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Mr Surya Deva Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development c/o Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Palais des Nations 8-14 Avenue de la Paix 1211 Geneva 10 Switzerland.

Via E-mail: hrc-sr-development@un.org

Dated: 20 June 2023

Subject: KFM Input for the 2023 reports of the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development

Dear Mr Surya Deva

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. Kashmir Freedom Movement (KFM), an organization dedicated to advocating for the rights and aspirations of the people of the State of Jammu and Kashmir is writing to bring your attention to an urgent matter concerning the right to development including the right of people to self-determination, particularly in the UN recognised disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir. As an advocate for justice and human rights, we kindly request your support in facilitating the full realization of this fundamental right for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The right to self-determination, as enshrined in various international conventions and declarations, is a vital component of the 'Right to Development', human rights and international law. It grants people the freedom to determine their political status and pursue their economic, social, and cultural development. In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, this right holds immense significance as the region has been subject to longstanding political disputes and unresolved tensions.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir have suffered from the consequences of these conflicts for decades. It is crucial to acknowledge their aspirations and provide them with a platform to exercise their right to self-determination. The full realization of the right to development would allow the people of Jammu and Kashmir to choose their own political destiny, determine their governance structures, and safeguard their cultural heritage. Furthermore, it encompasses their right to full sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources, as emphasized in the International Covenants on Human Rights.

KFM kindly requests your support and intervention in urging the relevant stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue and take concrete steps towards the peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir issue. It is essential to create an enabling environment that respects and protects the rights of the people, ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes. Additionally, KFM urges you to call for the involvement of impartial mediators to facilitate productive negotiations and bridge the existing gaps.



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By advocating for the full realization of the right of peoples to development including the right to self-determination in Jammu and Kashmir, you would contribute significantly to the promotion of peace, stability, and justice in the region. Your efforts would not only bring hope to the people of Jammu and Kashmir but also uphold the principles and values that the United Nations stands for.

KFM would be grateful for any assistance or guidance you can provide in this matter. KFM believes that with your support and the collective commitment of the international community, we can work towards a just and peaceful resolution for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I eagerly await your response and stand ready to contribute in any way I can to promote and protect the right of people to self-determination in Jammu and Kashmir.

Yours Sincerely,

Engr. Afzal Ziai,

President,

Kashmir Freedom Movement (KFM),

E-mail: kfm786@gmail.com