The 13th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

Item 3 of the Provisional Agenda

General Debate

Conference Room 6, United Nations Headquarters, New York

Tuesday 21 April 2026, 15:00 to 18:00

Unofficial transcript of the oral statement by Indonesia

Madam Chair, Indonesia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Uganda on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement and wishes to add the following in our national capacity. Indonesia welcomes the convening of this session and reaffirms its strong commitment and support for the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development and this milestone provides a timely opportunity to reaffirm our collective commitment to promote and realize the right to development as a fundamental human right, one that is indivisible, interdependent, and mutually reinforcing with all other human rights. However, the right to development continues to face serious challenges. Persistent global inequalities, an unjust international system, ongoing conflicts, humanitarian crises, environmental degradation, and the misuse of advanced technologies all place significant pressure on its realization. The right to development should not only remain a concept but must be realized as a concrete right that places people at the centre of development processes. Its realization is a shared responsibility of all nations, requiring strengthened international cooperation, a more equitable economic system and financial architecture, and a supportive global environment.

It is imperative that we continue to mainstream the right to development across multilateral processes, including discussions on the international financial architecture, global governance reform, as well as the future global development agenda. Indonesia therefore supports the ongoing process toward the establishment of the International Covenant on the Right to Development. We view this effort as a manifestation of the global aspiration for equity and justice. Indonesia stands ready to engage constructively in the consideration, negotiation, and eventual adoption of the Covenant in the General Assembly. A legally binding framework would represent a significant step toward operationalizing this right and strengthening accountability at both national and international levels.

Chair, at the national level, our Constitution guarantees every individual the right to develop themselves through the fulfillment of basic needs, to improve their quality of life, and to collectively build their community, nation, and country. This constitutional commitment is reflected in our development policies, which integrate the right to development through sustainable development approaches and meaningful public participation, including participatory planning. These approaches have contributed to Indonesia's steady progress in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

To conclude, Indonesia looks forward to this session as an important platform to further elaborate on a holistic and inclusive approach to the right to development. We also seek to deepen our engagement with all stakeholders in mainstreaming and integrating this right across policies and practices at all levels.

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