

OHCHR activities on the promotion and realization of the right to development

(This update covering the period from 1 June 2022 to 31 May 2023 compliments the annual consolidated report of the Secretary-General and High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to development – (A/HRC/54/38))

In implementing its mandate to promote the realization of the right to development, OHCHR is guided by the Declaration on the Right to Development, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, and conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group on the Right to Development.

A. Support for human rights mechanisms

1. Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development

1. OHCHR supported the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development in implementing his mandate to prepare a second revised text of the draft convention on the right to development. The text was submitted to the twenty-fourth session of the Working Group¹ which was held from 15-19 May 2023.² During the session the Working Group held interactive dialogues with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, and considered comments and textual suggestions on the draft convention on the right to development. OHCHR supported the Chair-Rapporteur by convening a meeting with the experts drafting group to finalize the text of the draft convention on the right to development for submission to the Human Rights Council at its 54th session.

2. Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

2. The Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (EMRTD) held its sixth and seventh sessions in October 2022 in Geneva and in April 2023 in New York respectively. The EMRTD presented an annual report³ to the 51st session of the Human Rights Council and to the 77th session of the UN General Assembly. The EMRTD also presented its second thematic study on “Racism, racial discrimination and the right to development”⁴ at the 51st session of the HRC.

3. During its sixth session,⁵ the EMRTD held an interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP). They discussed the linkages between the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Declaration on the Right to Development. They stressed the fundamental role of the right to development in realizing indigenous peoples’ rights and highlighted that the implementation of the two Declarations required constant and active awareness of indigenous peoples’ context. The EMRTD also held an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development discussing challenges to the implementation of the right to development and ways to improve future cooperation. The EMRTD also discussed the right to development in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) highlighting obstacles and challenges derived from the global multifaceted crisis and LDCs’ structural impediments to sustainable development, which include the lack of national resources and capacities, climate vulnerability, debt distress, limited export market access, lack of food, health and energy security.

¹ Human Rights Council resolution 51/7.

² 24th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development | OHCHR

³ A/HRC/51/36

⁴ A/HRC/51/37

⁵ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2022/sixth-session-expert-mechanism-right-development>

4. At its seventh session,⁶ the EMRTD adopted three studies on ‘Inequality, social protection and the right to development’, ‘The right to development in international investment law’, and ‘The duty to cooperate and non-State actors.’ It held interactive dialogues on the right to development approach to five themes of current international interest: i) the new agenda for peace, ii) moving beyond GDP as a measure for progress and cooperation, iii) the reform of the international financial architecture, iv) the rights of future generations, and v) youth participation.

5. On 20 September 2022, the Expert Mechanism held a capacity-building workshop with civil society organizations on the right to development, its principles and elements.⁷ The EMRTD also carried out three study visits to New York (July 2022), Egypt (November 2022) and the Kingdom of Lesotho (January 2023).

3. Special Rapporteur on the right to development

6. On 12 July 2022, the Special Rapporteur on the right to development Mr. Saad Alfarargi participated as speaker in a session entitled: ‘Vision of civil society: Systemic reforms to leave no one behind’ during the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

7. On 15 September 2022, the Special Rapporteur presented his thematic report to the 51th session of the Human Rights Council (A/HRC/51/30), in which he examined the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response and recovery plans at national level from the perspective of the right to development. He highlighted good practices and reviewed challenges in ensuring the meaningful participation of rights-holders within countries. He concluded with recommendations on integrating the right to development into COVID-19 recovery plans and policies.

8. On 17 October 2022, the Special Rapporteur presented his thematic report to the UN General Assembly, in which he examined the COVID-19 response and recovery plans at international level from the perspective of the right to development.

9. On 18 October 2022, the Special Rapporteur co-organised with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth a side-event to the 77th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. The event entitled “Placing youth at the centre of the implementation of the right to development and the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” featured youth activists and a representative from the International Labor Organization. Participants discussed obstacles, shared experiences and good practices on youth engagement in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of strategies and plans to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as to realizing young people’s right to development.

10. From 28 January to 3 February 2023, the Special Rapporteur conducted an academic visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) upon invitation by the National Human Rights Committee. He delivered lectures in the UAE University as well as to representatives of the National Human Rights Committee, the Emirates Policy Center, the National Human Rights Institution and TRENDS Research and Advisory Institute, focusing predominantly on the implementation of the right to development in the context of climate action and other challenges in the promotion and protection of that right.

11. From 4 to 8 February 2023, the Special Rapporteur conducted an academic visit to Kuwait, upon invitation of the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He delivered a lecture at the Sheikh Saud AL-Nasser Al-Sabah Diplomatic Institute on the scope of the right to development, and the challenges and obstacles to its promotion. He also met with various human rights and development stakeholders.

4. Human Rights Council meetings and events on the right to development

12. Pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 48/10, OHCHR organised a Biennial Panel Discussion on the Right to Development on 15 September 2022 during the 51st session of the

⁶ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2023/seventh-session-expert-mechanism-right-development>

⁷ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/events/2022/workshop-emrtd-realizing-right-development-civil-society>

Council. The panel focused on the theme “35 years on: policy pathways to operationalizing the right to development”⁸, and covered discussions on the transformative vision of the Declaration on the Right to Development to create an enabling environment for development, including the realization of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Participants reviewed progress and challenges, from a policy perspective, in the implementation of the right to development and shared good practices and reflections on the way forward. The discussion reaffirmed the commitment of States and other stakeholders to the human right to development and to redouble efforts to operationalize it at all levels.⁹

13. On 3 and 4 November, OHCHR organised the 2022 Social Forum of the Human Rights Council with over 500 registered participants. In line with the Council resolution 47/20, the Forum focused on water for human rights and sustainable development: good practices, lessons learned and challenges in the implementation of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028”, with a view to making a contribution to the conference on the midterm review of the Decade, which would be held in 2023.¹⁰ The right to development was integral part of these discussions which included the active participation of several members of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development.¹¹

14. OHCHR organised a high-level meeting commemorating the 35th anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, which was held on 28 February and 1 March 2023 during the 52nd session of the Council.¹²

15. OHCHR organised five regional seminars on the contribution of development to the enjoyment of all human rights pursuant to the Council resolution 47/11.¹³ The Europe and Central Asia seminar¹⁴ was held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 1 and 2 September 2022. The seminar for the Arabic speaking countries¹⁵ was held on 8 and 9 November 2022 in Beirut, Lebanon and was organised in collaboration with the United Nations Commission for Western Asia. The seminar for the Africa region¹⁶ was held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 24 and 25 November 2022. The seminar for the Americas and the Caribbean region¹⁷ was held in collaboration with the United Nations University for Peace (UPEACE) on 8-9 December 2022, in San Jose, Costa Rica. The seminar for Asia and the Pacific¹⁸ was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on 13 and 14 February 2023. The five seminars comprised 35 panels, with over 150 panellists and approximately 1,800 participants from 138 countries.

B. Activities to support the realization of the right to development, including inter-agency coordination

16. OHCHR organised and contributed to numerous activities to operationalise the right to development at international, regional and national level.

17. OHCHR researched and advocated,¹⁹ published reports,²⁰ and supported various stakeholders on the right to development, international cooperation and solidarity. The Office

⁸ CN_RTD_Biennial-Panel.docx (live.com)

⁹ A/HRC/52/51

¹⁰ 2022 Social Forum | OHCHR

¹¹ 52nd regular session of the Human Rights Council: Reports | OHCHR

¹² High-level meeting commemorating the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development | OHCHR

¹³ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/development/contribution-development-enjoyment-all-human-rights>

¹⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/meetings/2022/european-and-central-asia-regional-seminar>

¹⁵ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/meetings/2022/arabic-speaking-countries-regional-seminar>

¹⁶ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/meetings/2022/africa-regional-seminar>

¹⁷ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/meetings/2022/americas-and-caribbean-regional-seminar>

¹⁸ <https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/meetings/2023/asia-and-pacific-regional-seminar>

¹⁹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements/2023/02/hc-commissioner-turk-asks-states-powerfully-strengthen-efforts-realise-right>, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/stories/2023/05/new-treaty-would-codify-right-development>

²⁰ See A/HRC/51/22; A/HRC/50/51.

raised awareness, built capacity²¹, and promoted sharing of good practices on operationalizing the right to development.²² Advocacy focussed inter alia on effective multilateralism, global access to COVID-19 vaccines, sustainable finance, policy coherence, fiscal and policy space, debt relief, illicit financial flows, human rights integration into trade and investment agreements, access to energy and technology, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, and cooperation with least developed countries.

18. OHCHR developed and disseminated tools and resources including key messages on access to renewable energy²³ and on transfer of environmentally sound technology²⁴ and the right to development, respectively. OHCHR produced and disseminated newsletters and other publicity materials to enhance outreach on reports, events and other activities on the right to development as well as pins on human rights into development, which were widely distributed.

19. In collaboration with the United Nations University and the University for Peace (UPEACE), OHCHR delivered rounds 9 and 10 of its interactive, online module on ‘Operationalizing the Right to Development in Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals’²⁵ to 200 participants from 103 countries, bringing the total number of people trained since its launch in 2018 to 928 persons from 150 countries. Also in collaboration with UPEACE and with contributions from the Committee on Development Policy, OHCHR launched a new online workshop on ‘Mainstreaming the Right to Development in Voluntary National Review Reporting for Realizing the Sustainable Development Goals’,²⁶ attended by 115 participants from 64 countries, including many State representatives.

20. From 4 to 9 March 2023, OHCHR participated at the 5th UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Doha, Qatar during which it organised two side events. The first one, organised on 8 March in cooperation with Qatar, focused on mainstreaming the right to development in the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action (DPoA) for Least Developed Countries. Participants underlined the need to strengthen the resilience of LDCs in the context of the global crises, exchanged views on how international support for a sustainable graduation from LDC status could be scaled-up, and stressed the importance of an inclusive and participatory implementation of the Doha Programme of Action. The second event, held on 9 March 2023, discussed the active, free and meaningful participation of youth in development and in the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action.

21. OHCHR actively engaged in the 9th session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development held in Niamey, Niger from 27 February to 3 March 2023 in coordination with other UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes. OHCHR supported the integration of human rights, including the right to development in the deliberations and outcomes of the Forum. The final key messages of the event included many references to human rights. In her concluding remarks, the Deputy-Executive Secretary and Chief Economist of UN Economic Commission for Africa emphasized the centrality of the right to development and other human rights in the implementation of the 2030 and 2063 Agendas.

22. In collaboration with UPEACE, OHCHR organised a hybrid side event to the 24th session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development on "Good Practices in Operationalizing the Right to Development in South-South Cooperation". Attended by over 100 participants (in person and online), the event presented the main findings of a joint study on South-South cooperation in India/Antigua & Barbuda, South Africa/Comoros Islands, and

²¹ See <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Development/Pages/intro-training-on-rtd-and-sdgs.aspx>; <https://www.upeace.org/departments/e-course-on-the-right-to-development>; <https://www.ohchr.org/en/training-materials-online-course-right-development-and-sustainable-development-goals>.

²² Including through a dedicated online platform ‘Building Better Policies and Sharing Good Practices’ which includes nearly 1000 participants. See: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/righttodevelopment/permalink/697777361396969/>.

²³ <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/KMEnergy-EN.pdf>

²⁴ <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/2022-05-22-Environmentally-Sound-Technology.pdf>

²⁵ University for Peace (upeace.org); Training Materials - Online Course on the Right to Development and Sustainable Development Goals | OHCHR

²⁶ <https://www.upeace.org/files/Academic/VNR%20and%20RTD%20Concept%20Note%20and%20Workshop%20Description.pdf>

Brazil/Angola prepared by OHCHR and UPEACE, which exemplifies how the right to development and South-South cooperation are complementary and mutually reinforcing. On 16 September 2022, OHCHR organised a side event at the margins of the 51th session of the Human Rights Council in partnership with the UN Office for South – South Cooperation and UPEACE to share the preliminary findings of the study on the right to development, South-South and triangular Cooperation.

23. In November 2022, OHCHR published a policy brief on human rights implications of COVID-19 measures in the context of climate change²⁷, which contains key initial findings of a research on human rights and COVID-19 response measures in the context of climate finance, and recommendations for States, policy-makers, development cooperation actors, climate funds, public international financial institutions and civil society.

24. Meaningful participation of all stakeholders, including in development, is one of OHCHR priorities. OHCHR continued working to integrate civic space concerns within the UN system policies and practices related to civil society engagement, following the Secretary-General's Call to Action for Human Rights and the UN Guidance Note on Protection and Promotion of Civic Space. This included identifying good practices, monitoring and reporting on civic space, protecting civil society actors, and creating incentives for more proactive civic space work. OHCHR also actively supported the mapping of UN policies and practices on civil society engagement from a civic space perspective, as part of the establishment of civil society focal points across the UN system under the Secretary-General's Our Common Agenda.

1. Some examples of OHCHR work in the operationalization of the right to development at regional and country level

25. On 18 April 2023, OHCHR Central African Regional Office co-organised with the UN Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of Congo, OHCHR Right to Development Section and the University of the Free State (UFS) Centre for Human Rights in South Africa, a webinar on the 'Realization of the Right to Development in Africa'²⁸ as part of OHCHR initiative to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR75). The event brought together experts from different regions and was attended by more than 200 online participants from various countries. Panelists discussed among others, strategies to address the impacts of extractive industries operating in some African countries, the need to strengthen international cooperation and to further realize the right to development at all levels.

2. Right to development in the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)

26. OHCHR continued its awareness-raising, advocacy and technical cooperation activities to integrate human rights, including the right to development in the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), which is a flagship initiative of the 2063 Agenda of the African Union.

27. On 12 and 13 October 2022, OHCHR organised a panel on mainstreaming human rights in the implementation of the AfCFTA during the African Business and Human Rights Forum in Accra, Ghana. Over 300 participants were informed about efforts by national and international stakeholders, including OHCHR, to promote the integration of human rights in the implementation of the AfCFTA. Participants discussed the opportunities and risks that trade liberalization under the AfCFTA might have on the human rights of individuals and peoples and the importance of integrating human rights norms including the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in AfCFTA processes to ensure that trade contributes to sustainable development in Africa.

28. On 17 October 2022, OHCHR organised a panel discussion on "Climate Change and Food Security in Africa in the context of the African Continental Free Trade Area: risks and

²⁷ <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/Policy-Brief-Covid19-Climate-change.pdf>

²⁸ A recording of the event is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOluThb8714>

opportunities”, during the NGOs Forum on the margins of the 73rd Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in Banjul, The Gambia. The panel highlighted the linkages between trade, climate change and human rights, including the right to development, in the implementation of the AfCFTA. Attended by around 300 participants from African and international civil society organizations, as well as ACHPR Commissioners and UN special procedures mandate holders, the NGOs Forum adopted resolutions and recommendations addressed to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, including on mainstreaming human rights in the implementation of the AfCFTA.

29. On 19 and 20 October 2022, OHCHR supported the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) in organizing its 5th Forum on the theme “Trade and human rights in the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement: inclusive implementation of the AfCFTA with the participation of vulnerable populations”. The forum was held on the margins of the 73rd Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) in October in Banjul, The Gambia, and discussed the role of NHRIs in the integration of human rights, including the right to development, into AfCFTA processes. The forum provided an important platform for OHCHR awareness-raising and advocacy on the importance of placing people at the centre of trade and on the contributions of human rights to a sustainable implementation of the AfCFTA processes with the meaningful participation of indigenous peoples, women, youth, persons with disabilities, and other populations in situation of marginalization.

30. OHCHR organised jointly with Plan International and the GIMAC (Gender is my Agenda Campaign) Network a Human Rights Thematic Panel as part of the 39th consultative meeting of GIMAC Network of civil society organizations held on 13 and 14 February 2023 in Addis Ababa. The panel discussed the human rights risks and opportunities of the AfCFTA implementation for the inclusion of women and young persons as well as other marginalized populations. The meeting adopted an outcome document which, inter alia, urged African States to identify gender gaps in the AfCFTA agreement and protocols, involve CSOs in its implementation and scale up actions for the inclusion of women and youth insustainable development efforts at national, regional and continental levels.

31. OHCHR organised jointly with the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS) a panel discussion on the inclusion of women, youth and vulnerable groups in driving the implementation of the AfCFTA. The event was held on 29 April 2023 during the NGO Forum on the margins of the 75th ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

3. Some examples of operationalizing the right to development at country level

32. OHCHR supported United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) in their engagement with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) advocating for a stronger consideration of States' human rights obligations in loan negotiations. For example, OHCHR collaborated with the UNCT in Tunisia to develop a position paper for engagement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) during negotiations on a support programme. The paper provides suggestions on how to support a human rights-based approach to future economic reforms, including expanding the coverage of the social protection. It advocates for the meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the trade union, employers, human rights and anti-corruption organizations, in the design and the regular review of reforms.

33. In May 2022, OHCHR conducted two half-day virtual sessions for staff of Resident Coordinator Offices in Europe and Central Asia, in partnership with the Development Coordination Office (DCO) for Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The sessions focused on the concept of a human rights-enhancing economy and engagement with IFIs, using the example of work conducted by OHCHR in Ukraine. The sessions brought together representatives from Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

34. On 3 and 5 March 2022, OHCHR East Africa Regional Office participated in the 8th Session of the African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development held under the theme

“Building forward better: a green, inclusive and resilient Africa poised to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063”. The forum provided opportunities for deliberations on challenges, good practices and lessons learnt in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, particularly Goals 4, 5, 14, and 17.

35. OHCHR Regional Office for Central Africa (CARO) organised two training workshops on the human rights based approach (HRBA) and leave no one behind (LNOB) in the post COVID-19 programming in Gabon (23 and 24 June 2022) and in Burundi (9 and 10 June 2022). The workshops aimed at strengthening the capacities of government officials and UN personnel in charge of coordinating the 2023-2027 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF), to ensure the integration of the HRBA and the LNOB principles into these processes. Participants discussed key principles and methodology underlying the HRBA and LNOB and their integration in the UNSDCF. Strong emphasis was placed on the human rights dimensions of the recovery from COVID-19 for the identification of development programming priorities.

36. As part of the 2022 Common Country Analysis (CCA) process in Chad, which ran from September to December 2022, OHCHR led the analysis of the situation of populations left behind in light of Chad's international human rights obligations. The assessment revealed, among others, major disparities in access to health, education, water and sanitation between regions, significant gender inequalities affecting women's participation in and contribution to development, limited prioritization of people living in poverty and in vulnerable situation in the implementation of development projects and programmes, and very low coverage of social protection.

37. In Tunisia, OHCHR organised consultation sessions on a human rights-based approach (HRBA) to development planning, and on a social expenditure monitoring tool, as well as a panel discussion on social security post COVID-19 pandemic. The Office also conducted a pilot project on HRBA in municipal development planning engaging a broad range of stakeholders including the private sector and local communities.

38. OHCHR developed a strategy to address the negative impacts of extractive projects in Honduras. OHCHR supported the review and strengthening of the legal and institutional frameworks that regulate these projects with a view to integrating a human rights approach that included consultation and participation of affected communities, including indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples. OHCHR also provided technical assistance to civil society organizations, social movements and indigenous and Afro-Honduran peoples to address the human rights impacts of business activities. OHCHR maintained active dialogue and collaboration with the Honduran Council of Private Enterprise and strengthened the knowledge and capacities of the private sector on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. OHCHR also established dialogue with international financial institutions and raised their awareness on human rights risks and impacts of investment projects.

39. On 17 April 2023, OHCHR Chad launched a study on the impact of the extractive sector on human rights, with a focus on key elements of the right to development such as the right of local populations to participate in and contribute to their development.

40. On 26 and 27 October 2022, the Joint Human Rights Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) organised a workshop on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.

41. In Liberia, OHCHR supported the development of a National Action Plan on Business and human rights (NAP) and the organization of capacity-building activities for staff of the Business and Human Rights Unit of the Independent National Commission on Human Rights.

42. OHCHR in DRC advocated for a law promoting and protecting the rights of indigenous pygmy peoples, which was adopted in June 2022. The adoption of the law was a significant advance in the realization of the right to development of pygmy peoples.

43. In cooperation with a leading Congolese civil society organization, OHCHR in DRC conducted a study on Public Finance Governance in the Central Government Budget Allocations to Pro-Poor Sectors for the Fiscal Years 2018-2020 and the the 2021 Budget in

the DRC. The study revealed an increased vulnerability of disadvantaged populations, and that human rights principles and standards had not been fully taken into account in the design and implementation of the government's response strategy. The study provides policy recommendations.

44. In Cambodia, OHCHR initiated a budget analysis to determine if resources were being allocated and spent in a transparent and participatory manner to improve access to human rights, including the right to development, education, health, food, housing, decent jobs. OHCHR in Cambodia conducted a study to assess the impact of indebtedness on economic and social rights, monitored cases of forced eviction especially affecting indigenous peoples during development-related projects, and published a report on forced evictions and land rights.

45. OHCHR Chad office supported the organisation of a national forum on human rights under the theme "Integrating human rights dimension into the transition process" from 27 to 29 April 2022 in N'Djamena, The forum provided a space for discussion between human rights actors and representatives of the public administration on the major human rights challenges, identified and analysed best practices and opportunities to ensure the protection, promotion and realization of human rights and the rule of law in Chad. The event was attended by 150 participants including 37 women. The report of the forum served as a working document during a national dialogue on the same theme held from August to October 2022. OHCHR Chad also supported and equipped CSOs in setting up a network of civil society organizations engaged in conducting social audits of human rights during the transition period.

46. OHCHR conducted two seminars in collaboration with civil society organizations to promote greater coverage of economic, social cultural rights in Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations, including those addressing inequalities which is closely linked to the right to development. The Voluntary Fund on Financial and Technical Assistance in the implementation of the UPR supported several projects in 2022, including the UPR Parliamentary Observatory in Brazil, capacity building of the Human Rights Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Dominican Republic, public consultations on inclusive education policy and a study on the justiciability of economic, social and cultural rights in the Kingdom of Lesotho, and the alignment of human rights with development efforts and implementation of the SDGs at the local level in Uruguay.
