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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 National Association of Vocational Education of China, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

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

[19 August 2021]

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



Building a Path for the Right to Development through Vocational Education

National Association of Vocational Education of China was founded in Shanghai on May 6th, 1917 by Mr. Huang Yanpei, a famous Chinese educator and industrialist together with personages from the fields of education and industry. At the beginning of its foundation, the Association aimed at advocating, studying and promoting vocational education, as well as reforming the traditional education which was separated from productive labor and social life. It put forward that the purpose of vocational education is “Enabling the unemployed get a job, the employed enjoy his job”. Therefore, it made unremitting efforts and became the pioneer of the reform in the history of modern Chinese education.

Over 100 years, National Association of Vocational Education of China has been focusing on playing his role to its fullest as a bridge between policy-makers, such as governments, and vocational education practitioners, such as vocational schools. The Association has been paying full attention to hot and difficult issues in the field of education, organize experts to conduct extensive research, make suggestions to government bodies in the form of writing proposals and research reports, reflect the voice and demands of vocational education and private education circles, vigorously advocate and implement educational poverty alleviation projects, extensively contact with vocational education institutions and representatives at home and abroad, and promote friendly exchanges and cooperation.

In the last two decades, our Association has provided non-profit vocational education and training programs to 14.86 million urban and rural vulnerable groups, such as the unemployed in cities, the rural labor force and the disabled, and helped more than 4.23 million people to obtain employment, offered financial aid for more than 1 million poor students by raising funds; we have developed training projects for migrant workers from countryside and surplus urban labor force in more than 900 counties, promoting industrial restructuring in rural areas, and helping farmers get rich and increase their incomes; more than 20,000 village cadres and cooperative leaders have got rid of their thoughts of being poverty and become leaders in leading neighbors to live well-off life by organizing vocational trainings for leaders of new rural construction program in eight provinces (cities) including Henan, Hunan and Gansu; we have coordinated 33 vocational schools in 14 provinces (cities) and 17 vocational schools in Bijie City to jointly run schools, enrolling 14,700 students, under the goal of “changing the fate of one person, increasing the income of one family and affecting one village”, and promoted the rapid development of poverty-stricken areas through the training of technical skills and talents.

The long-term accumulated work experience shows that vocational education is the important fundamental condition to ensure individual survival and development rights and extend to achieve individual value. Therefore, we urge all governments of different countries to take all necessary measures to widely carry out vocational education, provide free vocational education opportunities for poverty groups, and ensure that individuals have the possible path to realize their rights to personal development by cultivating vocational skills; all governments should take effective measures to provide equal and full development opportunities for all people who have engaged in traditional vocations or practitioners of traditional occupations from different nationalities, and fully respect traditional Chinese medicine and traditional techniques of various countries; governments should encourage and support all kinds of vocational education organizations to carry out their business, and fully recognize the role of vocational education institutions in promoting the right to development.
