**23rd Session of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Right to Development**

**16-21 May 2022, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

**Oral statement delivered by Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23) on behalf of the Working Group of Catholic Inspired NGOs on the Right to Development[[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Item 4.2: Interactive dialogue with the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development and the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development, including on the work of the Working Group and its relevant agenda items**

Mr Chairman, Excellences, distinguished Delegates,

We welcome the participation of both, the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and the Chair of the Expert mechanism, in this 23rd session of the Working Group.

We thank Mr. Saad Alfarargi for continuing to promote the importance of the right to development and its principles, especially with regard to the implementation of the four major normative and policy frameworks, adopted in 2015 - the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. We are also very grateful for his efforts to contribute to the work of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development and the Expert Mechanism on the right to development.

Mr. Alfarargi, you rightly mentioned, among the challenges to the implementation of the right to development, the politicisation, the lack of engagement, the low level of awareness at grass root-level, the need to addressing global challenges and enhancing participation…in which way, your mandate as well as the Expert Mechanism, the OHCHR can further contribute in overcoming these issues? and which role should have, in your opinion, the civil society?

We also express our appreciation for the work of the members of the Expert mechanism and the production so far of some of their planned thematic studies. We appreciate the contribution made in the previous session of the Working Group about the essential elements of a legally binding instrument on the right to development. Moreover, we would like to congratulate Mr. Kanade for his election as a chair of the mechanism.

We look forward to the engagement of both, the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism during the consideration of the revised text of the draft convention. Thank you!

1. The NGOs belonging to the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Forum of Catholic-Inspired NGOs (CINGO) are as follows: Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23), Association Points-Cœur, AVSI, Caritas Internationalis (International Confederation of Catholic Charities), Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of Preachers), International Institute of Mary Our Help of the Salesians Sisters of Don Bosco (IIMA), International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (OIDEL), MIAMSI, New Humanity, Teresian Association, and VIDES International (International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education, Development) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)