



**PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

THIRD COMMITTEE

ITEM 68 B, C: HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS

STATEMENT BY KATHRIN NESCHER, SECOND SECRETARY

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Madam Chair,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of Australia, Iceland, New Zealand, Switzerland and my own country, Liechtenstein.

A little over a year ago we adopted the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development here in New York. With its adoption, we finally put into practice what we had been saying for many years: the link between development and human rights is no longer just conceptual, but has been transformed to concrete commitments to advance both our development efforts and our human rights work. The promotion and protection of human rights is at the basis of the new agenda; most goals have a clear human rights focus, and many of the SDG targets are directly linked to commitments made by States in human rights instruments.

One of the most contentiously discussed rights concepts in New York and in Geneva is the Right to Development. A close look of the 2030 Agenda however shows that this unanimously adopted blueprint for sustainable development shares a number of commonalities with the Declaration on the Right to Development. Both documents recognize the centrality people to

development. Both seek to create enabling environments in which every individual's human rights and fundamental freedoms are fully realized. Both acknowledge that peace is essential for development. And: both reaffirm each State's responsibility to ensure equal opportunities for its citizens based on non-discrimination.

We recognize that it has been challenging to use the right to development in a constructive way in our discussions over the past few years. Discussions have sometimes obscured the true meaning of the Right to Development: the inalienable right of every individual to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized.

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development we have a new opportunity to practically explore the relationship between the protection and promotion of human rights for all and the achievement of sustainable development. The Right to Development should feature in that discussion.

Our delegations are ready to engage on this issue. The upcoming anniversary of the Declaration in December provides us with a chance to reframe our discussions and look at the Right to Development for what it really is: sustainable development and the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for everyone.

I thank you.