

13 September 2019

Human Rights Council 42nd session
(9-27 September 2019)

Item 3 General Debate

**Plan of Action for the fourth phase (2020-2024)
of the World Programme for Human Rights Education.**

Delivered by Soka Gakkai International

Associazione Comunità Papa Giovanni XXIII (APG23)

Catholic International Education Office(OIEC)

Globethics.net Foundation

International Catholic Child Bureau

International Council of Women

Institute for Development and Human Rights (IDDH)

Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di Don Bosco (IIMA)

International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)

International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD)

International Organisation for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education (OIDEL)

ONG Hope International

Soka Gakkai International (SGI)

Teresian Association

Upr.info

VIDES International

World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations (WFUNO)

Thank you, Mr President.

I speak on behalf of 17 organizations.¹

We welcome the Plan of Action for the fourth phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education, focusing on youth, that has been prepared by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, in close consultation with several stakeholders including civil society and particularly youth representatives.

The Plan of Action provides concrete steps to facilitate the development of a comprehensive national human rights education strategy for and with young people.

A significant gap still exists between formal international support for Human Rights Education and national implementation. For example, it is reported that only 20 governments and 18 national human rights institutions from 36 countries have submitted their midterm progress reports on the implementation of the third phase.²

Therefore, we call on States to support the adoption of the Plan of Action for the fourth phase of the World Programme and to ensure significant commitments to implement it, including submitting follow-up reports requested by OHCHR.

If, the estimated 1.8 billion young people in the world between the age of 10 and 24 are given the opportunity to uphold and protect the core values of human rights, they can contribute to build a “pluralist and inclusive society” as stated in the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training adopted by the General Assembly in 2011 and an authentic culture of human rights, rooted in daily life.

Thank you Mr President

¹ This statement reflects views of the NGO Working Group on Human Rights Education and Learning (NGO WG on HREL) of NGO Human Rights Committee of CoNGO, comprising 55 NGOs.

² United Nations, General Assembly, *Midterm progress report on the implementation of the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education*, A/HRC/36/24 (30 June 2017), available from undocs.org/en/A/HRC/36/24.