



Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines
to the United Nations and other International
Organizations, Geneva

NV-EPG-183-2021

Subject: NV Philippines Written contributions – General Comment on Land and ICESCR

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and, with reference to the Committee's Note Verbale No. CESCR/2021/1 dated 27 April 2021, has the honor to convey the contribution from the Philippine Government on the draft General Comment No. 26 (2021) on Land and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as follows:

- The Philippines has no objection to the adoption of the draft General Comment as it mentions the need to protect the rights of women, indigenous peoples, fisherfolk, pastoralists, and landless rural people.
- The draft should include a paragraph on protecting the land rights of older people, in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing that older people have the right to a life of dignity in old age, free from all forms of abuse, which, if left unaddressed, could lead to poverty, hunger, homelessness, compromised health and well-being, and premature mortality.
- The draft is viewed as an opportunity for the CESCR to promote the implementation by States of the Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) and recommends including a paragraph on the application of HRBA principles and standards relative to the protection of land rights.

The Philippines notes that the purpose of the draft General Comment is to clarify the specific obligations of States parties relating to land and the governance of tenure of land under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

The Philippines consents to having its contribution published on to the OHCHR's website.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights – The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 27 July 2021

OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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