 WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard, <https://covid19.who.int/>.

97 Protecting human rights in the time of COVID-19, <https://www.unv.org/Success-stories/Protecting-human-rights-time-COVID-19>.

98 Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2021, https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/fsdr_pdf_0.pdf.

99 The impact of COVID-19 on global poverty: Why Sub-Saharan Africa might be the region hardest hit, <https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/impact-covid-19-coronavirus-global-poverty-why-sub-saharan-africa-might-be-region-hardest>.

100 The Virus That Shut Down the World: Economic Meltdown, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/12/1080762>.

101 Social Panorama of Latin America 2020,

https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/46688/8/S2100149_en.pdf.

102 COVID-19 vaccination "wildly uneven and unfair", <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/02/1084962>.

103 Global cooperation is our only choice against COVID-19, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/08/1069702>.

this is particularly necessary for those developing countries that are unable to cope with the epidemic independently.

26. Another factor that reinforces inequality is COVID-19-related discrimination and stigma. COVID-19 has provoked a series of discriminatory acts across continents, with different groups as targets. During the first phase of the COVID-19 contagion, Asians suffered the most from discrimination, since they were frequently targeted for causing the pandemic and its spread. According to BBC News, from March to May 2020 alone, over 800 COVID-related hate incidents were reported in Californian. Those numbers have since intensified in Orange County, where anti-Asian hate incidents are up by an estimated 1200%.¹⁰⁴ As the epidemic spread around the world, discrimination began to spread to other ethnic groups. In Africa, many people are employed in service industries, live in densely populated communities, or face difficulties in accessing food and water, all of which impact risk and vulnerability. Structural discrimination has reinforced inequalities surrounding access to healthcare and treatment, and resulted in a rise in disease and death rates among them.¹⁰⁵ In the Arab region, structural racism and discriminations have affected a wide array of groups from black communities to religious minorities, and from refugees to women migrant workers.¹⁰⁶ In Europe, greater suffering exists among migrants and other minorities who are discriminated against. The issues of job loss and social needs were also more evident within migrants with a growing rate of up to 40% of those with migrant background in social needs.¹⁰⁷ In the United States and Canada, racism against black communities is still widespread in specific regions.¹⁰⁸ In Brazil's Sao Paulo state, people of color are 62% more likely to die from COVID-19 than white people. In France's Seine-Saint-Denis department, many minorities have also been reported to have higher excess mortality.¹⁰⁹ In addition, discriminatory episodes consisted of verbal assaults in public places, denigrating campaigns on social media, the boycott of their business activities and, in some cases, difficulties in access to educational institutions.¹¹⁰ All these behaviors have increased the difficulty of fighting against the COVID-19 by intensifying the hatred and distrust among people.

B. Achievements

27. Many inputs received during the elaboration of this consultancy highlighted achievements on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights.

104 Corvid Hate Crimes Against Asian Americans on Rise, <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-56218684>.

105 Rights experts warn against discrimination in COVID-19 response, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061122>.

106 Experts discussed racism and discriminations during the COVID-19 pandemic in the Arab region, <https://en.unesco.org/news/experts-discussed-racism-and-discriminations-during-covid-19-pandemic-arab-region>.

107 Experts consultation on racism and discriminations in Europe, <https://en.unesco.org/news/experts-consultation-racism-and-discriminations-europe>.

108 Experts consultation on racism and discriminations in North America, <https://en.unesco.org/news/martin-luther-king-iii-and-experts-call-action-aftermath-blacklivesmatter>.

109 Disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on racial and ethnic minorities needs to be urgently addressed, <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/disproportionate-impact-covid-19-racial-and-ethnic-minorities-needs-be-urgently>.

110 COVID-19-related Discrimination and Stigma: A Global Phenomenon, <https://en.unesco.org/news/covid-19-related-discrimination-and-stigma-global-phenomenon>.

28. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has promoted the digital inclusion of youth with the help of digital technologies. In June 2017, ITU launched a joint Digital Skills for Decent Jobs for Youth Campaign. This project aims to mobilize the political will and resources to equip five million young people with job-ready digital skills by 2030 in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through its digital skills toolkit, ITU has also provided recommendations for governments to design national digital skills development strategies for the work and life of all citizens in the growing digital economy.¹¹¹ In addition, ITU has also launched Generation Connect, “an initiative that aims to engage global youth and encourage their participation as equal partners alongside the leaders of today’s digital change, empowering young people with the skills and opportunities to advance their vision of a connected future.”¹¹²
29. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has dedicated itself to strengthen the right to education in many countries by improving relevant education laws and providing technical assistances, which include Bahamas, Nepal, Mozambique, Palestine, Cameroon, and Congo. UNESCO has also made efforts to promote culture in and for sustainable development. It has provided relevant training, expertise, monitoring and support, in order to stop attacks on cultural heritage and the cultural rights of communities. It has also launched the social media campaign, and established alliances with Interpol, the Blue Shield, the Red Cross and UN peacekeeping forces. UNESCO has also built capacities of youth and teachers in understanding and fighting racism and discriminations. With its help, a significant number of relevant training sessions and webinars were convened, including the 11 sessions of the Master Classes and reaching more than 2300 persons. In addition, UNESCO also works to promote the role of youth as changemakers. It has provided policy advice and technical support to develop/implement youth policies in Sierra Leone, Mauritania, and Sudan, strengthened national capacities on holistic youth development and youth civic engagement in Sudan, Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Viet Nam and Jamaica, supported youth-led organizations in leading community peace dialogues, media engagement and awareness raising in Sierra Leone and Nigeria, and fostered Youth-led research within national youth policy processes in Cambodia, Thailand, Viet Nam, and the Mekong.¹¹³
30. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has launched various technical assistance programs to assist in building trade capacity of developing countries. For example, it offers training courses to officials from developing countries to help them better understand the complex rule book of the WTO. Meanwhile, WTO also delivers other forms of trade capacity building through the Aid for Trade (AFT) initiative, the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), Facilitation Agreement Facility (TFAF) and Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF). In addition, WTO also believes that trade plays an important role in driving women’s economic empowerment, and thus launched the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women’s economic empowerment in 2017. It has also nominated a Trade and Gender Focal Point which

111 ITU’s approach to digital inclusion of youth, <https://news.itu.int/itus-approach-digital-inclusion-of-youth/>.

112 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by ITU.

113 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by UNESCO.

mainly focuses on “raising the awareness on the link between trade and gender, facilitating WTO members’ action on trade and gender, and providing training to government officials and women entrepreneurs in a bid to further include them in the MTS.”¹¹⁴

31. The European Union (EU) has shared some best practices of contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights. In order to identify discrimination and the rights of those most in need, EU has supported a programme on COVID-19 in Madagascar that aims to promote access to better livelihood and social services for vulnerable groups and especially for women. The programme has included the extension of the services already being provided and the installation of a mobile phone number to reach out to girls and women at risk or victims of violence. EU has also supported the promotion of access to basic service delivery in Afghanistan, which include access to drinking water or education services, with minimum standards specifically in areas not accessible and thus not served by the government. This programme stresses that peace cannot be realized without the protection of fundamental rights, from education and health to political participation. In order to improve the employability of groups living in vulnerable situations, EU has implemented the “Kosovo Education for Employment Network (KEEN)” project. With the help of this project, one of the EU’s partners, the Bahri Haxha Vocational Education and Training School, has organized a one-year internship for their 12th grade students in a number of companies.¹¹⁵

32. The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) has made contributions to the realization of digital rights by broadening access to information as a form of development. In Lithuania, a series of projects and policy interventions have established a large network of public internet access. According to a survey among internet users in Lithuania, 8% of the respondents said the internet helped them find a job.¹¹⁶ In the UK, a Business & IP Centre National Network have helped support the creation of over 10000 businesses, over 7000 new jobs. 23% of people have found employment after the use of the service.¹¹⁷ In Nepal, Bhutan and India, a network of rural health libraries has been established under the help of the Rural Education and Development (READ) Global and these countries’ local governments. These libraries have offered information and safe spaces for people to learn about key health topics, such as hygiene, reproductive health and nutrition.¹¹⁸ In Singapore, the National Library hosts large collections of digitized materials, that allow the public to access many heritage and cultural publications easily, thereby delivering on the right to culture.¹¹⁹ Meanwhile, Spain and Australia have also helped process digitized heritable materials.¹²⁰

114 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by WTO on 4 March, 2021.

115 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by EU.

116 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) on 8 March, 2021.

117 Ibid.

118 Ibid.

119 Ibid.

120 Ibid.

33. Azerbaijan has established the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) which, as an integral part of good governance, plays a significant role in protecting and promoting human rights. As the Ombudsman pointed out, economic growth, good governance, and social progress are the key engines of development in Azerbaijan. The country's poverty rate has been cut significantly because of increasing incomes and improvement of welfare brought by successful economic policy. The Ombudsman has created a Working Group, which fulfils the functions of protecting the rights of children, women, persons with disabilities, labor migrants, consumer rights, corporate social responsibility, food, safety in construction, and environment problems. It also works to ensure equality and combat discrimination, and holds a series of training courses on capacity building regarding discrimination. All these practices make Azerbaijan on the right path of development and human rights protection.¹²¹
34. Chile has taken some measures and actions that contribute to the welfare of people, especially those in particular situations of greater vulnerability or disadvantage. It has implemented the Program for Good Treatment of Older Persons to promote the rights of older persons through the Platform for Good Treatment-SIAC. It has also created an institution, the Under-Secretariat for Children, in 2018. The institution has developed various strategies to safeguard the well-being of children and adolescents in the context of the health emergency. One of the programs is Chile Grows Up with You, which aims to respond and adapt to the health emergency efficiently.¹²² Meanwhile, Chile has adopted a series of policies to improve human rights protection during the process of COVID-19. It has provided a lot of digital educational resources to the community on the web. It has strengthened families and their networks and offered guidance and suggestions to continue accompanying families in the context of the emergency through the COVID-19 Action Plan, the Educational and Team Training Program, the Comprehensive Learning Support Program, and the parental skills workshops called Nadie es Perfecto. It has also provided food boxes, sanitary articles, bonds and subsidies to support the most vulnerable indigenous families.¹²³ As Corporacion Opcion-Chile demonstrated, Chile has adopted a series of policies that improve the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights, after the 1988 plebiscite that put an end to the dictatorial regime. Firstly, "a series of policies related to the eradication of extreme poverty have been adopted, the number of years of compulsory school education was increased, the number of people enrolled in higher education has been steadily increasing, greater global interconnection has been generated."¹²⁴ The country now is on the road to development. From 1990 to 2017, the poverty rate of Chile has been reduced from 38.6% to 8.6%. From 1990 to 2020, the number of people entering higher education has been increased from 247,000 to 1,144,184.¹²⁵ Meanwhile, Chile has improved its institutional framework relevant to the projection of human rights in recent years. It created the National Institute of Human Rights in 2010, the

121 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by the Commissioner for Human Rights of Azerbaijan.

122 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by the government of Chile.

123 Ibid.

124 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by CORPORACION OPCION-CHILE.

125 Ibid.

Undersecretary of Human Rights in 2016, the Ombudsman for Children in 2018, and it has been developing a new constitution since 2019 after the “social outbreak” happened in 2019.¹²⁶

35. China regards the rights to subsistence and development as primary and fundamental human rights, and the right to development as the unity of collective and individual human rights. China stresses that, in order to better promote human rights through development, upholding the people-centred concept of human rights is a fundamental principle, incorporating human rights protection into national development strategies and plans is an important approach, reinforcing the legal protection of human rights is an effective guarantee, and implementing the 2030 Agenda is a significant leverage. China has completely eradicated extreme poverty in 2021, 10 years ahead of the schedule set by the 2030 Agenda.¹²⁷ Its contribution rate to world poverty reduction has reached 70%.¹²⁸ China suggests that the international community should uphold the common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom for all mankind, advocate for global governance based on extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, ensure that resources distribution incline to areas highly related to people’s livelihood, provide necessary financial and technical support to developing countries, and help them strengthen the endogenous driving force for development. China has also provided concrete examples of improving human rights through development, which include the formulation and implementation of “well-off society” strategy and the “two centenaries” goals, fourteen Five-Year Plans for the National Economic and Social Development, three National Human Rights Action Plans, and some Special Human Rights Action Plans focusing on the areas of economics, culture, society and environment.¹²⁹ In addition, China has played an active role in global epidemic prevention. China has taken the lead in committing to turning vaccines into a global public good and striving to improve their accessibility and affordability in developing countries. China has officially joined the global COVAX (COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access) vaccine distribution plan, making a clear commitment to providing the first batch of 10 million doses of vaccine for developing countries in urgent need. Meanwhile, China is currently providing vaccine assistance to 80

126 Ibid.

127 China’s successful experience of poverty elimination can be summarized as accomplishing “Targeted Efforts in Six Areas” [This refers to efforts to identify the poor accurately, arrange targeted programs, utilize capital efficiently, take household-based measures, dispatch first Party secretaries based on village conditions, and achieve the set goals.], taking “Five Measures for Poverty Eradication” [The measures include: boosting the economy to provide more job opportunities, relocating poor people from inhospitable areas, compensating for economic losses associated with reducing ecological damage, improving education in impoverished areas, and providing subsistence allowances for those unable to shake off poverty through their own efforts alone.], and addressing “Five Questions in Poverty Alleviation” [This refers to these questions: who should help, who should be helped, how to help, how to evaluate whether someone has emerged from poverty, and how to ensure those people stay free from poverty.]. Through the above measures, China has finally achieved remarkable results in the following three aspects, which are One Improvement [i.e., the annual average per capita income for a household remains steady above China’s current poverty line], Two Assurances [i.e., assurances of adequate food and clothing], and Three Guarantees [i.e., guarantees of access to compulsory education, basic medical services and safe housing for impoverished rural residents]. For more details, please see Poverty Alleviation: China’s Experience and Contribution, <http://language.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202104/06/WS606bffe7a31024ad0bab3c43.html>.

128 How China has lifted nearly 800 million people out of poverty, http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2021-04/06/c_139862741.htm.

129 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Permanent Mission of The People’s Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland.

countries and 3 international organizations, exporting vaccines to more than 40 countries, and conducting joint research and production of vaccines with more than 10 countries.¹³⁰

36. Finland has also made great achievements in protecting human rights, especially for those vulnerable groups. From 2015 to 2018, with Finland's support, over 1.5 million women and girls have used sexual and reproductive health services, about 2.5 million people had access to clean water supplies and nearly 6 million people had access to adequate sanitation.¹³¹ Finland has also supported more children attending primary and secondary education. More than 90 per cent of all children start primary education in Mozambique, Ethiopia, Nepal, Myanmar, Palestine and Afghanistan. Meanwhile, girls now account for an average of 47 per cent of all young people starting secondary education, compared with 36 per cent 15 years ago.¹³² In addition, Finland also takes digital rights seriously. It regulates Finland's national AI Strategy under the direction of a human-centric approach to digitalization, which highlights "the needs and participation of different citizen and user groups in the development of digital public services".¹³³ Finland serves as the Chair of Freedom Online Coalition in 2021. It is also a co-leader of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality. By fulfilling its responsibilities in these organizations, Finland strives to bridge the gender digital divide and enhance women's and girls' role and viewpoints in technology and innovation at the national, regional and global levels.¹³⁴
37. Iraq also emphasizes the role of development in the promotion of human rights. The government has formulated a series of national strategies relevant to development, such as National Poverty Reduction Strategy (2018-2022), National Strategy for Education (2012-2022), National School Health Strategic Plan (2018-2022), National Nutrition Strategy (2012-2021), and National Development Plan (2018-2022). Meanwhile, the government actively cooperates with UN organizations and some NGOs to promote sustainable development. As a result, about 63% of the population in Iraq has access to primary health care. The mortality rate of children under the age of five has been significantly decreased from 0.6% in the 1990s to 0.14% in 2018. The enrollment in primary education has reached 94% in 2018. The government has also invested 5 billion dollars to build environmentally friendly infrastructure. In addition, the government has taken some active measures to confront Covid-19 and protect its citizens' rights to life and health. For example, the government has provided the services of home delivery, food basket, medical aid to ensure a decent life for its citizens during the period of the pandemic. It also allocated an emergency grant to the family which did not receive any income during the period of the pandemic. The grant was of 30 thousand dinars per person and benefiting around 10 million individuals.¹³⁵

130 China is providing vaccine assistance to 80 countries,

<https://baijiahao.baidu.com/s?id=1695644964983772264&wfr=spider&for=pc>.

131 Finland's Development Policy Results Report 2018, <https://kehityspolitiikka2018.um.fi/wp-content/uploads/sites/21/2019/01/UM-KPR-2018-ENG-WEB.pdf>.

132 Ibid.

133 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Finland Government on 15 March, 2021.

134 Ibid.

135 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Iraq.

38. Ireland has implemented the Africa Agri-Food Development Programme (AADP) to support sustainable and mutual trade between Ireland and Africa by developing partnerships between the Irish Agri-Food Sector and African countries. The AADP requires all applicants to demonstrate how their proposals will adhere to guidelines on responsible business practices. It also requires applicants to provide details of any possible impact the project could have on land rights or land tenure for local communities. The AADP's Evaluation Committee thus can seek further clarity with regards to the project's approach to safeguarding human rights. Ireland has also provided grants on an annual basis to support NGOs carrying out development projects through Ireland's Civil Society Fund. The projects currently funded are addressing issues such as elimination of sexual exploitation of children, LGBTI+ rights, natural resource exploitation, women and access to information and strengthening civil society.¹³⁶
39. Italy has played a significant role in protecting the rights of women and girls together with the United Nations Agencies. One of its key projects is the struggle against female genital mutilations. Together with the UNFPA-UNICEF, Italy has allocated 23 million euros in a 14-year-long joint programme which aims to eliminate female mutilations among girls from 0 to 15 years old. Until 2020, this joint programme has achieved tangible results: "13 Countries have passed a regulatory framework to eliminate the practice, 17 Countries have created a national coordinating mechanism in this respect and 12 Countries have a dedicated budget heading and targeted programmes. In these Countries, 2.3 million girls and women have received protection and access to welfare services".¹³⁷ In another project conducted jointly with the UNFPA and the UNDP in 2018, Italian Development Cooperation has invested 2-million-euro to provide medical services, economic advice, and education and training of running small agricultural businesses for the women struck by the war in Syria. Italian Development Cooperation has also implemented a plan to provide medical and psychological assistance to the girls kidnapped by ISIS after they were released.¹³⁸
40. Mauritius has embarked on a new economic model, which aims to combat poverty, promote social justice, empower economics, unite the nation, and protect vulnerable citizens. As a result, significant investment in education has yielded an informed population, which is empowered to think and act on its own. Housing facilities have been significantly improved, which has protected the right to adequate housing of many underprivileged families. Recreational and sports facilities have been upgraded, which has enriched the spiritual and cultural life of its citizens. Affordable and diverse means of transportation facilities as well as extensive and well-articulated road network have provided enhanced connectivity to all parts of the island, which has improved the right to mobility. An inclusive economic growth model has encouraged entrepreneurs' investment and created employment, which has also progressively promoted human rights enjoyed by its citizens.¹³⁹

136 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Ireland.

137 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy in February 2021.

138 Ibid.

139 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Mauritius.

41. Poland has actively participated in global efforts to achieve sustainable development through Polish Aid, which aims at protecting human rights and civil society enhancement in many countries in the world and in particular in Eastern Europe. A large portion of its aid funding is destined to the most vulnerable groups, especially those poorest people. Poland has also engaged in helping its partner countries to protect human rights through development cooperation. One example is the cooperation in the area of civic education, which is not only a precondition for the enjoyment of this particular human right, but also a means of promoting human rights in general. In addition, Poland has paid a lot of attention to improve good governance at the national and international levels. One example is requiring companies and enterprises to follow certain rules and standards with respect to the conditions of labour and employment.¹⁴⁰

42. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) has launched a series of projects to promote the enjoyment of human rights through development. At the national level, CFPA has conducted Maternal and Infant Health Care Program, Nutritious Meals Program, Bona Villa Program, Bridge Construction Project, Disaster Prevention and Risk Reduction Program, Small-Amount Loan Project, Rural Education Development Program, Rural Infrastructure Building Program, Shanpin E-commerce Project and Alipay Ant Forest Program. At the international level, CFPA has implemented Water Cellar Construction Project in Ethiopia, Post-disaster School Reconstruction Project in Nepal, Access to Satellite TV Project in Seychelles, Comoros, Tanzania and Mauritius, Hybrid Rice Program in Madagascar, Hydropower Station Construction Project in Guinea, Safe Drinking Water Project in Sri Lanka, Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway Project in Kenya, and Panda Pack Project in Nepal, Myanmar, Ethiopia, Cambodia, Laos, Pakistan, Mongolia, Namibia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe.¹⁴¹

43. Equal Rights Trust (ERT), in 2008, has launched the Declaration of Principles on Equality, together with 128 experts from more than 40 different countries. The Declaration sets out standards for achieving equality and underlines that states must enact and implement comprehensive anti-discrimination laws. ERT launched its first country project in 2009, supporting partners in Kenya and India. As of 2018, it has established projects and partnerships in more than 45 countries ranging from Azerbaijan to Zambia. Through these projects, it has supported civil society movements to combat discrimination through reform and implementation of equality law, observed that status-based discrimination can lead directly to income poverty and prevent or limit an individual's food security, health and well-being and education, found that there are multiple discriminatory barriers to primary education – from the direct and indirect costs of schooling to formal enrolment requirements and from geographical distance to the curriculum itself, and finally concluded both that the adoption of

140 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland.

141 For more details of these projects at the national and international levels, please see the consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by United Nations Association of China.

an equality law approach to the problem of out-of-school children delivers significant practical, tactical and strategic benefits, and that the adoption of such an approach is imperative, if efforts to ensure education for all are to be effective.¹⁴²

44. Four NGOs, named Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Center for Economic and Social Rights, ATD Fourth World, and Franciscans International: A Voice at the United Nations, stress that redistribution of development gains is essential for tackling inequalities and realizing human rights. This means that attention should be paid not only to the “size of the pie”, but also to the distribution of that pie. In this regard, one good practice is financial taxes. It requires transparent public registers of beneficial ownership of corporations, ends tax exemptions for multinational corporations, ensures VAT or sales tax including broad exemptions on essential goods (e.g., food, cooking oil and feminine hygiene products), and introduces robust taxes on wealth (e.g., property or land value, capital gains or inheritance).¹⁴³ Participatory budgeting initiatives ongoing around the world is another very important tool for engaging people in fundamental questions of resource allocation in development.¹⁴⁴ Meanwhile, some international NGOs have also conducted some good projects of participatory initiatives. For example, ATD Fourth World has developed models of participatory research and merging of knowledge to actively include people living in poverty in the search for solutions to their own situations. In Egypt, Brazil, Uganda and India, the participatory initiative has conducted “ground-level panels” to evaluate the UN High Level Panel’s (HLP) recommendations for a post-Millennium Development Goal framework. Participants, including urban slum-dwellers, disabled people, ex-slaves and bonded laborers, sexual minorities, nomadic and indigenous people, and internally displaced people, have made their own recommendations of what is needed in global development policy to end poverty.¹⁴⁵
45. Fundación Abba, an NGO in Colombia, has also made contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights through practical, concrete and clear ways of development by focusing on five key areas. The first is to achieve comprehensive development of children and adolescents by organizing relevant training courses and seminars. The second is to empower women through flourishing economies, productivity and growth. This depends on the provision of professional training in women development, and the integration of equal opportunities to establish progressive practices for women. The third is to give quality education through the project named Center for Leadership and Business Development ‘CLIDE’. The fourth is to improve social equity in every company and highlight the importance of responsible and efficient management of resources and processes reaching lasting ventures. The fifth is to provide effective care to people affected in any type of

142 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Equal Rights Trust.

143 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, jointly submitted by the Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Center for Economic and Social Rights, ATD Fourth World, Franciscans International: A Voice at the United Nations, June, 2018.

144 https://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTEMPowerment/Resources/14657_Particip-Budg-Brazil-web.pdf.

145 <http://participatesdgs.org/ground-level-panels/>.

emergency by human activity or natural phenomena. The five focuses constitute a full learning experience, not only on the humanitarian side, but also in the protection of all human rights.¹⁴⁶

46. International Volunteer Service for Development, an NGO in Italy, has conducted a series of projects aiming to improve the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights. One is the education, training and socio-professional integration in Albania, which has helped 1436 students and teachers to access a school with better infrastructure and innovative teaching measures. The same project has benefited 495 students and vulnerable people in Palestine, and provided protection services for 365 vulnerable children, adolescents and young people, and meanwhile make 2,000 people aware of the issue of child protection.¹⁴⁷

IV. Defining the Concept of the Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights

1. A comprehensive understanding of development

47. The understanding of development has gone through a long process of evolution, from the development of human potential to economic growth, and then to the sustainable development of economy, society and environment. Such understanding has been constantly improved and broadened. Given its rich and varied meanings, development should not be understood in a one-sided manner, but should be analyzed from a comprehensive and systematic perspective, integrating human and nature, subject and object, humanity and economy, culture and national conditions. Only in this context can development play a better role in promoting human rights.
48. **The definition of development: a holistic idea.** Development is a comprehensive process covering the aspects of economy, society, culture and politics. It aims to constantly improve the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom.¹⁴⁸ Therefore, as a comprehensive and integrated process, the channels of achieving development consist of participation, contribution and enjoyment of development. The scope of it is the comprehensive development of people in the economic, social, cultural and political fields. The purpose of it is to realize fundamental freedom, benefits and human rights.
49. **The subject of development: the entire population and of all individuals.** The human person is the central subject of development. The Declaration on the Right to Development recognizes in the preamble that the human person is the central subject of the development process and that development policy should therefore make the human being the main

146 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by Fundación Abba, an NGO in Colombia.

147 A consultancy study on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, submitted by an Italian NGO called International Volunteer Service for Development.

148 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, the preamble, adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

participant and beneficiary of development.¹⁴⁹ Article 2 reaffirms that the human person is the central subject of development and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development.¹⁵⁰ Human beings discussed here are both individuals and a collective body. All individuals and collective bodies of countries and nations composed of individuals are the main subjects of development. Development is the organic unity of individual development and the development of the country and nation. Without the development of the country and nation, the development of individuals and the realization of their rights have lost the foundation. The fundamental purpose of the development of the country and nation is to realize the well-rounded and free development of individuals. In today's world where development is unbalanced, while equal protection of the development of all human beings and individuals, it is also important to protect developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked countries, small island countries, as well as ethnic minorities, the poor, and vulnerable groups, so that they can realize their human rights in development.

50. **The conditions for development: rational economic, social and political order.** All human beings have a responsibility for development, individually and collectively, taking into account the need for full respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms as well as their duties to the community, which alone can ensure the free and complete fulfilment of the human being, and they should therefore promote and protect an appropriate political, social and economic order for development.¹⁵¹ Peace, security, independence, a new economic order and a stable social environment are essential external preconditions for development. The promotion of development means that a rational, inclusive and harmonious order must be maintained.
51. **The core of development: equality of opportunity.** Equality of opportunity for all people to participate in development process is essential to a rational development. "Equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations."¹⁵² Equality of opportunity is the starting point for fair, inclusive and sustainable development, while fairness of rules and procedures is the basis for maintaining the resilience of development, and whether it is fairness of opportunities or fairness of procedures, it is ultimately for the fair sharing of rights. On this point, achieving the unity of fair opportunity, fair rules and fair rights is exactly the proper meaning that sustainable development should have.
52. **The object of development: from three pillars to five-sphere integrated plan.** The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development establishes the three pillars of sustainable development: economy, society and the environment. It also emphasizes that sustainable development is

149 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, the preamble, adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

150 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, art.2, adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

151 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, art.2(2), adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

152 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, the preamble, adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

inseparable from a good political and cultural environment. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development(art.9) states: “We envisage a world...in which democracy, good governance and the rule of law, as well as an enabling environment at the national and international levels, are essential for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger.”¹⁵³ The Human Development Report 2020, for the first time, includes the two new measurement indicators of “a country’s per capita carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint”¹⁵⁴. It can be seen that the objects that development is committed to change and improve include not only economy, society and environment, but also politics and culture. To achieve sustainable development, it is necessary to implement a “five-sphere integrated plan” which is to promote coordinated economic, political, cultural, social and ecological advancement.

53. **The space for development: coordinated regional development.** Development requires coordinated and balanced development among different regions, different countries, and different regions within a country. Special attention should be paid to the development of developing countries, especially underdeveloped countries, as well as remote and impoverished areas, rural areas, ethnic minority areas, and areas with poor geographical conditions, fragile ecological environment and resources. So as to achieve common and balanced development among countries of different development levels, between urban and rural areas, and between developed and underdeveloped regions.
54. **The focus of development: sustainable economic development.** From the perspective of environmentalism, economic growth seems to be a demon. Indeed, the traditional economic growth model brings growth at the expense of development. Sustainable development emphasizes environmental resource protection and economic development, and meanwhile puts the economy before society and environment in the three pillars listed in the 2030 Agenda. In fact, from the perspective of the overall development of a country, development without environmental resource protection cannot be sustainable, and environmental resource protection without economic development has no vitality. It should focus on economic construction and promote a consistent and harmonious relationship between the economy and the ecological environment.
55. **The principle of development: people-centred development with global justice.** Development should adhere to the basic principles of people’s principal position, equality, non-discrimination, inclusiveness and benefiting to all, conformity to the national conditions and respect for the right of each country to independently choose development paths and models. In this regard, the Declaration on the Right to Development emphasizes: “the right of peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development.”¹⁵⁵

153 UN, Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1.

154 UNDP, Human Development Report 2020—The next frontier: Human development and the Anthropocene.

155 UN, Declaration on the Right to Development, the preamble, adopted by the General Assembly, 4 December 1986, A/RES/41/128.

2. Development-based approach to human rights

56. On the one hand, it should pay attention to the importance of human rights to development, and adopt a “human rights-based approach to development”¹⁵⁶ to promote and improve human rights. On the other hand, it should fully recognize the extreme importance of development to human rights. Only through a comprehensive, coordinated, inclusive and sustainable development can human rights be better promoted and protected. Therefore, a “development-based approach to human rights” should be put forward.
57. As a new approach to human rights protection, development-based approach to human rights is both related to and different from human rights-based approach to development, but they cannot be replaced by each other. The specific contents of the development-based approach to human rights can be summarized as:
- (a) Development is the foundation of human rights.
 - (b) In order to improve the human rights situation, sustainable development must be promoted, even taken as the top priority in developing countries.
 - (c) All human rights mechanisms, institutions, funds, procedures or programmes should devote to advance development.
 - (d) Sustainable development goals and indicators should become the fundamental guidance for advancing the process of human rights protection.
 - (e) The level and extent of the country’s development should be included in the human rights assessment, that is, the level of development should be considered when evaluating the human rights situation.
 - (f) The human rights process should be based on people-centred development and adhere to the principles of “relying on the people”, “striving for the people”, “protecting the people” and “benefiting the people”. It also should follow the principle of “good governance of good law”, which involves participation, transparency, equality, non-discrimination, and accountability.
 - (g) It should insist on enhancing the development capabilities of all human beings, especially developing countries and disadvantaged groups. This is because development capability is a key element in cultivating people’s capability of realizing their rights.

156 Statement of Common Understanding on Human Rights-based Approaches to Development Cooperation and Programming, issued by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in 2003.

3. The approaches and mechanisms of contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights

58. **Empowerment.** Development is the foundation of empowering human beings. From an external perspective, development creates basic conditions and thus lays the necessary foundation for empowerment and the realization of all human rights. The core of human rights lies in that human beings have the capability to realize their rights. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development puts forward in the preamble, “We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.” “gender equality and the empowerment” is one of the basic considerations of sustainable development (para.8). Development is conducive to the enhancement of human capabilities in all respects, especially for developing countries and disadvantaged groups. Amartya Sen states that capability is a kind of “substantive freedom”¹⁵⁷, while the progress of development is the progress of the accumulation of one's substantial freedom. The primary goal and an important approach to development is to expand the substantive freedom that people can enjoy. Martha Nussbaum regards capacity as “what people can be and what they can do”.¹⁵⁸ Capability is not inherent, but determined by the material living conditions of society. The economic foundation determines the level of human rights protection, and social development and cultural development are necessary conditions for the realization of human rights. Any right always originates from a certain economic structure and the cultural development of the society restricted thereby. Among them, economic development is the most fundamental decisive force for the protection of human rights. Freedom and equality originate from the commodity economy, and a developed market economy breeds the spirit of freedom and human rights.¹⁵⁹ On the one hand, economic development has increased the total supply of human rights resources. On the other hand, economic development has strengthened the means to realize human rights, enriched the ways of protecting human rights, and expanded the path of human rights development. In the past, the focus of human rights concerns was not production but distribution. It focuses primarily on allocating the existing human rights resources rather than providing an overall increase for human rights. It is true that fair distribution is important, but creating more abundant wealth and resources for distribution is fundamental and a prerequisite for the realization of human rights. “Human development and human rights share the same perspective. The goal is human freedom. In the process of pursuing capabilities and realizing rights, this freedom is essential. ...Human development and human rights promote each other, work together to ensure the happiness and dignity of all people, and establish self-esteem and respect among people.”¹⁶⁰

157 “Substantive freedom” refers to the capabilities—a combination of various possible functional activities that a person can achieve, including the capabilities to avoid hardship such as hunger, malnutrition, avoidable diseases, premature death, as well as the capabilities to read and count, and enjoy the freedom of political participation. See Amartya Sen, *Development as Freedom*, Oxford University Press, 2001, pp.74-75.

158 Martha Nussbaum, *Creating Capabilities: The Human Development Approach*, Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2011, p.20.

159 See Sen, Amartya. “Markets and Freedoms: Achievements and Limitations of the Market Mechanism in Promoting Individual Freedoms.” *Oxford Economic Papers*, Vol. 45, No. 4, 1993, pp. 519–541.

160 UNDP, *Human Development Report 2000: Human Rights and Human Development*, available at <http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-2000>.

59. **Inspiration.** Development helps to activate people's subjectivity. From an internal point of view, development can inspire the continuous externalization of people's inner qualities and potential, thereby transforming the instinctive needs of human rights into human rights practice. Development is the process of externalizing the inner quality and potential of human beings, and it is in the process that human rights are displayed, expressed, and realized. In the highly developed productive activities of modern society, the potentials of human beings are brought into full play. "People-centred development" adheres to the principle of unifying "striving for the people" and "relying on the people", emphasizing that everyone is not only a passive beneficiary of development, but also an active participant and promoter of the development process by increasing the initiative, enthusiasm and creativity of human beings in the development process, the essence of human beings is continuously enriched, human skills are continuously improved, and human capabilities are continuously enhanced, thereby creating a fully developed person and promoting the full enjoyment of human rights.
60. **Respect.** Development promotes the respect of personal dignity. Development provides fundamental conditions for human beings to live independently, freely and autonomously, safeguard human value and dignity, and respect human subject qualifications. Without development, human beings who fall into poverty and hunger cannot live with dignity. Poverty is not only an economic lack of food and clothing, but also a deprivation of human dignity. The current global institutional arrangements—they maintain and exacerbate huge social and economic inequalities, allowing half of the earth's population to make ends meet in a state of severe poverty—constitute "a massive and wholly unjustifiable violation of human dignity"¹⁶¹. On this point, "the current serious lack of human rights is mainly concentrated in the poor"¹⁶². The large-scale and persistent existence of structural poverty is an outstanding challenge to safeguard human dignity and realize human rights. In this regard, the Human Development Report 2000 issued by the UNDP clearly pointed out that "poverty restricts human freedom and deprives human dignity"¹⁶³. "Poverty eradication is a major human rights challenge in the 21st century."¹⁶⁴ Thus, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development places poverty reduction at the center of human rights and development issues, reflecting the fundamental status of development to human rights.
61. **Protection.** Development lays a solid foundation for social security. The realization of all human rights is the ultimate goal of development.¹⁶⁵ Only in continuous development can the sustainability and resilience of human rights be maintained and enhanced. The fair distribution of development resources and achievements serves as a safety valve for the sharing of human rights for all, especially for vulnerable groups. Successful development helps to guarantee the

161 Thomas Pogge. Explicating Dignity toward a Minimal Conception of Global Justice, available at http://www.chinahumanrights.org/html/2014/PAPERS_1030/991_2.html.

162 See Thomas Pogge. Recognized and Violated by International Law: The Human Rights of the Global Poor. *Leiden Journal of International Law*, Vol. 18, Issue 4, December 2005, pp. 717-746.

163 UNDP, Human Development Report 2000: Human Rights and Human Development, available at <http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-2000>.

164 UNDP, Human Development Report 2000: Human Rights and Human Development, available at <http://www.hdr.undp.org/en/content/human-development-report-2000>.

165 Suhail Shahzad and Fayyaz-ur-Rahman. Human Rights: Path to Development, *Journal of Law and Society (University of Peshawar)*, Vol. 33, Issue 46, July 2005, pp. 111-124.

respect for human rights of every person and makes sure no one is left behind. Social development and social security system provide essential condition to protect all people and every person to realize and enjoy fundamental human rights. In an underdeveloped society, it is difficult for human rights to be equally protected.

62. **Reinforcement.** Development strengthens the protection of human rights. Only in development can we continuously strengthen the protection of human rights and improve the level of human rights protection. From underdeveloped level to medium level of development to the higher level of development is of great significance for strengthening the protection of human rights. We cannot use underdevelopment as an excuse to shirk human rights responsibilities, but we cannot deny the fundamental function of development for the realization of human rights on the principle of human rights priority. The degree, level, scope and quality of development restrict the overall strength and scale of human rights protection. The higher the level of development, the stronger the protection of human rights is likely to be. The relationship between development and human rights is mutually reinforcing rather than offsetting each other.

63. **Fulfilment.** Development contributes to fulfilling all human rights. Development contributes not only to the realization of economic, social and cultural rights, but also to the realization of civil and political rights. In participating in the development process and sharing the fruits of development, citizens' right to employment, right to remuneration, and various other material rights to meet fundamental needs can be realized. At the same time, development helps to promote personal liberty, political freedom and democracy. Even if development is only understood as economic development in a narrow sense, it is possible to prove the value of development to the political rights of citizens. Because the basic form of the modern economy is the market economy, and the necessary premise of the market economy is personal liberty and freedom of transaction. The public power of the country should maintain a rational attitude of restraint, maximize the free regulation role of the market, leave freedom to citizens, and strictly limit government power. Citizens have the right to democratic decision-making, democratic management, and democratic supervision of the government. A perfect market economy must be a rights-based economy. The development of the market economy will inevitably require controlling the government power by law and pay more attention to protecting the human rights of citizens. Otherwise, the market will inevitably lose its vitality, economic development will be blocked, and human rights will be difficult to be protected.

64. In conclusion, the approaches and mechanisms of contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights include six aspects: empowerment, inspiration, respect, protection, reinforcement and fulfilment, and they are interrelated and complementary. The internal logical relationship is shown in: "empowerment" refers to development creating favorable external conditions for the continuous externalization of human potential in order to realize human rights, while "inspiration" aims to create internal motivation for the realization of human rights. "Respect" is mainly to provide protection for everyone's personality and dignity from the spiritual level, while "protection" aims to build social security as a safety

valve from the material level, so as to better protect the disadvantaged groups to share human rights. “Reinforcement” refers to continuously consolidate and strengthen the results of human rights protection through development, while “fulfilment” aims to protect and realize civil, political, economic, social, cultural rights and other new types of rights in an all-round way by realizing the all-round development of human beings. Only by continuously “reinforcement” human rights achievements in sustainable development, can we inject continuous vitality into the comprehensive “fulfilment” of all human rights.

V. Conclusions and Recommendations

A. Conclusions

1. The role of development in promoting human rights

65. There is a close and positive relationship between development and human rights. The two are interlinked and mutually reinforced. Human rights contribute to development, and development also contributes to human rights. It is unthinkable to talk about development without human rights and to talk about human rights without development. Development without human rights will inevitably lose its direction, and human rights without development have no foundation.
66. The value of development to human rights is extremely significant. It is necessary to re-understand and explore the role and function of development to human rights as well as how it works. The development-based approach to human rights is a pragmatic and prerequisite concept of human rights, which is worthy of in-depth research and practice.
67. Development is both the means and the purpose of human rights. The realization of human rights is to achieve the comprehensive and free development of humanity itself. To a certain extent, human development is consistent with human rights.
68. Development creates the most essential conditions necessary for improving the human rights situation by creating more material wealth, resources and benefits and strengthening the material and social foundations of human rights.
69. Development is a process of empowering people and thus promoting human rights. The participation of all human beings and individuals, the promotion of the development process and the sharing of development results are essentially the promotion of human rights.
70. The people’s better life is the greatest human right. The people’s better life is made by hard work in promoting development, happiness does not fall from the sky. The contradiction between the people’s need for a better life and the incoordination, imbalance and insufficiency of development is the most important contradiction restricting the realization of human rights,

and the realization of inclusive, harmonious and well-rounded development is the most fundamental way to meet the people's right to a better life.

71. Development promotes all human rights in an all-around way. Development provides the most basic conditions for the realization of the primary fundamental human right, the right to subsistence and the right to development, which is of great significance to all human beings, especially the people of developing countries in general. Moreover, development contributes not only to the realization of economic, social and cultural rights, but also to the realization of civil and political rights.

2. Development contributes to the protection of economic, social and cultural rights

72. Development is aimed at liberating and enhancing productivity forces, promoting economic prosperity and wealth growth for all human beings, and providing the most basic conditions for the realization of economic, social and cultural rights. Development not only focuses on the allocation of existing economic and social resources, but also promotes the realization of economic and social cultural rights by creating wealth and opportunities and increasing the total supply of rights. This can be found in the following areas:

(a) Right to work (art.6, ICESCR). Only by creating adequate job opportunities and positions can the right to work be fully guaranteed. According to Article 6 of ICESCR, in order to realize the right to work, the states should take measures to “achieve steady economic, social and cultural development and full and productive employment”. And Goal 8 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development states: Development aims to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”. Specifically, the role of development in promoting the realization of the right to work is shown in: First, promoting economic development, increasing economic growth rate and labor productivity is the fundamental guarantee for creating more jobs. Without economic development, employment can only be a useless word. Second, the development of labour-intensive sectors can quickly increase the employment rate, and the development of technology-intensive sectors is the key to improve the quality of employment. Seeking the best balance between the development of labour-intensive sectors and technology-intensive sectors is the key to ensure high-quality employment to the maximum. Third, promoting development-oriented policies that support productive activities and providing productive employment is fundamental to the realization of the right to work. Fourth, the development of science and technology has invigorated the right to employment. Encouraging entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation is the fundamental driving force for improving employment standards. Fifth, adjusting fiscal and financial policies to support the development of micro, small and medium enterprises is of great significance to expand employment channels. Sixth, the development of tourism economy, characteristic economy and cultural industries is extremely important for stimulating employment in poor and rural areas. Seventh, in the current era, with the rise of the digital economy and the rapid development of e-commerce, the employment of the population in remote areas and disadvantaged groups has been and will be greatly increased. Eighth, promoting the fair

development of international economy and trade plays an important role in the realization of the right to work of people in all countries, especially in developing countries.

(b) Rights of favourable conditions at work (art.7, ICESCR). First, continuous improvement of the level of economic development is an indispensable material basis for ensuring the realization of “the right of everyone to the enjoyment of just and favourable conditions of work”. Second, in the process of economic growth and industrial development, the establishment of a reasonable benchmark for wages is not only conducive to “remuneration which provides all workers, as a minimum, with fair wages and equal remuneration”, but also conducive to “a decent living for themselves and their families in accordance with the provisions of the present Covenant” (art.7). Third, inclusive development is the key to ensure equal pay for equal work, equal and non-discriminatory realization of the right to employment. Only when women, the disabled, and young people are fully and deeply integrated into the economic development process, can all people share the right to employment indeed. Fourth, economy, society and environment are the three pillars of sustainable development. For the realization of the right to just and favourable conditions of work, following reliable guarantees are indispensable, which are actively promoting the harmony and coordination of the relationship between economy and society, vigorously developing economic and social undertakings, providing safe and sanitary working conditions, and energetically preventing occupational diseases.

(c) Right to social security (art.9, ICESCR). According to Article 9 of ICESCR, everyone has the right to social security, including social insurance. The 2030 Agenda establishes a clear link between “development” and “the right to social security” in Goal 1.3, which states: “Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.” In addition to relying on the state’s distribution system and external assistance, the realization of the right to social security lies in the improvement of the level of development. Promoting economic development is a fundamental requirement for enhancing social well-being and fulfilling the right to social security. First, from a historical perspective, the realization of the right to social security is a long process that is gradually realized as the process of economic development accelerates. The social security system that has been established in developed countries for more than 100 years cannot be fully realized in underdeveloped countries within a short period of time. Only by continuously consolidating the development foundation of developing countries can we create a broad road for realizing the right to social security. Whether contributory plans such as various social insurances, or non-contributory plans, including social welfare and social assistance, whether universal social security or special protection for families, children, mothers and infants (art.10), all rely on the strong support of economic conditions and the solid material foundation laid in the development. Second, in terms of social insurance, although individuals bear a small part of social insurance costs, most of the materials and funds for social security come from states and enterprises, the degree of development of the national economy directly determines the total amount of resource supply that can be used to ensure the right to social security. Even for individuals, if they lose the prerequisite for development and do not have a job, they will not be able to obtain social

insurance. Third, although there is a lack of strong empirical evidence of a causal link between social security and positive economic performance, there is certainly a correlation between extensive social security systems, low poverty levels, and successful economies in certain industrialized states. The adequacy of the amount of benefits is critically related to a state's minimum core obligations, the principle of progressive realization, and the affordability and accessibility of social security.

(d) Adequate standard of living (art.11, ICESCR). The right to food, right to be free from hunger, right to clothing and right to housing (art.11), as well as the right to water are the fundamental requirements to achieve an adequate standard of living. However, without development, these rights will not be realized automatically. On the one hand, in terms of the right to food and the right to be free from hunger, it is deeply rooted in the economic development of agriculture and food industry in addition to relying on the protection and security from the State and society. The most fundamental approach to realize this right is specified in Article 11, Paragraph 2 of ICESCR: "To improve methods of production, conservation and distribution of food by making full utilization of technical and scientific knowledge, by disseminating knowledge of the principles of nutrition and by developing or reforming agrarian systems in such a way as to achieve the most efficient development and utilization of natural resources." The realization of the 2030 Agenda organically links development with the realization of the right to food and the right to be free from hunger, and it has set the "Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture" for sustainable development. Similarly, only by promoting the sustainable development of the economy and the environment, preventing and controlling environment and soil pollution, and maintaining a sound ecosystem, can we create favourable conditions for food security and water security and the realization of the rights to food and water. On the other hand, for the right to clothing and the right to housing, in addition to other ways of realizing it, the shortage of clothing and housing is often closely related to poverty and underdevelopment. In terms of clothing and housing, "adequacy is determined in part by social, economic, cultural, climatic, ecological and other factors". States should reconcile related policies (economics, agriculture, environment, energy, etc.) with the obligations under article 11 of the Covenant. Moreover, states should earnestly implement Goal 11 of the 2030 Agenda: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In this goal, whether it is to ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums (Goal 11.1), to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all (Goal 11.2), or to enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization (Goal 11.3) and so on, all need to vigorously develop various industries, especially develop sustainable industries, construction industries, etc.

(e) Right to health (art.12, ICESCR). In order to achieve the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health stated in Article 12 of ICESCR, it is necessary to create favourable development conditions to ensure that public health, healthcare facilities, materials and services have "availability", "accessibility", "acceptability" and achieving a certain "quality". Among them, economic factors are important considerations for accessibility, and economic accessibility refers to affordability. Health facilities, goods and

services must be affordable for all. Payment for health-care services, as well as services related to the underlying determinants of health, has to be based on the principle of equity, disadvantaged groups and poorer households should not be disproportionately burdened with health expenses. The effect of development on the right to health is specifically manifested in the following: On the one hand, in the long run, only through the realization of sustainable development can we improve “all aspects of environmental and industrial hygiene” (art.12.2(b)), and provide a sound and clean ecological environment, production and living environment for the right to health. On the other hand, from the direct connection, although the right to health is related to a fair and equitable distribution system, domestic economic development, economic and technological development cooperation and development assistance are extremely essential to the right to health of human beings, especially people in developing countries. It is conducive to “the creation of conditions which would assure to all medical service and medical attention in the event of sickness” (art.12.2(d)).

(f) Right to education (art.13, ICESCR). The right to education means that primary education shall be compulsory and available free to all, and secondary education and higher education shall be made accessible to all, by every appropriate means, and in particular by the progressive introduction of free education(art.13.2). In order to realize these rights, the international community has developed “4A” solutions: availability, accessibility, acceptability, and adaptability. Among them, the first one is “availability”, that is, there are enough well-functioning educational institutions and programs available, including material facilities, equipment, teachers, teaching materials, etc. “Accessibility” includes non-discrimination, actual accessibility and economic accessibility. Even in the most remote and backward areas, digital education should be developed through the development of education, especially the utilization of modern information technology, to make it affordable for everyone. Importantly, such a huge expenditure and investment, without a certain degree of economic and social development, is unobtainable.

(g) Right to culture (art.15, ICESCR). Cultural rights include the right to take part in cultural life, the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications, and the right to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author. The steps to be taken by states to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for the conservation, the development and the diffusion of science and culture, encouragement and development of international contacts and co-operation in the scientific and cultural fields. States should facilitate the enjoyment of cultural rights by everyone, take active measures, including fiscal measures, allocate special financial funds, and raise social capital to build and safeguard sufficient cultural infrastructure and provide necessary cultural products and services, including cultural centers, museums, libraries, theaters, cinemas, gymnasiums, art galleries, science and education centers, etc. States also should enhance access to the cultural heritage of mankind, including through new information technologies such as the Internet and big data. At the same time, states should provide disadvantaged groups with the assistance necessary for them to enjoy their fundamental cultural rights. As a result, we must vigorously develop the cultural industry, flourish the cultural market, strike an appropriate balance between public

culture and cultural undertakings, and promote the equal enjoyment of cultural rights by everyone in development.

3. Development contributes to the realization of civil and political rights

73. Development, especially economic development, creates and accumulates material wealth, opportunities, and resources for society, and provides the necessary economic and social foundation for the realization of citizens' political rights. This is reflected in the following:

(a) Right to life (art.6, ICCPR). The right to life is not only a negative human right that cannot be arbitrarily deprived, but also a positive human right that requires effectively protective measures conducted by the State. The right to life has always been too narrowly interpreted. The expression "inherent right to life" cannot properly be understood in a restrictive manner, and the protection of this right requires that states adopt positive measures. In this connection, it would be desirable for states parties to take all possible measures to reduce infant mortality and to increase life expectancy, especially in adopting measures to eliminate malnutrition and epidemics. It can be seen that the realization of the right to life is inseparable from the fundamental survival supplies obtained through economic and social development. The overall protection level of the right to life is often consistent with the level of economic and social development of a state. In general, as an important indicator to measure the right to life, the average life expectancy has a positive relationship with economic and social conditions and human rights.

(b) Freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment (art.7, ICCPR). In order to realize this right, Article 2 of Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment states, No exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether a state of war or a threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, may be invoked as a justification of torture. However, the relationship between poverty, war, terrorism, and social unrest is extremely complex in reality. They are often intertwined and may become an incentive for torture or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment. Torture is often related to certain social and historical conditions and development situations to some extent, but this connection has not attracted the necessary attention. From a historical point of view, in the ancient society of poverty, backwardness, and underdevelopment, the costs of crime and crime control are relatively low, the technical means of crime control are backward, the utilization of torture is more common. From ancient times to modern times, with the rapid economic and technological advancement and the continuous improvement of civilization, overall, torture has been reduced or even abolished, and the level of protection of the right to freedom from torture has become higher. A political-economic analysis of the right to freedom from torture helps to better understand the significance of development for this right.

(c) Freedom from slavery (art.8, ICCPR). No one shall be held in slavery, servitude and required to perform forced or compulsory labour. Slavery and forced labour are closely related to the level of economic development and social status. The modern market economy is a free

economy. As the most active element of productivity, workers must have personal freedom, that is, be able to freely control and determine their own will and actions, before they can form a labor contract relationship with employers through free negotiation. Once slavery, forced and compulsory labour occurs, market freedom will no longer exist, and economic development will inevitably be hindered. The development of market economy necessarily requires everyone to enjoy the right to freedom from slavery and the right to personal freedom. In addition, economic and social development helps to ensure and guarantee the right to employment, including the right to free choice of employment, and the right to free choice of employment and freedom from slavery are two sides of the same coin.

(d) Liberty and security of person (art.9, ICCPR). Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. The transformation of the development form to the market economy has further optimized the human development model and approach. The market economy is based on the independence of subject qualifications, equal transactions, and freedom of contract. Freedom and equality are the core principles of the rule of law. The market economy must be an economy under the rule of law, which requires everyone to be equal before the law, protect human rights and restrict public power in accordance with the law, and prevent abuse of power. In the judicial field, judicial independence and lawyer freedom are a basic principle of the rule of law. In the state under the rule of law based on a market economy, strict and fair justice can be guaranteed, and it is better ensured that no one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention(art.9), and the inherent dignity of the human person shall be respected (art.10).

(e) Right to a fair trial (art.14, ICCPR). The right consists of equality before the courts and tribunals and entitled to a fair and public hearing based on due process. In order to realize the right to a fair trial, in the determination of any criminal charge against him, everyone shall be entitled to the following minimum guarantees, in full equality: To be tried in his presence, and to defend himself in person or through legal assistance of his own choosing; to be informed, if he does not have legal assistance, of this right; and to have legal assistance assigned to him, in any case where the interests of justice so require, and without payment by him in any such case if he does not have sufficient means to pay for it (art.14.3(d)). In addition, in judicial proceedings, when the infringer himself/herself is poor and unable to pay the damage caused to the victim, and the victim himself/herself and his/her family are unable to pay the necessary costs such as medical expenses, the state shall set up special financial funds and pay them from this fund in order to provide the victim with adequate and free judicial assistance in emergency situations, which is the manifestation of social welfare in the judicial field. Moreover, to some extent, the poor and the relatively rich may enjoy more and better rights under the rule of justice. It can be seen that the improvement of the protection level of the right to a fair trial is not only rooted in the level of economic and social development benefits shared by everyone, but also relies on the fair distribution of economic and social welfare. Economic and social developments, as well as the legal aid and judicial assistance that may be provided therefrom, are of great significance to ensure that everyone enjoys fair access to justice.

(f) Personality rights (art.16&17, ICCPR). Personality rights are the minimum qualifications for a person to be a person. Personal dignity is one fundamental human right. In addition to

material personality rights, spiritual personality rights are particularly important. According to ICCPR, everyone shall have the right to be recognized everywhere as a person before the law (art.16), the right to privacy, honour and reputation (art.17.1). In modern society, with the rapid development of information technology, the right to personal information has become an essential form of personality rights and is attracting increasing attention. The relationship between personality rights and development should be deeply revealed and explained. On the one hand, the core of personality rights is personal dignity. In a society of economic depression, no security of livelihood, and extreme poverty, personal dignity and personality will inevitably be ignored. As mentioned above, poverty restricts the realization of the right to personal dignity. On the other hand, development has a direct and positive correlation with people's right to a better life. With the continuous improvement of material and cultural living standards, the people's wish for a better life will inevitably shift from addressing food and clothing to protecting personal freedom and dignity. In short, development helps all human beings to enjoy a healthy, decent, happy and better life, thereby promoting the realization of personality rights.

(g) Freedom of opinion and expression (art.21&22, ICCPR). Freedom does not seem to have any connection with development literally. However, the right to liberty and economic and social development are not mutually exclusive, but mutually reinforcing and promoting. On the one hand, development has the function of enhancing and expanding freedom. The right to liberty is not free, its realization depends on the state to take positive measures to provide the corresponding material, technical, media and institutional conditions, in addition to relying on the suppression of states' functions. Only by relying on the public resources of the state, can the right to liberty be effectively realized. On the other hand, these rights, whether peaceful assembly (art.21) or freedom association in Article 22 of ICCPR, are of important role in promoting democratic decision-making and governance, and help to lay a good public opinion foundation for rational economic, social and political development. In turn, development has the function of safeguarding and adding value to the realization of these rights. Market economy is also a type of economy based on right and freedom. The more developed the market economy and the more active the economic relations, the stronger the expression of will, the higher the awareness of rights protection. In this context, the more the call for the state to strengthen the right to freedom of opinion and expression at the level of legal and institutional protection. It is in the freedom of assembly and association that the will of the people can be better expressed, and the legitimate rights and interests of workers and social subjects can be better protected. It can be seen that freedom of opinion and expression is not only the result of market economic development, but also an essential means of defending rights in development.

(h) Right to take part in political affairs (art.25, ICCPR). According to Article 25 of the ICCPR, this right is divided into: the right to take part in the conduct of public affairs (a), the right to vote and to be voted (b) and to have access to public service (c). Equal, non-discriminatory and free participation in political affairs is the core value of political rights, so how can we ensure the equal and free participation of all people in political life and the enjoyment of their political rights? In addition to political system and legal protection, development is also an

important condition that cannot be ignored. The economic base determines the political superstructure, the reform of the market economy will inevitably require promoting political system reform towards enhancing democracy and expanding freedom. It is in the rational reform and development of the economy and politics that the total supply of political resources and opportunities has been increased, enabling citizens, especially the disadvantaged group to realize their political freedom and rights better and more equally. The rational development of market economy requires to scientifically define the relationship between the government and the market. For government, it is necessary to adhere to the principles of “public power prescribed by law” and “government departments must not do anything unless it is mandated by the law”. For citizens, it must follow the principles of “they can do anything which is not prohibited by the law” and “presumption of rights”. In this way, citizens can enjoy the right to participate, the right to know, the right to express, and the right to supervise in economic and political life.

(i) Equality and non-discrimination (art.26, ICCPR). Development is conducive to eliminating inequality and discrimination based on the distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. For women, universal, full and effective participation in the state’s economic progress and development process is the key to improving their human rights protection level. The areas where ethnic minorities and indigenous people live in are often backward, closed, ecologically fragile, poor or underdeveloped, achieving the coordinated and balanced development of these areas where ethnic minorities and indigenous people live with developed areas is a basic condition for improving their human rights condition. For people with disabilities, their human rights protection level is often below the average due to insufficient or loss of development capacities. To effectively realize their human rights, it is necessary to adopt development measures commensurate with their physical and psychological conditions to ensure that they can actively participate in the development process and enhance their development capacities. Although the factors affecting human rights are diverse, development is the basic prerequisite for reducing or eliminating inequality and discrimination and promoting the human rights of vulnerable groups.

4. Development is the fundamental means to realize the right to development

74. Development is the best practice way to implement the right to development, which is specifically manifested in the following aspects:

(a) Development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process, which aims at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of benefits resulting therefrom.

(b) The best linkage between development and human rights is the right to development. Development and the right to development are the relationship between tool and value. The value of the right to development is to enable all human rights and fundamental freedoms can

be fully realized. The tool for realizing the right to development is development itself. Sustainable development provides a solid material foundation and social environmental conditions, advanced production methods, and scientific, rational and inclusive forms of economic and social organization for the realization of the right to development.

(c) Development brings the right to development a huge collective power that transcends individual capacity. Development can be accomplished not only by a single person, but also by the cooperation and solidarity of society, organizations, and collectives, especially countries, nations, and the international community. Development is a never-ending process that the human collective body and all individuals work together to promote. The right to development with development as a driving force and means is the unity of collective human rights and individual human rights. It is in the collective body that the individual's right to development is better protected. The prosperity of the countries and nations are the basic prerequisite and guarantee for the happiness of the people. In a poor and underdeveloped country, citizens' right to development cannot be effectively realized.

(d) Promoting development is the obligation and responsibility of all people and individuals, and the fulfilment of development obligations and the assumption of responsibilities are also necessary conditions for realizing the right to development. All human beings have a responsibility for development, individually and collectively, which alone can ensure the free and complete fulfilment of the human being. It can be seen that the fulfilment of development obligations is essentially a protection of rights and freedoms.

(e) States should undertake three levels of obligations for the realization of the right to development through development: The first is domestic obligations. Steps should be taken to ensure the full exercise and progressive enhancement of the right to development, including the formulation, adoption and implementation of law, policy, strategies, action plans and other measures at the national level, and thereby ensure and protect the right to development of its own people. The second is the obligation to other States. States should not only respect others' independent choice of development path and development model, and adhere to the principle of non-interference in others' internal affairs, but also actively undertake the obligation of development cooperation and development assistance to promote mutual benefit, win-win and common development. The third is international obligations. States should take collective action to undertake the obligation to promote global development through effective participation in international organizations. States should actively safeguard and optimize the existing global governance system with the United Nations as the core, especially the development system, adhere to multilateralism, uphold the values of justice and inclusiveness, oppose unilateralism and anti-globalization, promote the common development of all human beings, and create favourable conditions for the realization of all people sharing the right to development.

5. Development is an external condition for realizing the right to peace

75. The common development of all countries is an important foundation for maintaining world peace and enjoyment of the right to peace for all. The function of development to the right to peace can be disclosed as follows:

(a) The Declaration on the Right to Peace and the Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace, the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace and the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and other international instruments have gradually confirmed the right to peace as one human right and the interrelationship between the right to peace and development. The Declaration on the Right to Peace specifically reviewed the significance of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the right to peace.

(b) Peace and security, development and human rights are the pillars of the United Nations system and the foundations for collective security and well-being, and they are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

(c) Peace is not only the absence of conflict but also requires a positive, dynamic participatory process where dialogue is encouraged and conflicts are solved in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, and socioeconomic development is ensured.

(d) Promoting sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all, can provide a favourable condition to guarantee freedom from fear and want as a means to build peace within and between societies, thereby guaranteeing the realization of the right to peace.

(e) The rational development of science and technology is conducive to promoting the realization of the right to peace and creating positive conditions for preventing wars and conflicts. The development of science and technology shall be advanced along the right track and not used to develop various weapons and armaments that endanger the peace of mankind.

(f) Eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities within and among countries can effectively address the interconnected security and development challenges faced by peoples throughout the world, thus promoting the realization of the right to peace.

(g) Development assistance and capacity building are important to the realization of the people's right to peace in conflict and post-conflict countries or regions.

(h) Cultural development has long-term significance for the right to peace. Respecting the diversity of cultures, as well as promoting tolerance, dialogue, cooperation, solidarity, equality and non-discrimination, justice and rule of law, in a climate of mutual trust and understanding, is the best guarantee of international peace and security.

(i) Equal social development can effectively eliminate the harm caused by acts that destroy and threaten peace, thereby ensuring the enjoyment of human rights of all victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

6. Development is the basic requirement to protect the right to a healthy environment

76. It is necessary to further disclose and address the relationship among development, environment and human rights. All human beings depend on the environment in which we live. A safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment provides fundamental conditions for humankind to fully enjoy basic human rights, such as the rights to life, health, food, water and sanitation. Without a healthy environment, it is impossible for us to meet even the minimum standards of human dignity.
77. Development is like a double-edged sword. It may damage the right to a healthy environment as well as protect it. The development model and style directly affect the protection status of environmental rights. Traditional development has seriously violated environmental rights at the cost of destroying the environment, while sustainable development protects the shared environmental rights of all human beings.
78. The solution to environmental problems ultimately depends on development. On the one hand, without a certain economic foundation as a guarantee, environmental protection is like a tree without roots or water without a source. This has been proved by the experience of developed and developing countries.
79. On the other hand, the solution to environmental problems needs to be guaranteed by the development of science and technology. Cleaner production and green lifestyle are the most important ways to maintain the best balance between development and protection, while the advancement of science and technology is the most important guarantee.
80. Clear waters and green mountains are as good as mountains of gold and silver, the balanced ecological environment is the fairest public product and the most inclusive welfare program. It is very important to actively build a beautiful earth and promote green development, circular development, low-carbon development, and better protection of environmental rights.
81. Sustainable development aims to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, build the resilience of the poor, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination, enhance the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation, as well as the access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all. Sustainable development thus is conducive to lay a reliable foundation for undertaking human rights obligations relevant to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

7. The contribution of development to digital human rights¹⁶⁶

82. The inherent driving force of development lies in technological innovation, and innovative development provides the most reliable protection for the enjoyment of all human rights. In today's world, with the rapid advancement of information technology, human beings have entered the era of the Internet, big data, cloud computing, blockchain, and artificial intelligence. Human rights in the digital age are facing new opportunities and challenges.
83. From personal privacy to public life, from clothing, food, housing, transportation to public security, information and digital technology are pervasive, affecting all aspects of human activities. In the digital age, there are fewer single offline activities. The division between the virtual world and the real world is losing its previous meaning, everyone's digital life will be more popular and detailed. Human beings are reshaping human rights values in accordance with the rules of the digital society.
84. Digital human rights have become a new form of human rights that is receiving increasing attention. It is necessary to clearly recognize and vigorously protect the new type of human rights.
85. The development of the digital economy can update production methods and labor employment models, protect the right to work, the right to remuneration, increase income, and ensure that people participate in the digital economy more efficiently and conveniently, share the rapid development dividends of the digital economy, and improve the quality of rights.
86. The development of digital technology can ensure a better and more convenient realization of various human rights including the rights to life, health, property, social security, political participation, freedom of expression, culture, and education and so on.
87. Ensuring equality of digital right should be based on the concepts of fairness, justice, good governance of good law in digital technology to ensure that everyone can share the development benefits of the digital age, achieve digital justice, and protect the rights of digital vulnerable groups, and prevent the violation of human rights caused by the negative effects of digital divide, algorithm discrimination, and algorithm hegemonism.

8. What kind of development can effectively promote human rights?

88. Not all forms of development can promote human rights. Only a truly scientific, civilized and advanced development vision can contribute to the realization of human rights.
89. Development should be sustainable. It should actively implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is the fundamental way to strengthen human rights protection in the new era. The harmonious development of human and nature and the sustainable

¹⁶⁶ The theme of this subsection is the object of another study commissioned by the OHCHR in accordance with HRC resolution 41/19, para.13. This study is also expected to be concluded in 2021.

development of economy, society and environment are necessary approaches to protect all human rights, including the right to development. Therefore, it is necessary to incorporate the idea of green development into each of the 17 targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

90. Development should be based on a people-oriented principle. It should insist on people-centred development, persist in developing for the people, relying on the people, benefiting the people, and protecting the people, with the rights and interests of the people as the fundamental starting point and goal. Only by adhering to the development of the dominant status of the people can we truly protect the enjoyment of all human rights.
91. Development should be inclusive. Development is the common cause of all human beings. It will enhance participation in development in an all-around way, and provide everyone with the opportunity to participate and share equal development. Leave no one behind, especially focusing on protecting women, children, the elderly, the disabled, and ethnic minorities. The rights of other disadvantaged groups enable them to actively and meaningfully participate in development and share human rights.
92. Coordinated development is the proper meaning of development. Therefore, it is necessary to make an interaction and balance between the rich and the poor, urban and rural areas, developed and underdeveloped regions, and economy and society, in order to promote harmonious development.
93. Economic development should receive more attention. Development is not equal to economic growth, but economic development plays a key role in consolidating and strengthening the material foundation on which human rights depend. In the multi-dimensional, multi-field comprehensive and sustainable development, economic development should occupy the first place.
94. Innovation and development are key to development. Innovation-based development is the driving force and engine that fully stimulates the role of development in promoting human rights. Special attention should be paid to promoting the fair sharing of scientific and technological development achievements on the basis of protecting intellectual property rights and encouraging scientific and technological innovation.
95. Innovation-driven development should maximize the role of the Internet, big data, cloud computing, blockchain and artificial intelligence technologies in sharing the benefits of development for the enjoyment of human rights.
96. Green development is the foundation of sustainable development. Climate change and environmental degradation severely restrict development, which in turn affects the realization of human rights, especially economic and social rights. The issue of climate justice is essentially a development issue and a human rights issue. We shall implement the strictest ecological environment protection system, and resolutely abandon the development model that

damages or even destroy the ecological environment, and the practice of sacrificing the ecological environment in exchange for a short period of economic growth, so that a good ecological environment becomes the growth engine of people's lives, the supporting foundation of sustainable and healthy economic and social development, and the driving force for the realization of ecological civilization. Based on these, the earth's sky will be bluer, mountains greener, water clearer and environment more beautiful.

97. Open development is the source of vitality for development. Globalization requires building a free market system that is open to the international community, so as to mutually advance development interests and ensure all people share the achievements of development. International development cooperation is an important way to promote human rights through development. Development should be open to the world rather than closed and isolated, and follow international legal rules, adhere to multilateralism, oppose unilateralism and conservatism. Adhering to the common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy, and freedom of humankind, optimizing and improving the global governance system, and building a community with a shared future for humanity are the fundamental requirements of promoting human rights through development.
98. Eradicating obstacles to development is a prerequisite for the protection of human rights. Economic crises, livelihood crises, debt crises, climate crises, natural disasters, diseases, wars and conflicts are not only a huge harm to development, but also a severe challenge to human rights, which will inevitably cause that development is hindered or even regressed and endanger the realization of human rights.
99. Development assistance is an effective way to realize human rights in developing countries. States should earnestly implement aid commitments, actively seek to expand the scope of assistance, update the means of assistance, strengthen the effectiveness of assistance, and assume the responsibility of assistance.
100. Focusing on the development of people who are undeveloped or underdeveloped is a top priority to promote their human rights. When exploring the issue of promoting human rights through development, the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries.
101. Eradicating poverty is the primary task of protecting human rights in the process of sustainable development. Poverty is the biggest enemy of the realization of human rights. Poverty not only deprives the right to subsistence and development, but also violates human dignity and prevents people from leading a decent life. Poverty is not only income and economic poverty, but also cultural poverty and human rights poverty. The root of poverty is underdevelopment or stagnation or even regression of development. The key to poverty reduction is to eradicate the root causes of poverty, and the fundamental way out of poverty reduction lies in development to ensure that the effects of poverty reduction are sustainable. Development is a

prerequisite for ensuring that the poor enjoy the right to be free from poverty. The international community and the governments of various countries should assume the main responsibility for poverty reduction and actively fulfil the poverty reduction goals set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

102. We need to share development and human rights in a global community of health for all. The COVID-19 is still spreading around the world, and it has a serious impact on the economy, society and people's livelihood of all countries. It has aggravated inequality, and the poor and vulnerable groups are hit hardest. In fighting the COVID-19, we should abide by the basic principles of the "Primacy of people and of life" and realize the combination of prevention and control in scientific, legal, cooperative, and inclusive manners, and rationally locate the relationship between the rights of life, health, freedom, and economic rights. The realization of freedom and economic rights cannot be done at the cost of infringement of the right to life and health. At the same time, compulsory isolation and prevention and control measures should be based on the respect for fundamental human rights. Meanwhile, we must adhere to international cooperation, resolutely oppose and overcome "vaccine nationalism", racial discrimination and xenophobia, and oppose spreading rumors and discrimination in the context of the epidemic. Epidemic discrimination is a serious violation of human rights. Moreover, the fundamental human rights principle of fairness and justice should receive more attention to ensure that everyone shares epidemic prevention and control facilities and medical conditions, and distribute vaccines fairly among all human beings. In particular, it is very important that providing necessary and reasonable vaccine shares for developing countries to prevent unfair vaccine distribution. Intensive international cooperation in epidemic prevention and control should be included in the international development cooperation system. It is crucial to focus on protecting people in underdeveloped countries and regions with fragile medical conditions, and sharing experience, technology and treatment of epidemic prevention and control.
103. In order to effectively respond to the global challenge of the COVID-19, States should deeply recognize and take effective measures to put the rights to life and health in the first place, strengthen solidarity and cooperation, work together to meet challenges, and jointly promote economic recovery and development.
104. In conclusion, it is necessary to further define the dialectical relationship between development and human rights, attach great importance to the unique contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights, and adopt a "development-based approach to human rights" to protect and enhance human rights. This is an innovation in relation to the "human rights-based approach to development". It is committed to better realize human rights by promoting development, so as to solve human rights issues from the origin.

B. Recommendations

1. At the international level

105. In the international community, the process of human rights mainstreaming incorporates the perspective of “promoting human rights through development”. It should enhance global governance capabilities in the field of development and human rights, further strengthen the relevance of the UN development system and the human rights system, and establish a special communication and collaboration mechanism to promote human rights through development, for example, a joint conference system that is composed of all the UN human rights mechanism and development mechanism, and regularly holds seminars.
106. Strengthening the human rights positioning in international development cooperation. United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other international organizations, civil society and other stakeholders should integrate “development-based approach to human rights” into their respective tasks.
107. Qualitative and quantitative assessment of the functioning of development for human rights. To be more specific, it is necessary to scientifically define the positive correlation between the different development conditions of various countries and the level of realization of human rights, establish the best relationship model between development and human rights, and explore the impact factors of development on human rights. When evaluating the human rights situation, it is necessary to fully consider the different development levels of countries, introduce common but differentiated principles and formulate realistic and objective evaluation standards and indicators based on them, and incorporate them into the UN Universal Periodic Review Mechanism for human rights.
108. Incorporating “the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights” into the tasks of the International Human Rights Treaty Bodies. The function of development in realizing human rights should be confirmed and strengthened at the level of international law.
109. Clarifying the proportion of the impact of development on human rights in the human rights evaluation and review system, and specifically evaluate the approaches, methods and effects of how to overcome negative impacts and expand positive ones.
110. Improving the human rights function of the UN development system and integrating the “development-based approach to human rights” into the UN development system. When formulating and evaluating development-related policies, measures and action plans, the UN development system should seek the advice of the Right to Development Section.
111. Strengthening and expanding the Expert Advisory Committee on the Right to Development, and extensively recruiting well-known experts, scholars and practitioners on the right to development around the world to collect different opinions. There should be more than one

expert per geographical region to ensure the Mechanism reflects a broader plurality of perspectives about development and the right to development.

112. Fully considering to integrate the idea, principle and approach of “the contribution of development to the enjoyment of human rights” into the drafting Convention on the Right to Development.
113. Speeding up the process of drafting an International Convention on the Right to Development. It is necessary to extensively mobilize civil society, and involve experts and scholars in development and human rights fields on a larger scale to participate in the drafting process, in order to formulate a convention that truly conforms to the original intent of the right to development and conforms to the Declaration on the Right to Development.
114. Considering to establish the UN Committee on the Right to Development at the appropriate time, similar to the existing Human Rights Treaty Bodies. Although there is no Convention on the Right to Development, the UN Charter, the two International Human Rights Covenants (ICESCR and ICCPR) and the Declaration on the Right to Development have provided basic international legal basis for the right to development. In addition, in an era when “peace and development” are always the two major themes of the world, the right to development has priority and urgency for many countries and peoples. Therefore, on the construction of the implementation mechanism of the right to development, it can no longer stay at the level of soft law, but should be continuously upgraded to the level of hard law.
115. Building and Strengthening a global coordination and guidance mechanism for the promotion of human rights through development. To achieve this, it should not be neglected to make full utilization of existing resources and platforms, such as the South-South Human Rights Forum and the Beijing Human Rights Forum, to create a more distinctive, inclusive and constructive mechanism.
116. Enhancing cooperation and coordination with existing human rights mechanisms set by various regional legal instruments, such as the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights, the American Convention on Human Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights, ASEAN Human Rights Declaration, in order to fully integrate the idea of promoting human rights through development into these mechanisms.
117. Reinforcing cooperation and exchanges with various regional international organizations, and encouraging them to incorporate the perspective of promoting human rights through development into their work.
118. Fully considering the path of promoting human rights through development in regional investment, trade, finance, and taxation partnerships.
119. Embedding the principle of development in existing mechanisms for the implementation of international law. It could be a new way to cooperate with existing international judicial and

arbitration mechanisms involving in the fields of investment and trade, and fully consider the principles of human rights in investment and commercial trials and arbitrations, especially the application of the principles of the right to development.

120. Enhancing capacity building. It requires integrating the idea of promoting human rights through development into the human rights capacity building agenda of the United Nations and other relevant international organizations and countries. The specific contents are as follows:

(a) Compiling and publishing a guide. OHCHR should take the lead in organizing relevant agencies and experts to compile “Development-based Approach to Human Rights: Concepts, Experiences, and Practices” as a practical guide for countries and the international community.

(b) Establishing the Global Institute for Research and Education on the Right to Development in the United Nations. The headquarters of the Institute could be located in the Right to Development Section in OHCHR, and its multiple branches could be established in different regions of the world. In different regions, authoritative institutions and universities with in-depth research on development and human rights could be selected as partners. They could be responsible for relevant research, education and training under the guidance of the United Nations.

(c) Building knowledge-sharing centres for promoting human rights through development. To be more specific, It could cooperate with countries, international organizations, academic institutions and civil society to integrate the scattered resources of countries or regions on a global scale, and extensively collect and summarize the best practice models, methods, measures and experiences of the international community, regions and countries in this area, build a network platform, develop big databases, make full use of various media and channels to provide experience sharing for all people, especially developing countries and disadvantaged groups.

(d) Focusing on protecting human rights of disadvantaged groups through development. Development-based human rights capacity building should be mainly targeted at vulnerable groups and marginalized persons, providing them with substantive technical, programmes and intellectual support.

121. Improving the international economic development environment. To further promote the construction of a new international economic order, and to promote the common openness of cooperation and co-governance. Unilateralism and protectionism should not be allowed to undermine the international order and international rules. Instead, the global economic governance system should be reformed in a constructive manner and the construction of an open world economy should be promoted. The international community should strengthen development cooperation in trade, investment, finance, technology transfer, etc., and explore effective concrete methods and strategies to overcome unilateralism, protectionism, and restore or optimize international mechanisms.

122. Optimizing global governance. It is very important for the international community to pursue the values of fairness, inclusiveness, and good governance, promote the modernization of the global governance system and governance capabilities, enhance the representation and voice of developing countries in the global governance system, and ensure that developing countries have sufficient representation and voice in the UN human rights and development mechanisms.
123. Further enhancing the effectiveness of development assistance. Development assistance itself helps to improve the human rights situation of recipient countries, it is thus necessary to ensure that such assistance is unconditional and fully covered, to establish a mechanism for the consolidation of aid achievements in the recipient countries, in order to prevent the people of the recipient countries from returning to fragile situation.
124. Ensuring the eradication of poverty and hunger on a global scale, establishing and improving relevant specific implementation mechanisms, mainly includes:
- (a) Establishing an anti-poverty global coordination and interaction mechanism, which includes: providing necessary assistance for the implementation and completion of the goals and tasks, in accordance with the goals and procedures set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in response to the requirements of relevant countries or regions.
 - (b) Establishing a global poverty reduction knowledge-sharing centre. It could make full use of print media and web media to conduct barrier-free exchanges on poverty alleviation models, paths, methods and best practices, and ensure that this information can be obtained and used by local decision-makers and benefit the poor.
 - (c) Establishing a mechanism to solidify the results of poverty reduction to prevent the return to poverty after being lifted out of poverty.
 - (d) Aiding for relevant countries to set up and implement poverty reduction assessment and supervision mechanisms.
125. Uniting countries around the world to fight against the COVID-19 and share the vaccine. We must adhere to the people-centred principle, strengthen solidarity and multilateral cooperation, fully respect all human rights, promote gender equality, and adopt multi-level, coordinated, inclusive and innovative global response measures. The main content is to further strengthen the effectiveness of the following aspects on the basis of the previous results:
- (a) Calling on governments of all countries to earnestly follow the supremacy of life and the people-centred principle, undertake the main responsibility to focus on safeguarding the right to life and health, and carry out strict quarantine measures during the critical period of pandemic. It is worth noting that limitation and derogation of some other rights except the right to life and health shall be provided by law and be proportionate to the purposes of avoidance of the emergent risk.

(b) Setting a platform to deepen international cooperation in epidemic prevention and control, Promote the international community to actively and effectively share anti-epidemic information, experiences and treatment techniques.

(c) Fulfilling the commitment to make vaccines a global public good and realizing the fair sharing of COVID-19 vaccines on a global scale. It is essential to strengthen cooperation in vaccines research and development, production and distribution, so that vaccines can truly become public goods that are affordable and accessible for people in all countries, especially in developing countries.

(d) Providing assistance to countries, especially developing countries, to improve their capacity to respond to public health emergencies, and to promote the construction of medical and health infrastructure in these countries.

(e) In the context of the epidemic, more attention should be paid to promote sustainable development and poverty reduction efforts should be increased to eradicate all forms of poverty, improve people's living standards and fully guarantee the human rights to food, education, housing and decent work. Meanwhile, international development cooperation should be promoted, so that people of all countries can share development opportunities and achievements.

(f) Establishing a global or regional dialogue and communication mechanism on the COVID-19 epidemic and human rights, facilitating mutual trust and interaction, eliminating discrimination and rumors, stimulating the spirit of solidarity and cooperation, and promoting the construction of a human health community. It is necessary to intensify efforts to fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and relevant intolerance, combat stigma, hate speech and violence, and build an equal and inclusive society.

(g) Promoting economic recovery. While the world is working together to fight against the COVID-19, it should actively promote economic recovery to ensure the enjoyment of fundamental human rights. In terms of funding, technology, programmes, and trade, more attention should be paid to help underdeveloped countries, vulnerable regions, and vulnerable groups to escape the shadow of the epidemic, speed up the resumption of work and production, and enhance economic resilience.

126. Promoting the sharing of intellectual property rights. Under the legal framework of the existing international intellectual property rights, the relationship between intellectual property protection and public interests should be further optimized, the boundaries of intellectual property rights should be reasonably defined, and the protection of public interests should be strengthened. The key point is to attach importance to compulsory licensing based on the public interest under the premise of protecting intellectual property rights. It is necessary to ensure that intellectual property rights are used in a direction that is beneficial to the protection of global public interests, especially in the fields that are highly related to human life and

health, such as medical research, food production and crop pest control, disaster prevention and remedy, and emergency avoidance.

127. Guaranteeing digital justice. In the era of the Internet, big data, and artificial intelligence, the international community should work together to advance the development of the digital economy and digital society, and create favorable conditions for eliminating the digital divide and enhancing the fair sharing of digital human rights among all human beings, which could be illustrated specifically from following aspects:

(a) Recognizing the concept of digital human rights and its significance for all human beings to enjoy the equal right to development.

(b) Providing necessary technology, knowledge assistance, capital, and programme support for countries and their people on the margins of the digital age and in a disadvantaged position, in order to prevent them from being left behind in the digital society. In particular, it is important to protect the rights of “dominant digital vulnerable groups” such as the elderly, the disabled, the people with low education levels, or in rural areas, ethnic minorities, and the poor.

(c) Paying more attention to protecting the rights of “recessive digital vulnerable groups” to ensure that countries at different levels of development have the capability to search, process, and use big data information as much as possible, and jointly share the development benefits in the era of the Internet, big data and artificial intelligence.

(d) Encouraging countries to share digital technology and promoting the fair and reasonable distribution of digital technology in the world, to prevent digital monopoly or digital hegemonism.

(e) Formulating and implementing an international guide on ethics for artificial intelligence, and guide countries to enact and enforce ethical and legal norms on artificial intelligence.

(f) Taking coordinated action by the international community to prevent digital monopoly or digital hegemonism.

128. Promoting climate justice. The healthy and rational development of climate protection is of great significance to the enjoyment of all human rights. As a result:

(a) Further exploring and improving the relationship among the goals set by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and the protection of human rights, and further regarding sustainable development as a necessary condition for the realization of human rights.

(b) Fully considering the elements of responsibility, capability and demand for achieving climate justice, adhering to the principle of common but differentiated implementation. When formulating emission reduction plans, it should seriously consider the economic development

stage, emission reduction technology and capabilities of different countries, in order to stimulate them to implement emission reduction actions.

(c) Giving priority to the satisfaction of basic needs and interests of the most vulnerable groups, and improving the benefits and sustainable development capabilities of developing countries and poor groups.

(d) At present, an urgent task of the international community is to jointly negotiate and determine the timetable and roadmap for peaking carbon emissions and achieving carbon-neutral.

(e) Taking effective measures to strengthen the relationship between the United Nations human rights mechanism, the climate environment and the development mechanism, in order to promote more coordinated actions among them.

2. At the national level

129. The state should promote the protection of human rights through development on the basis of the Constitution, laws, development policies, development plans, outlines, national human rights action plans, special plans, and specific measures. Specifically:

(a) Establishing a complete legal system to provide institutionalized and compulsory protection for promoting human rights through development.

(b) Implementing a people-centred national development strategy to promote the equal sharing of human rights for all.

(c) Through the formulation and implementation of long-term, mid-term, and short-term comprehensive national economic and social development outlines, human rights will be comprehensively and systematically realized and promoted.

(d) Formulating and implementing a national human rights action plan. It must pay more attention to solve the people's most concerned, direct and realistic interests, and ensure that all the members of society have the right to equal participation and development on the basis of promoting sound and rapid economic and social development.

(e) Formulating special action plans in economic, cultural, social and environmental aspects, and continuously strengthening the protection of various human rights in different fields and aspects.

(f) Building a strong and effective judicial remedy, legal aid mechanism for promoting human rights through development, especially to ensure that the poor, as well as women, children, the elderly, the disabled, and urban migrant workers, can access to justice.

130. The states have the responsibilities, obligations and rights to take a development-based approach to human rights to promote the development of human rights in accordance with the idea of promoting human rights through development. The macro-level strategic outlines carried out in this regard includes:

(a) In terms of strategy, taking development as the state's top priority and the primary goal of governance, and resolutely using development as a method to solve all human rights issues arising and existing in development.

(b) In terms of principle, achieving people-oriented development, integrating development with people's well-being, and making development benefits more equitable to all people.

(c) In terms of content, adhering to the five-sphere integrated development strategy of economic, political, social, cultural and eco-environmental fields, rather than a single economic growth strategy, and comprehensively promoting economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights.

(d) In terms of value, adhering to the five new development visions of innovation, coordination, green, openness, and sharing. It is important to use scientific and technological innovations as the engine of development to build an opening development pattern based on multilateralism, continuously improve the quality of development, and eliminate the gap between regions of different development levels, between the rich and the poor, and between urban and rural areas, and thus provide scientific guidance for the realization of the right to development.

(e) In terms of protection, establishing a social justice system with fair opportunities, fair rules and fair rights based on the core of "equality of opportunity for development".

(f) In terms of focus, supporting the view that developing countries regard the right to subsistence and development as their top priority and fundamental human rights. Through the means of effectively coordinating the conflict of interests between different subjects in the development process and eliminating the unbalanced, uncoordinated, and unsustainable issues of development, to solve the prominent problems in poverty reduction, food, medicine and health, housing, employment, education, income distribution, and social security that are most concerned by the people, fully guarantee continuous progress in child care, education, employment, medical services, elderly care, housing, and social welfare assistance, and finally ensure that all people have a greater sense of enjoying human rights in the development process of joint participation and distribution.

(g) In terms of method, pursuing good governance of good law, and strengthening the legal protection of human rights. It should follow the basic principles of transparency, fairness, accountability, equality, and non-discrimination, comprehensively advance the rule of law and effectively improve the modernization of the national governance system and governance capacities, and be based on the rule of law principle and methods, deepen reforms, promote development, resolve contradictions, maintain stability, and promote human rights.

131. Encouraging countries to incorporate digital economy development technologies into their human rights strategies, clarifying the human rights-based approach to digital economy development and digital-based approach to human rights, and adding vitality into human rights protection through digital technology innovation. For this purpose, a feasible solution is to alleviate the digital divide, realize digital justice, and make everyone become a participant, promoter, and beneficiary of the digital economy and thereby promote human rights. The government and society, especially information and smart technology companies, should actively fulfil their obligations to respect, protect and realize digital human rights, pay more attention to protect the rights and freedoms of citizens (users) in privacy, data, information, expression, and personal dignity in the digital life.
132. Protecting human rights in the development of inclusive finance. It involves further providing more financial support for small, medium and micro-enterprises and individual entrepreneurs, and more preferential financial assistance to poor areas and disadvantaged groups.
133. Optimizing the business environment to better protect the development of industrial and commercial enterprises. It is necessary to create a good legal and policy environment for economic development, protect the legitimate interests of entrepreneurs and economic organizations, especially the private economy, and adopt incentive measures to stimulate economic development, so as to promote human rights through development. At the same time, it is also necessary to actively create a loose and orderly investment environment, loosen foreign investment access, build free trade zones, strengthen property rights protection, promote fair competition, and establish a more transparent, more standardized, and free market system.
134. Strengthening social responsibility of corporates (CSR), especially their overseas social responsibility. It requires encouraging multinational companies to compile and release their social responsibility reports, and regarding the company's overseas investment and trade to promote the socio-economic development and human rights protection situations of the host country as an important test standard.
135. Respecting the right to development of all countries, respecting the development approaches and models independently chosen by all countries, adhering to multilateralism, opposing unilateralism, hegemonism, and power politics, opposing various forms of terrorism and extreme violence, maintaining fairness, justice, peace and safety, and creating a world that is more inclusive, balanced, sustainable, just and beneficial to all.