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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 Chunhui Children's Foundation, 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.

[7 February 2022]

* Issued as received, in the language of submission only. The views expressed in the present document do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials.



Chunhui Children's Foundation---Chunhui Village Program

The Chinese government puts rural rejuvenation and education for disadvantaged children on top of its agenda. In 2021, it issued the Suggestions on Consolidating Achievements of Rural Education and Driving Rural Revitalization, specifying the need to further promote education, poverty alleviation, and development of rural areas. The Suggestions requires that systems need be set up to aid children of poor rural families.

In recent years, Chunhui Children's Foundation has been running a village program for left-behind children and at-risk children in Henan and Guizhou provinces. The program partners with local governments to set up three-level (county-township-village) minors protection systems. In local rural communities and resettlement areas, program supervisors provide such Chunhui-inspired services as policy popularization, policy consulting, rights advocacy, emotional support, developmentally appropriate experiences, academic mentoring community engagement activities, interest-development classes, and risks prevention. The ultimate goal is to create a nurturing environment and promote the children's physical, language, cognitive and social-emotional development.

The program has been operated in Henan and Guizhou provinces.

Until now, it has been run in 57 villages of Henan Province, serving a total of 22000 children and impacting 350,000. It also set up two county-level early learning and training centers in the province which have trained 560 local women into child care mentors.

On March 26, 2021, Chunhui Village Program---Pilot Services for the Minors---was launched in Jiangkou and Yanhe counties, Tongren City of Guizhou Province. It targets children living in communities, de facto unattended children and at-risk children. As of now, the pilot program has facilitated 70 group activities, 4 large-scale events and 420 home visits in four resettlement areas.

In Oct 2021, ten new village sites were set up in Yanhe County of Tongren City.

The four-year program evaluation completed by China Development and Research Foundation shows that the children have made strides in physical and social-emotional development, and improved in problem-solving, learning, writing and language skills. The change of child care models have contributed to the children's all-round development as well. 84% of the caregivers have used what they learned from the training into their work with the children. The caregivers' child care skills progressed, and the program children have easier access to toys, learning materials and emotional support than the non-program controlled group of children.

Chunhui Village Program has three strengths. Responsive care & education replaced conventional child care models. The program is rooted in rural communities and confronts tough problems head on. Training is provided for grass-root child welfare officials, local resources is pooled, and local teachers are cultivated to help the government reach underprivileged children in the most "out-of-the-way" areas.

In 2022, Chunhui Children will continue to partner with the local governments and operate its village programs in 4 resettlement areas and 15 villages of Guizhou.
