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Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV), a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[19 August 2019]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.

Interactive Dialogue with the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) strongly condemns unilateralism specifically the Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs) and unilateral exercise of political and economic power over developing countries.

ODVV solemnly believes that UCMs violate an international equitable order through disproportionate and indiscriminate violation of all human rights of innocent civilians including the following rights enumerated in the mandate of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order:

- a. The right of all peoples to self-determination and to freely determine their political status because UCMs interfere with political integrity and sovereignty of target countries.
- b. The right to freely pursue the economic, social and cultural development, because all economic and cultural exchanges of target countries are hampered and hindered by UCMs.
- c. The right of peoples to use their natural wealth and resources, because prohibition of international trade (such as oil export) means preventing a nation from using its natural resources.
- d. The right of every person to development. UCMs impair the right to development by preventing constant improvement of the people's well-being and contributing to growth of social inequalities. The unequal access to essential social services is among the most serious adverse consequences of UCMs because when vital items such as medicine, medical equipment and medical care are detrimentally influenced by UCMs, many human lives are threatened by the measures.
- e. The right of all peoples to peace and social, political stability as well as having friendly relations with all other States are also violated by UCMs. These rights are normally supported by free access to international trade and co-operation prohibited by UCMs.
- f. The right to an international economic order based on cooperation among all States because target countries are forced to have a very small share of the international market.
- g. International solidarity, as a right of people is another right violated by UCMs because it is largely promoted through international trade which is forbidden under UCMs.
- h. The promotion and consolidation of democratic, just and accountable international institutions is another aspect of social development impaired by UCMs because the unilateral measures seriously undermine democratic institutions.
- i. The right to equitable participation in global decision-making is violated by UCMs because target countries will never have equal participation opportunity to do so.
- j. The right of every person to a healthy environment and to use modern, nature-friendly technologies and to reduce over-reliance on fossil fuels, because UCMs prevent import of modern technologies to target communities on various excuses, as in the case of Iran the ban on foreign financial transactions seriously limits the use of green technologies in the country.
- k. The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth because economy and trade is the first section of each society seriously targeted

by UCMs and international inequality in access to global wealth is the first and foremost product of the unilateral measures.

1. The fulfilment of the shared responsibility of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development as well as threats to international peace and security, that should be exercised multilaterally is also impaired by UCMs that deprive the target country from the opportunities of international cooperation forcing the target state into isolation.

Considering the scope of violations resulted by exercise of UCMs against developing countries, the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) calls on the UN Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order to:

- Study the negative consequences of UCMs on the people's right to promotion of a democratic and equitable international order in target countries and report the findings to the Human Rights Council, contributing to the mandates of the high commissioner for Human Rights, special procedures and specifically the Special Rapporteur on UCM.
- Draw the attention of the Human Rights Council and UCM source countries to the scope of violations of human rights as a result of imposition of UCMs.
- Publicly condemn the UCMs as violators of the right to equitable international order in Individual or joint public statements.
