OIC - NAM roundtable

The Right to Development: Constraints and Perspectives

19 October 2011, 3 – 6 P.M., room XXIV, Palais des Nations, Geneva

Context
The right to development falls under the universal rights recognized by the UN Member States. The pursuit and the right of the people to a better social and economic standard of living, without discrimination and involving all stakeholders, form the basis of the right to development.

Roundtable rationale
The UN Charter stands upon three pillars: peace and security, development, and human rights. There can be no lasting peace, no security neither lasting economic development, in its truest sense, without human rights. Democracy, as a principle is closely linked to development. This emphasizes the inclusive meaning of the human rights concept, namely as “universal, inalienable, interdependent and interrelated rights.” This brings to light the necessity to return to the ideals of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, in the light of today’s power play at the global level and the consequences of a globalization that has partly contributed to increased inequalities everywhere in the world.

Objectives and expectations of the Roundtable
Within the framework of the OIC and NAM’s growing interest in development and human rights issues, and in a spirit of dialogue and exchange with international partners, the OIC Office in Geneva jointly with the NAM and in cooperation with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) will be organising a roundtable on policy coherence towards the implementation of the right to development in its member states.

The following themes will be addressed:

A. The implementation of the right to development: Redeploying resources from disarmament to development including in the context of article 7 of the Declaration on the Right to Development as well as Financing for Development agenda.

B. Perspectives: Concept versus Practice. How to reconcile national development goals with the economic and financial restrictions imposed by financial institutions and recurring financial crises?

C. States’ leadership and independence for the promotion of international development commitments.
Methodology
In commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, the OIC delegation jointly with the NAM and in cooperation with the OHCHR would like to organize a debate on “the right to development: constraints and perspectives”. This roundtable aims to shed light on the advancement and continuing challenges in the implementation of the right to development within their Members States.

AGENDA

15:00-15:20 Opening Session

- Welcome to Participants and Statement by H.E. Slimane CHIKH Permanent Observer of the OIC Delegation, Geneva
- Statement by H.E. Hicham Badr, Permanent Representative of Egypt and Chairman of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM)
- Statement of Mr. Bacre NDIAYE, Director of the Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division, OHCHR

Moderator: Ambassador Slimane CHIKH, OIC Permanent Observer

Presentations from distinguished Invitees

15:20-15:35
- Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva and Personal Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the Conference on Disarmament
Title: Disarmament and development: arms race or poverty reduction?

15:35-15:50
- Ms Cécile Molinier, Director of the UNDP Office in Geneva
Title: Global partnership for development

15:50-16:05
- Mr. Dzidek Kedzia, Member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
Title: The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on human rights and development

16:05-16:20
- Mr. Vijay Kumar Nagaraj, Executive Director, International Council on Human Rights Policy
Title: Right to Development: Contested Meanings & Established Fictions

16:20-17:45 Interactive Dialogue with participants and invitees

17:45- 18:00 Concluding Remarks by the NAM Chairman and the OIC Permanent Observer

18:00- 20:00 Reception hosted by the OIC at the Bar des Serpents, Palais des Nations