



Mr. President,

Economic, social and cultural rights are indispensable to preserve the dignity of all human beings in all countries. Improving respect for economic, social and cultural rights is essential to ensuring the contribution of human rights to both development and peace. In the framework of the new human rights body a renewed focus on economic, social and cultural rights is crucial if we are to meet the challenge of unfair approach to the economic, social and cultural rights.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has followed with interest the work of the Working Group to consider options regarding the elaboration of an optional protocol to the ICESCR. A considerable progress has been made in clarifying various questions relating to an optional protocol to the ICESCR. The Working group has fulfilled the mandate assigned to it by the CHR. In this context we support the extension of the working group's mandate to elaborate further a negotiable draft.

The realization of economic, Social and cultural rights depend on the level of development. The diverging levels of development of the States parties and the need to enhance international cooperation and assistance should be given priority under any options for the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights and in the future work of the working group in conformity with article 2, paragraph 1, of ICESCR. The International cooperation and assistance are a legal obligation enshrined in the ICESCR.

Thank You