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**The 19th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development**

**23-27 April 2018, room VII, PdN**

**Interactive dialogue with experts on the implementation and realization of the right to development in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and engagement with the high-level political forum, Tuesday, 24 April 2018**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development foresees that “Thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, will also take place at the high-level political forum. These will be supported by reviews by the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums, which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them. They will engage all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feed into, and be aligned with, the cycle of the high-level political forum” (A/RES/70/1, para. 85).

Furthermore, the General Assembly encouraged coherence of intergovernmental bodies with the work of the high-level political forum towards the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/299, para. 15).

In the same resolution, the General Assembly decided that the theme to be reviewed by the high-level political forum in 2018 would be “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies".

The set of goals to be reviewed in depth are:

* Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
* Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
* Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
* Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
* Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The review includes Goal 17, which is considered annually:

* Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

In order to support the above process, the Working Group, at its last session, recommended, and subsequently the Human Rights Council endorsed, a request to the High Commissioner to facilitate the participation of experts in the nineteenth session of the Working Group, to provide advice with a view to contributing to discussions on the implementation and realization of the right to development, including the implications of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and on the possible engagement of the Working Group with the high-level political forum (A/HRC/RES/36/9).

The objective of the meeting is to contribute to the discussion on the integration of the right to development in the implementation of the SDGs and synergy between the Working Group and the mechanisms and processes established in follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



There will be two sessions. The morning session will discuss the implementation and realization of the right to development and the implications of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including a possible engagement of the Working Group with the high-level political forum.

The afternoon session will focus more specifically on the theme of the 2018 high-level political forum, which is “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”, discussing the role of the right to development in this regard.

The interactive dialogue will emphasize goal 17 and the means of implementation targets under the above-mentioned goals. As such, it will also contribute to the Financing for Development follow-up process.

**Morning session (10:00-13:00)**

**Mr. Olivier de Schutter**

The international dimensions of the right to development: A fresh start towards improving accountability

**Ms. Bhumika Muchhala**

The Right to Development and Illicit Financial Flows: Realizing the Sustainable Development Goals and Financing for Development

**Ms. Lucy Claridge**

Jurisprudential developments of the right to development at the African Court for Human and Peoples’ Rights

**Mr. Vicente Yu**

Challenges for the implementation of the right to development and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

**Afternoon session (15:00-18:00)**

**Mr. Saad Alfarargi**

The right to development and inequalities

**Ms. Bhumika Muchhala**

International Investment Agreements and Industrialization: Realizing the Right to Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

**Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan**

The experience of the Rural Support Programmes Network of Pakistan with implementing the right to development

**Ms. Tessa Khan**

Promoting rights-based climate finance for people and planet