

Intervention of Ms. Sagufta Yasmeen, MP, Hon'ble Whip
at the panel on Right to Development 12 July 2011, Geneva

Thank you Mr/Madam Moderator. The UN Declaration on Right to Development is a document that generated hope 25 years ago, in the majority of the population of the world that lives in the developing countries, in Least developed countries like Bangladesh. The Declaration broke new grounds on an important issue for these people.

The *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in 1993* reached a political consensus to emphasize more on the right to development as a universal and inalienable right. It is an integral part of the fundamental rights of a human person. A common approach to realization of right to development was agreed upon with the Declaration.

Right to development means mainstreaming and implementing development-oriented policies at all levels, in order to improve the capacity of States to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights. It is necessary to create a global environment for development for the realization and implementation of the right to development.

Because of globalization, policies made in one corner of the world have effects on the other side of the world. A country's internal actions and policies have external impact on populations outside its territory. This is where the collective and shared responsibility element and the need for a balance between national and international responsibilities become vital.

Many of the recent global crisis have re-emphasized the relevance of the right to development and the need for its realisation. Many efforts of developing countries to reach development does not bear fruit because of difficulties faced at the international level which are out of their control. These barriers are rooted in international economic, financial and political systems, governing international trade, migration, intellectual property, flow of capital and labour and technology transfer. The global economic governance has to generate effective international cooperation for sustainable growth and development through ensuring access to resources by developing countries. It is also vital to make sure of their participation in global decision-making process.

Without the realization of right to development, the full enjoyment of all other human rights cannot be ensured. It is disappointing to note that though some works have been done, enjoyment of right to development remains ever elusive after 25 years of the adoption of the Declaration.

I call upon the International community to show greater political will and resolve to make right to development a reality. As we commemorate the 25 years of the UN Declaration on Right to Development, let us promise to transform the Declaration into an international legal framework.

I thank you.