



24th session of the Human Rights Council - Item 3
Statement by Sri Lanka
Report of the Working Group on the Right to Development

Mr. President,

Sri Lanka, at the outset aligns itself with the statement made by Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

We thank the Chair-Rapporteur for the presentation of the Report of the 14th session of the Working Group, and commend her for her stewardship of the discussion with relevant stakeholders. We also note with appreciation the consolidated report of the SG and the OHCHR on the Right to Development.

Mr. President,

We reaffirm that the right to development is about mainstreaming and implementing development oriented policies at all levels, in order to further improve the capacity of states to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights.

In this regard, Sri Lanka is of the view that the global dialogue on post-2015 development goals is an important opportunity for meaningful popular participation in global governance and the development process.

Sri Lanka continues to take measures to implement the right to development at the national level, and firmly believes that development should be accompanied by equity and sustainability. We are pleased that these sustained efforts continue to yield positive results across the country and in all sectors.

Mr. President,

It is however a matter of concern that despite continued efforts by developing countries, sustainable development remains a distant goal and implementation gaps persist.

While there needs to be commitment at both national and international levels to achieve the right to development, there must be more focus on addressing the special needs of developing countries which are unequally impacted by structural problems, external events and global economic and financial crises.

Concerted and sustained efforts are needed to eliminate obstacles to the realization of the right to development, such as unequal trade relations; unsustainable debt burdens; restrictions on technology transfer, labour flow and aid; and the democratic deficit in global governance; [all of which exclude developing countries from full participation within the international decision making process.](#)

In conclusion, Mr. President,

The above reflects the need for developed countries to provide sustained financial and technological support to developing countries to achieve sustainable development. We believe that a stronger political will and consensus at the international level will help buttress and process and help in the elaboration of a coherent set of standards on this intrinsic right.

Thank you