12 May 2023

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCRN

Finn Church Aid (Kirkon ulkomaanavun säätiö), which is in consultative status with the UN ECOSOC, wishes to thank for the opportunity to comment on the second revised text of the draft convention on the right to development.

We would like to see that the text would better take into account the role of the private sector as an actor and partner in the realization of the right to development. In the Least Developed Countries or fragile states, the states are having challenges to meet those expectations that the people, civil society and international partners are setting for it, including creating conducive environment for the realization of the right to development. In these contexts, it may be that responsible private sector can play an especially constructive role, in partnership with the Government and civil society, to ensure that the conditions for the realization of the right to development are met.

Our suggestion is to add “and the private sector” to the preamble (towards the end), to the paragraph we are copy-pasting below.

“Acknowledging that States have the primary responsibility, through cooperation, including engagement with civil society and the private sector, for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development,”

We wish to thank the Chair-Rapporteur, the working group and OHCHR for the work towards the binding convention on the right to development.