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

Written statement* submitted by Maarij Foundation for Peace and Development (MFPD), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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

[15 August 2012]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

The implications of international conventions and national laws, religions and beliefs

The agreements after ratification becomes legally binding for States to the implementation of its provisions, they serve as an international law according to which States parties have signed the Convention is committed to amend the laws and legislation at all levels.

It is known that many of these agreements violate religious, beliefs and customs of many countries and therefore violates the Charter of the United Nations which calls to take religions and beliefs of the States into consideration when drafting these agreements which justifies the reluctance of many states to sign a number of conventions dealing with a number of topics and issues of great importance not only to lack of desire for cooperation and harmony with the international community, but because the accession to these agreements in its current form was meant for many people the demolition of the values and beliefs and religions of these countries.

To find a appropriate way to reconcile the harmony with all the agreements approved by the international community and to achieve privacy and respect for religions and beliefs of peoples Maarj Foundation for peace and development was participated within the National Group for Human Rights - which includes a wide range of Sudanese NGOs & CSOs - in the discussion on the Sudan's UPR recommendation workshop. A considerable number of recommendations urges that Sudan to ratify several international conventions.

We would like to refer to the most important issues addressed by one of the most controversial conventions «Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) », and it's repercussions on the religions and beliefs of peoples and national laws.

The Convention calls for a comprehensive manner to the absolute equality between women and men in all fields: political, economic, cultural, civil, both in the roles, rights or legislation. any difference in these roles or legislation between men and women mean «discriminate against women Discrimination Against Women», and this is false and misleading use of in the eyes of many peoples.

For example, while the Islamic law recognizing that the differences are clear and true between men and women in the roles and functions of life, the fungal differences are important for the reconstruction of the universe, and the continuation of humanity, such as: the role of motherhood, raising children, and in return man's commitment to responsible stewardship in the family, and it imposed the duties, such as, protection, care, consultation, and others. All these differences in the underpin roles the differences in legislation, such as: inheritance, polygamy, marriage, divorce, guardianship of the girl in marriage, and other legislation that preserve family stability, community security and stability, and considered by the Convention as a (discrimination) against women.

Arab and Islamic countries reservations focused on the Article : (2) prohibition of discrimination in the constitutions and legislation, and Article (7) political life, and Article (9) laws granting citizenship to women, and Article (15) equality between men and women in the legal capacity and the laws of travel and accommodation, and Article (16) the laws relating to marriage and family, and Article (29) the lifting of the dispute concerning the interpretation of the Convention between the States Parties to the International Court of Justice. And the starting point of the reservation is opposed to those items and clear contradiction and honest with Islamic law, and with the national constitutions of the States.

The workshop recommended that competent listed above with the following:

- First: the formation of civil society organizations mechanism and the competent organs to consider the issue of international conventions that have not ratified by Sudan.
 - Second: activation of the international ratified conventions but not activated.
 - Third: work to pay the competent authorities to raise their periodic reports in the international agreements reporting time.
 - Fourth: monitoring the progress of implementation of international agreements by the NGOs and CSOs.
 - Fifth: The coordination between the national NGOs and CSOs during the periodic meetings of the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review of the States.
 - Sixth: urges State to sign and ratify the agreements that have not ratified it with the reservation to what contrary with the values and beliefs and religions of the people.
 - Seventh: NGOs and CSOs have to follow up the implementation of the UPR recommendations to ensure the implementation of all accepted recommendations.
 - Eighth: National NGOs and CSOs have to seek to include the new constitution, all agreements, covenants, covenants world for the formulation and promotion of human rights.
 - Ninth: the right to institute legal reforms in some of the laws such as press and publications to ensure freedom of opinion, publishing and receiving information.
 - Tenth: to facilitate the flow of information and flexible access take into account the public interest and preserve the rights of individuals and institutions privacy.
 - Eleventh: The debate on the constitution as a social contract and the Basic Law, which regulates relations between the State and the people.
 - Twelfth: The dissemination of legislative development that has been in the laws of the Children Rights 2010, which exceeded the faithful rights stipulated in international agreements for the Rights of the Child and the protocols thereto.
 - Twelfth: set the development goals, especially: Education, health, poverty and child and maternity care as a fundamental goal sought by civil society organizations, government, and provide the financial and technical support to civil society organizations in Sudan to achieve these goals.
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