



Global Coalition for **SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS**

Human Rights Council, Geneva, 25th Session
High Level Segment

Statement by Priti Darooka

Mr President and distinguished delegates

I am Priti Darooka, a human rights defender from India and a member of core group of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors, a coalition of over 80 organisations demanding the right to social security for all globally. I am honoured to address you on behalf of millions of people around the world who are working for social and economic justice, and human rights. We want the human right to social security for all and believe that the right to social security is a key instrument for the realisation of all human rights with dignity.

The world today remains an unfair, unequal, insecure and unhealthy place for the majority of people. Four out of five people in the world do not have access to comprehensive social security and 50% of these live in absolute poverty. Women continue to constitute 70% of the world's poor. About 30% of our planet's population has no access to adequate health care. Every second child is poor and each year millions of children die of preventable causes. Millions of older persons face poverty, hardship and diseases. Inequalities are increasing and social progress is uneven, and unacceptably modest and slow.

It is also important to acknowledge that in the last few years, social protection globally has gained predominance and political support in the context of development and poverty reduction agendas. The right to social security is one of the foundations for inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. It can simultaneously address the economic, social and environmental dimensions as well as protect and promote livelihoods. It can have a transformative role in contributing to long term inclusive and sustainable growth while also enhancing resilience against natural and manmade disasters, including economic, financial and social crisis.

The Global Coalition on Social Protection Floors believes that right based national social protection floors are coherent, comprehensive and indispensable social policy tools for achieving the eradication of poverty and reduction of inequalities by 2030. We therefore recommend universal social security entitlements and increased protection to be adopted as an integral part of an overarching goal for social protection in the post 2015 development agenda.

The Global Coalition on Social Protection Floors recommends to the Human Rights Council to call on states to take appropriate measures and steps with a view to respecting, protecting and fulfilling the right to social protection of all individuals regardless of their social, economic or religious backgrounds. In particular, states must ensure the participation of vulnerable and marginalised groups in the design and implementation of laws and policies on social protection within their jurisdictions.

The Coalition recommends that the Human Rights Council, in its Resolution on the Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, recognize the International Labour Organization's Social Protection Floors Recommendation 202 as instrumental to the realization of the right to social security.

The Global Coalition appeals to the Council that it should ensure that all economic, social and cultural rights are an integral part of the Universal Periodic Review process and that Member States are requested to report on the status of economic, social, and cultural rights along with civil and political rights. We further recommend the Council to engage with member states during the review process on steps that have been taken for the realisation of the right to social security for all.

Thank you.

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