

25th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development

Panel discussion

Theme: The interrelationship between the right to development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Concept note (as of 01 May 2024)

- Date and venue:** Wednesday, 15 May 2024, 10 a.m. to 13 p.m. (UTC+2)
Room XX, Palais des Nations, Geneva
- Objectives:** The objectives of this panel are:
- To discuss the interrelationship between the right to development and economic, social and cultural rights,
 - To elucidate the historical and theoretical underpinnings of the relationship between the right to development and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,
 - to discuss practical strategies for integrating the principles of the right to development into the monitoring and enforcement mechanisms of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
- Chair:** H.E. Mr. Zamir Akram, Chair of the Working Group on the Right to Development
- Panellists:**
- Ms. Isabelle Durant, Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development
 - Mr. Surya Deva, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development, speaking on the “Relevance of the right to development in realising economic, social and cultural rights”
 - Mr. Michael Windfuhr, Member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
 - Mr. Wang Xigen, Professor of Law, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, speaking on “The normative identity and practical path of the right to development and ICESCR”
- Outcome:** The anticipated outcomes of this discussion include:
- Enhanced understanding of the interrelationship between the right to development and economic, social, and cultural rights,
 - Identification of practical measures for mainstreaming the right to development into policymaking and implementation processes,
 - Recommendations for strengthening the monitoring and enforcement mechanisms of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to better promote the right to development,
- Format:** The panel discussion will be limited to three hours. The presentations by the panellists will be followed by an interactive discussion and conclusions from the panellists. States or observers, national human rights institution and non-governmental organizations will have the opportunity to raise issues and to ask panellists questions.
- Background documents:**
- [1986 Declaration on the Right to Development](#)
 - [1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action](#)
 - [1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](#)