



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
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Excellency,

At the outset, allow me to congratulate you on your election as the President of UNCTAD XIII and to welcome the convening of this conference. I applaud its focus on *Development-Centred Globalization: Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Growth and Development*.

My key message on the occasion of UNCTAD XIII is that human rights, including the right to development, can help fortify and reinforce the theme of development-centred globalization. I hope that Member States will pay heed to this call in their deliberations.

Firstly, the process of development itself must be unlocked from the confines of an overly narrow focus on economic growth. The global economic, financial and climate crises have revealed that to reach truly inclusive and sustainable growth, we must also ensure a human face to both development and globalization. Human rights can guide our collective responses to contemporary challenges, including globalization and the global crises, which have emerged in recent years.

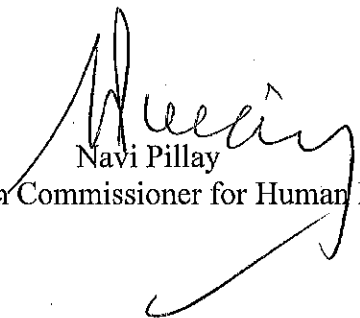
Secondly, we are all bound by the objectives enshrined in the UN Charter, namely peace and security, human rights and development. The theme of UNCTAD XIII resonates with my own mission to make all human rights a reality for all. Genuine transformation will grow from an integrated approach premised on universally agreed principles and norms. Shared responsibilities, human rights-based policy coherence and systemic integration, in my view, can further strengthen the global partnership for development.

Thirdly, the human rights framework, in particular, the 1986 UN Declaration on the Right to Development, presents a development paradigm aimed at the improved well-being of all people, including through free, active and meaningful participation in development; equitable distribution of the benefits of development locally and globally; and promoting an equitable international order in which all human rights can be realized. Development will be inclusive and sustainable only when those who tend to be excluded have full participation in development. We must give a voice and allow for policy space for the concerns of poor, vulnerable and marginalized individuals and groups.

H.E. Mr. Hamad bin Abdulaziz Al-Kuwari
President of UNCTAD XIII
Doha, Qatar

The will of the people which ignited the Arab Spring and the resounding calls for change around the world indicate that persons everywhere cherish their human dignity, and all aspire to freedom from want and from fear. I hope that, under your leadership, those aspirations will find a hearing in the noble endeavours of UNCTAD XIII for the advancement of development-centred globalization. I wish you every success in your deliberations and a very fruitful outcome.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Navi Pillay
High Commissioner for Human Rights