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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**
48th session of the Human Rights Council
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**Item 3: Interactive dialogue with the Special
Rapporteur on the right to development**

Oral statement

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Debate on the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development (A/HRC/48/56, 2 July 2021)

Madame President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur on the right to development for the presentation of his report.

In December 2020, CETIM had already submitted to the Special Rapporteur a series of data, proposals and demands collected from social movements and NGO's from several countries on climate justice in link with collective economic and social rights in the context of sanitary, economic and climate crisis.

After having collected these inputs, CETIM came to the intermediary and unfortunate conclusion that SDG 13 (climate action), as defined in the 2030 Agenda, will not be fully implemented in any single country.

The first six and the 10th SDG¹ are in strong positive synergy with SDG 13 so we notice a clear-cut slowness -if not obstruction- in advancing on the implementation of these goals by the neo-liberal governments.

Likewise, the 2019 Trade and Development Report of UNCTAD had highlighted that the costs of achieving the first four of the 17 SDG's - poverty eradication, nutrition, good health and quality education - would require that countries mobilize on average 11.9% of their GDP (Gros domestic product) in additional resources each year. Governments prioritizing the big business agenda do not mobilize these resources and some even if they wanted, could not mobilize them for political and economic reasons.

Trade-unions, anti-poverty initiatives, youth organizations, gender emancipation right groups or local indigenous groups foremost concerned by the climate emergency and the right to development are marginalized by small elites framing the debate on the implementation of

¹ (1) no poverty (2) zero hunger (3) good health and well-being (4) quality education (5) gender equality (6) clean water and sanitation (10) reducing inequality.

SDG's. The main problem behind the lack of participation and support from the NGOs and social movements active on the ground is that the debate on SDG's and especially SDG 13 is conducted in total disconnection with the right to development.

CETIM wants to stress that taking the political unwillingness to mobilize large scale resources into account, at both domestic and international levels, for the realization of SDG 13, sharing singular concrete experiences and isolated good practices is misemployed by some authorities and the multinationals. CETIM observes the social movements and NGOs are not much impressed by public relations activities suggesting that populations wait for future "innovations" as unique panacea tackling with climate emergency. "Good practices" and punctual advertisement referring to "sustainability as general label" without detailed verification and monitoring abilities/mechanisms provided to the citizens as well as lacking information on the design, programming and implementation of these projects can hardly be considered as participatory practices.

In this respect, we share the concerns of the UNCTAD 2020 report Transforming trade and development in a fractured, post-pandemic world on the fact that the investments critical for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals – SDG 13 at the core- remain underfunded and that the transition to sustainability as a whole does not happen at a required scale since 2015.

This is also why CETIM fully supports the conclusions of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to development and endorse the reminder on the participation and information sharing at all stages of planning, monitoring of climate related policies without undermining the right to development for the benefit of right holders, social movements, peasant movements, representative and active trade-unions as well as movements for gender right and equalities.

The CETIM call all UN States members, UN agencies, International and regional organizations to guarantee citizen-centered and community-based participation mechanisms to the decision making and implementation of the right to development tackling with climate emergency.

Thank you for your attention.

Geneva, 17 September 2021