**28th Session of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**

***Item 3(d).* Impact of new technologies for climate protection**

**9 August 2022**

Thank you, Madam Chair,

All human beings depend on the environment in which we live. Therefore, a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment is integral to the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights, including our right to life, health, food, water and sanitation. Without addressing the climate change, we would be unable to fulfil our aspirations. In other words, we would be unable to access even the most fundamental standards that are synonymous with human dignity.

In the context of impact of new technologies for climate protection, we have a problem with the chosen definition, as deliberate large-scale intervention in the Earth's natural systems to counteract climate change such as Solar Radiation Management (SRM) and technologies for Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) in fact manipulate rather than protect our global climate system. We would therefore suggest to use the term ‘geo-engineering” while referring to those methods. At the same time, other new technologies can genuinely contribute to the climate such as the use of remote working can offer a possibility to reduce emissions from transport and office buildings. energy labelling scheme or adopting a vegan diet.

Most civilizations, religions, cultures and belief systems have concepts, positions or views on how we as humans interact with the environment and how we can solve the global environmental crisis. New technologies can be integrated into these. We have seen successful methods used by our affiliates in India and South Africa. Both maintain the fundamental concepts and practices of their particular traditional systems and intelligently integrate new technologies to strengthen them. Whatever technologies are developed they must, in all climate change related actions, fully respect human rights. The views from all parties should be taken into account with a special attention of concerns raised by indigenous people, small-holder farmers and other vulnerable groups across the globe.

Thank you.