



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
11 March 2024

English only

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-fourth session

11 September–13 October 2023

Agenda item 3

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

### **Written statement\* submitted by China Society for Human Rights Studies (CSHRS), 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.

[23 August 2023]

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



## **China Successfully Guarantees the Right to Work and Employment for All Ethnic Groups in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China**

Work creates the means of human existence and is the first need of human beings for survival and development. As an important basic human right, the right to work has become a priority area of protection for countries around the world. The report of the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) clearly pointed out that “Employment is the most basic component of people’s well-being”. The Chinese government has always adhered to the people-centered development philosophy, and has taken various measures to promote work and employment for people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, by improving laws and regulations and optimizing work mechanisms.

China has improved the system of laws and regulations to safeguard the right to work of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China. As a founding member and permanent member of the International Labor Organization (ILO), China has applied international labor and human rights standards. As China’s fundamental law, the Constitution of China grants citizens the right and duty to work. Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, strictly follows the relevant laws and regulations of the State and, taking into account local realities, has formulated and implemented a series of local laws and regulations, such as the Measures for the Implementation of the National Employment in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, the Measures for the Implementation of the National Regulations on Labor and Social Security Supervision in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, the Regulations on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Employees and Workers of the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, and the Measures for the Implementation of the Law of China on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Women in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China. These local laws and regulations have provided a solid foundation under the rule of law for the equal enjoyment of the right to work and employment by all ethnic groups.

Implementing policies to promote employment and realize long-term employment for all ethnic groups in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China. The Chinese Government has formulated and implemented economic and social development strategies conducive to expanding employment, and has given full play to the State’s mechanism of counterpart assistance to Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, creating favorable conditions for the employment of people of all ethnic groups. Against the backdrop of giving priority to employment, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, has optimized and adjusted its industrial structure, vigorously developing labour-intensive industries, continuously expanding employment capacity, and striving to provide more jobs for workers. At the same time, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, implements employment poverty alleviation planning, precisely helping key groups such as people with employment difficulties and zero-employment families to achieve stable employment; implements entrepreneurship support policies, boosting employment by easing the tax burden on enterprises and providing subsidies for business start-ups; and improves the system of vocational education and training, constantly upgrading the skills of workers in order to promote employment.

Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, is committed to respecting the employment initiative of individuals and creating a favorable environment for all ethnic groups in the region. Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, has formulated employment policies and provided employment services on the premise of fully respecting the individual choices of workers of all ethnic groups. The region has established a sound system of statistical indicators of employment and unemployment, and regularly conducts surveys on the willingness to work in order to keep track of the actual needs of workers. The local government also plays the role of an intermediary, realizing two-way choices between employers and workers by setting up an employment information platform.

In 2021, a team from the Institute of Communication and Border Governance at Jinan University, on the basis of their preliminary field visits to five enterprises employing ethnic minority workers from Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, in Guangdong Province, as well as interviews with 70 ethnic minority workers from Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, including Uyghurs, Kazakhs, and other ethnic minorities, released a report titled “‘Forced labor’ or ‘pursuit of a better life’? An investigation of Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, minority workers’ employment in Guangdong, China”. The report concludes that minority workers from Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, chose to work outside Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, on a voluntary basis and that the enterprises employing them protected their labor rights and interests and respected their customs and habits, languages, and religious beliefs.

With the implementation of various employment policies by the Chinese government to benefit the people, ethnic groups in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, have had a greater sense of gain, happiness and security. According to the white paper “Employment and Labor Rights in Xinjiang” released by the State Council Information Office of China in 2020, the total number of people in employment in Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, increased from 11.35 million to 13.3 million from 2014 to 2019, an increase of 17.2 percent, and the per capita disposable income of urban residents increased from RMB 23,200 to RMB 34,700, with an average annual nominal growth rate of 8.6 percent. The per capita disposable income of rural residents increased from RMB 8,724 to RMB 13,100, with an average annual nominal growth rate of 8.9%. By 2020, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region (UAR), China, has ended absolute poverty and become a well-off society in all respects.

People make a living through work and regard work as an important way to reflect their self-worth. Workers should be free from discrimination and restrictions based on differences in ethnicity, place of origin, gender, or religious beliefs. According to the 11th edition of the ILO Monitor on the World of Work, recently released by the ILO, the number of unemployed people worldwide is projected to be 191 million in 2023, and that such a large number of unemployed people will have serious social and economic impacts. In response, the Chinese government has called for greater joint efforts by all countries in the world to promote decent employment and improve people’s well-being.

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