



WOMEN'S FEDERATION
FOR WORLD PEACE INTERNATIONAL



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International Covenant on the Right to Development: Achieving Development for All

Sponsor: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Non Aligned Movement- PM
Azerbaijan

Civil Society Oral Statement

Delivered by Carolyn Handschin at the predetermined request of the sponsors.

Distinguished governments, experts, colleagues, and distinguished guests,

As the President of the NGO CSW Geneva and the Director of the UN Offices of the Women's Federation for World Peace International, I am deeply honored to address this gathering on a topic of paramount importance - the "International Covenant on the Right to Development: Achieving Development for All."

Development, in its true essence, is not just about economic growth or infrastructure; it is about improving the quality of life for every individual on this planet. It is about ensuring that every person has the opportunity to lead a dignified, fulfilling life, irrespective of their gender, race, religion, or socio-economic background. And this vision of inclusive development is precisely what the International Covenant on the Right to Development seeks to achieve.

The Covenant recognizes that development is not merely an economic endeavor but a human right. It emphasizes that all individuals and communities should actively participate in, contribute to, and enjoy the fruits of development. It is a call for equitable and sustainable development that leaves no one behind.

As representatives of NGOs, governments, and civil society organizations, it is our collective responsibility to ensure the full implementation of the Covenant on the Right to Development. The WFWPI has developed a training program for working with the right to development in our 100+ chapters, each of which focuses on the fulfillment of the SDG's. To us it seems an obvious benefit to north and south, and in collaborating closely with public institutions and governments. Lets try even harder to listen to differing views and work out the fears so we can turn this vision into reality.

We must advocate for policies that promote gender equality, eradicate poverty, and create opportunities for all. The International Covenant on the Right to Development is not just a legal

document; it is a beacon of hope for a more just, equitable, and inclusive world. As we gather here today, let us reaffirm our commitment to achieving development for all. Together, we can turn this vision into reality.