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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 Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, 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.

[18 August 2022]

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



Violation of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

We welcome the presentation and report by Independent Expert on Foreign Debt and other related international obligations. In his concluding remarks he draws our attention to the government policies which exacerbate vicious circle of poverty and debt. We appreciate these remarks more as we experience them in action when we come to India. As per Sustainable Development Goals Index 2020-2021, India's average performance is as low as 50% in case of goal one, reduction in poverty and 35% in case of goal two which is reduction in hunger. And how does the government intend to improve these standings? By introducing privatization in every field. By selling profit making public entities like life Insurance Corporation, by reducing funds for social policies and so on. It is exactly the way your report mentions, exacerbation of vicious circle of poverty and debt. But in addition to all this we find one more striking phenomenon which needs urgent attention and that is the fear factor induced by controversial unconstitutional legislative changes. Stemming from majoritarian fundamentalist politics these legislative changes induce fear in minds of indigenous peoples, scheduled castes and religious minorities pushing them towards heights of personal indebtedness. This is leading to a massive violation of economic, social and cultural rights. We request this council and an independent expert to consider this phenomenon and also advise Indian government to address this issue at priority.
