

**Permanent Mission of India
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Human Rights Council

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Agenda Item 3: General Debate

(8 March 2013)

Statement by India

Mr. President,

At the outset, allow me to extend warm greetings and felicitations on the occasion of the International Women's Day to all the women of the world. Today, we celebrate the spirit of ordinary women, who have played sterling roles in shaping their families, communities, societies and countries.

2. As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, we recall that it's Para 5 mentions that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and inter-related. Despite this international agreement on the holistic nature of all human rights, and relevant international covenants, there has been an unequal emphasis on civil and political rights. Efforts towards the realization of human rights should extend to the fight against deprivations of economic, social and cultural rights. It must be backed by a sense of solidarity with the underprivileged and a willingness to translate this into concrete action. THAT is why this Council must pay adequate attention to and work towards the concrete realization of the Right to Development which is a fundamental link in the web of human rights that mark the social progress and better standards of life for every person.

3. India attaches much importance to the Right to Development, and recognizes that development is a comprehensive economic, social, cultural and political process. Although it is a matter of satisfaction that concepts of right to development has been integrated into several areas of the work of the UN system, such as the follow-up to Least Developing Countries IV,

UNCTAD XIII and United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, much more remains to be done in the full realization of the Right to Development and its mainstreaming in the work of the UN.

4. While no one can deny the national responsibility of States to promote the Right to Development, one cannot disregard the imperative of international cooperation essential for creating a conducive environment for the genuine realisation of this right. In this context, it would be useful to reiterate the continued need for building the capacities of governments in developing countries so that they are able to handle the problems associated with environmental, economic and social transformations and progress towards sustainable development. Capacity building and transfer of technology must be woven into the design of post-2015 development agenda. India remains committed to sharing its technical assistance with fellow developing countries.

5. Impediments to the full enjoyment of all human rights in a world that is globalising rapidly warrant closer attention than has been devoted so far. Globalisation that is supportive of social and economic developmental objectives of developing countries can produce a rich diversity with the sharing of ideas, views and cultures. Globalisation has to be development centred and inclusive. If globalisation is to be meaningful, it must serve the objectives of Article 55 of the Charter, which lay down that “the United Nations shall promote higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development”.

6. In conclusion, we remain committed to the realization of all human rights, including the right to development and hope that this Council, through dialogue and cooperation will continue to further the realization of these rights.

Thank you.
