A picture containing text

Description automatically generated

**24th SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT**

**SOUTH AFRICA STATEMENT**

**TITLE**

**16 MAY 2023**

**ROOM XX**

**PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA**

***(Check against Delivery)***

Chairperson,

South Africa’s comment on article **13 (1)** South Africa proposes the replacement of ‘shall implement their duty to cooperate with each other through joint and separate action’ with the phrase: ‘States Parties reaffirm **their commitment to act’**

On article **13 (1) (b)** South Africa is proposing to change the term ‘End’ with **‘Eradicate’** With addressing the tautology in the sentence, the term ‘eradicating’ can be deleted:

*(b) End* ***Eradicate*** *poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including eradicating extreme poverty.*

On article **13 (1) (c )** Proposal to change the term ‘Promote higher’ with **‘Improve’**

***(c)*** *Improve Promote higher standards of living, full and productive employment, decent work, entrepreneurship, conditions of human dignity, and economic, social, cultural, technological and environmental progress and development;*

On article **13 (3)** South Africa proposes that is important for states to verify the universal acceptance of these development cooperation principles before acceding to them.

On article **13(4)** South Africa fully support the creation of a social and international order. South Africa propose that such an order as implied can only be created through cooperation.

On article **14(b)** South Africa does propose the removal of word “Special and Differential Treatment” within the context of the WTO. The Language creates unnecessary subgroup amongst developing countries which are exploited by developed countries to introduce language that undermines the trade interests of the developing countries.

On article **(14) (f)** South Africa proposes replacing the term ‘encouraging’ with ‘**providing’** Also, the inclusion of reference to ‘**and agreed targets’** after ‘existing commitment’

***(f)*** *Encouraging* ***Providing*** *official development assistance, financial flows and foreign investment, including through but not limited to the implementation of any existing commitments* ***and agreed targets****, for States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes.*

On article **15 (1)** South Africa proposes the inclusion of the term,‘**gender’** in the listing of vulnerabilities identified. This inclusion would emphasise the principle of non-discrimination as articulated in international human rights instruments such as the International Bill of Rights.

*States Parties recognize that certain individuals, groups and peoples, owing to their marginalization or vulnerability because of race, colour, sex,* ***gender,*** *language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth, age or other status, may need specific and remedial measures to accelerate or achieve de facto equality in their enjoyment of the right to development. Specific and remedial measures may include enabling the full, effective, appropriate and dignified participation of such individuals, groups and peoples in decision-making processes, programmes and policymaking that affect their full and equal enjoyment of the right to development, without subjecting them to structural, environmental or institutional constraints or barriers.*

I thank you.