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 Morocco

Thank you, Madam Chair. My delegation wishes to express its sincere appreciation to you and to all distinguished members of the Expert Mechanism for their dedication, valuable expertise, and their continued contributions to this vital process. My delegation also wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development for their steadfast engagement in advancing this process.

The right to development is a universal, inalienable, and indivisible right, inseparable from the full spectrum of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights. Morocco firmly believes that these rights must be addressed with equal attention and without hierarchy, ensuring that every individual can access and fully exercise all human rights on an equal footing and without distinction.

Madam Chair, Morocco reiterates its unwavering support for the work of the Expert Mechanism and commends the engagement of the Working Group Chair and all Member States in advancing the elaboration of a legally binding instrument for the effective implementation of the right to development. This instrument represents a historic opportunity to translate decades of political commitment into concrete, enforceable obligations. In line with the relevant Human Rights Council resolution, my delegation looks forward to the consideration, negotiation, and subsequent adoption of this instrument by the General Assembly. This is a step that Morocco considers both necessary and long overdue.

Madam Chair, given the interdependence and indivisibility of all human rights, my delegation calls for unity and solidarity on this matter of the highest importance. The elaboration of this instrument must rise above the traditional divides between North and South. This is a shared responsibility and a collective opportunity to reaffirm our common commitment to human dignity, justice, and sustainable development for all. Thank you.

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