

31<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the Human Rights Council –29 February to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016

ITEM 1: Annual High-level Panel on Human Rights Mainstreaming

### Joint Statement

#### **“Mainstreaming Human Rights and the Right to Development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”**

Mr President,

APG23 and the co-signing NGOs welcome the initiative to discuss on this panel such a relevant topic and thank the panellists for their interventions.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development. It calls on full respect for the human rights and humane treatment of migrants, refugees and displaced persons. With the Sustainable Development Goal 10 (SDG 10), the international community committed to ensuring equal opportunities through the elimination of discriminatory laws, policies and practices, facilitating orderly and safe human migration and mobility.

In this unprecedented era, where more than 60 million people have been forced to flee their homes primarily because of conflicts and persecutions, where an unprecedented number of refugees and migrants has clearly been ready to set out on dangerous and uncertain journeys in order to seek asylum, the whole international community has been missing the duty and the opportunity to respond to SDG 10 and other globally agreed commitments.

Europe and the rest of the world, which have instruments and the experience to respond to this crisis, have further let compassion and solidarity be overcome by internal political interests and deceptive fear.

Don't you think that the actual trend of policies on migration contradicts the ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of creating a more equal and inclusive world for all?

In addition, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been inspired as its preamble clearly states by the transformative vision of the Declaration on Right to Development.

In this regard, we have a specific question for the Chair-rapporteur of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Right to Development, H.E. Mr Zamir Akram: what role, can and should the OEIWG on RTD play to facilitate effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in line with the RTD framework?

Finally, we would like to recall that main-streaming human rights in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development means that Governments must comply with all human rights legal norms, standards and political commitments to which they have already voluntarily agreed.

To close, we emphasize that effective accountability architecture at national, regional and international level, together with meaningful indicators that refer to disaggregated data, will be critical for the full implementation of the SDGs.

Thank You!