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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.

[10 August 2022]

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



Chunhui Children's Foundation ——(Beijing) Tongzhou At-risk Child Protection Program

The Chinese government and the Communist Party of China have always put care and protection for rural vulnerable children at the top of their agenda. The State Council's (2014—2020) Plan for the Development of Children in Impoverished Areas of China, the Suggestions on Strengthening Care and Protection for Rural Left-behind Children, the (2018—2022) Rural Revitalization Plan, and the National Development and Reform Commission's Suggestions on Building Child-friendly Cities all made it clear that we need perfect social service systems to better care for rural orphaned children, left-behind children, at-risk children, and de facto unattended children.

The UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding.

In China, among the 270 million minors, there are about 6.89 million at-risk children, 6.476 million left-behind children, 253,000 de facto unattended children, 134,000 community-based orphaned children and 54,000 institutional orphaned children. In Tongzhou District of Beijing alone, there are around 1,100 at-risk children. As surveys show, of the 1,100 children, 28% have special needs, 26% have parents with special needs, 5% are disabled themselves and have parents disabled as well, and the rest 41% live in very-low-income families. Because of their special needs, family economic struggles, lack of proper care, these children face a wide array of physical, psychological, emotional and schooling problems.

To help these disadvantaged children, Chunhui Children's Foundation ("Chunhui Children" for short) launched the At-risk Child Protection Program in Tongzhou District. As Secretary-general Liu Shan said, based on the plight of at-risk children and in line with China's national policies, Chunhui Children has expanded its programs from welfare institutions to impoverished areas inhabited by at-risk children. As the Tongzhou Program plans, Chunhui Children will lead nine social organizations in bringing into Tongzhou "funding support + professional guidance". It will also work together with Tongzhou Civil Affairs Administrations and Tongzhou Social Welfare Institution to create community/neighborhood-based child centers, and to train child directors, child supervisors and child social workers across the district into child care and protection professionals. Following "child-centered" work philosophy, these professionals will work with the 1,100 at-risk children through guardianship risk evaluation, home visits and case follow-up. Enriching child development services including family education, psychological counseling, academic mentoring, personality and skills development will be delivered so as to build up the children's resilience and create a tolerant, harmonious and loving community environment the children need to thrive.

Chunhui Children will draw on its professionalism and 20 years' child care and education experience to serve the at-risk children. It strives to create an at-risk child protection model and duplicate it across China.
