



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
27 August 2021

English only

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## Human Rights Council

### Forty-eighth session

13 September–1 October 2021

Agenda item 3

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

**Joint written statement\* submitted by China NGO Network  
for International Exchanges (CNIE), a non-governmental  
organization in general consultative status, Beijing Children's  
Legal Aid and Research Center, Beijing Guangming Charity  
Foundation, Beijing NGO Association for International  
Exchanges, China Association for NGO Cooperation, China  
Family Planning Association, China Foundation for Poverty  
Alleviation, China Soong Ching Ling Foundation, Chinese  
Association for International Understanding, Chunhui  
Children's Foundation, YouChange China Social  
Entrepreneur Foundation, non-governmental organizations  
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.

[21 August 2021]

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



## **NGOs Can Play a Significant Role in Advancing the right to Development**

The right to development is the right of individuals, nations and countries to actively, freely and meaningfully participate in the development of politics, economy, society and culture, and to equally enjoy the benefits of development. United Nations attaches great importance to the right to development. In 1986, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Right to Development, establishing the right to development as a human right; In 2017 and 2019, the United Nations Human Rights Council passed the resolution "Contribution of Development to the Enjoyment of All Human Rights" submitted by China.

As the largest developing country in the world, China attaches great importance to safeguarding and promoting the right to development. I would like to share with you three congratulatory letters sent by General Secretary Xi Jinping. On September 16, 2015, in a congratulatory letter to the 2015 Beijing Forum on Human Rights, President Xi Jinping said that there is always room to improve human rights protection. The international community should pay particular attention to the rights to subsistence and development of people in developing countries. For a long time, China upholds a people-centered concept on human rights, respects the right to survival and development as the first basic human rights, and promote the all-round development of human beings.

At present, the right to development of people of all countries, developing countries in particular, is facing serious challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic is still spreading around the world and has a serious impact on the economy, society and people's livelihood of all countries. The global process of poverty reduction and sustainable development has taken a heavy hit. In order to maximize their own interests, the United States of America and a few Western countries have resorted to unilateralism and hegemony, seriously infringed on the right to development of all peoples, and endangered the common interests of mankind. Facts have repeatedly proved that in the name of human rights, the United States and a small number of Western countries interfere with the internal affairs of other countries with the purpose of suppressing and containing their development, hindering their development process and depriving their people of their right to development.

NGOs, as an important force in global human rights governance, can contribute to protecting the right to development. In the process of fighting COVID 19, some NGOs have made donations of medical necessities, built basic infrastructure, dispatched volunteers and hosted on-line experience-sharing events to shoulder their responsibilities in the prevention and control of the epidemic. China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), has launched the Joint Action in Building a Belt and Road Community to encourage Chinese NGOs and enterprises to provide assistance to countries in need, mobilized more than 60 NGOs and enterprises to carry out more than 100 international cooperation projects in more than 60 countries, and the Silk Road NGO Cooperation Network and its member organizations have held more than 160 online experience sharing events. The civil society of all countries has joined hands to win the global fight against the epidemic.

To better safeguard the right to development, NGOs can focus our work on the following aspects: First, to actively advocate the common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom for all mankind, and firmly oppose unilateralism and hegemonism, as well as the despicable acts of some countries that infringe upon other countries' right to development in the name of safeguarding so-called democracy and human rights. Second, to push the government to safeguard people's right to life and the right to health, allocate due resources in the fight against COVID 19 outbreak and restoring economic and social vitality, instead of using limited resources to smear others, shift responsibility and politicize virus tracing. Third, to promote sustainable development and international solidarity, step up poverty reduction, improve people's living standards, fully safeguard human rights such as the right to food, education, housing and decent work, strengthening efforts in protecting the environment and biodiversity to ensure peaceful coexistence between human beings and the nature, so that people of all countries can share the opportunities and benefits of development. Fourth, to provide necessary social services to vulnerable and marginalized groups to help them overcome the adverse effects of the

epidemic, make concerted efforts to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, and to build an equal and inclusive society.

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International Network on Small Hydro Pow, Secretariat of World Historic and Cultural Canal Cities Cooperation Organization , College of International Development and Global Agriculture ,China Agricultural University, Chinese Medical Association, China Association For Friendship, China huaxia cultural heritage foundation, China Asian Economic Development Association, Peaceland Foundation, Gansu NGO Network for International Exchanges, Gansu UNESCO Association, Sichuan NGO Network for International Exchanges, Chongqing Renewable Energy Society, Zhejiang Rescue Team of Ramunion, China Environmental Protection Foundation, Human Rights for Latin America,International Association for Human Rights and Social Development (AIDHDES), Peace Committee of Armenia, The SIRONET Armenia NGO, International Foundation for Nature Care,Nepal, Tanzania China friendship promotion association, The Chinese Youth Federation of Europe, Somalia-China Business Council, Cambodia Development Center, China-Myanmar Corridor Development Co-operated Organization, Belgrade Forum for a Eorld of Equals, NGO(s) without consultative status, also share the views expressed in this statement.