

THIRD CYCLE UPR IN-COUNTRY PRE-SESSION

CSOs Parallel Report on SERs

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OUTLINE

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- SERs – New developments and needs
 - A. Right to work/labor
 - B. Right to education
 - C. Right to health
 - D. Right to housing
- Recommendations

BACKGROUND

- Post 2nd UPR Eth. witnessed immense political upheaval and socio-economic instability
- Priority for short term measures
- Retrogression in realizing SERs
- Highlighting key issues on SERs as objective

A. RIGHT TO WORK/LABOR – NEW DEV'T & NEEDS

- the job opportunities made available by the *Youth Revolving Fund for Youth and the Federal Urban Job Creation* projects are far from adequate;
- Construction of industrial cluster zones and mega projects are lagging behind their plan;
- Proliferation of illegal employment agencies; and
- Unemployment and underemployment, especially among young people, continues to be a driver of social unrest;
- Politicizing job opportunities, access to microfinance loan; and
- More than ten million of the population are unemployed and this figure increase by 1.5 million newly graduating students annually.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON R/T TO WORK

- i. **Give special attention to the most disadvantaged youth groups so as to curb the social and economic problems** of the unemployed youth and the prevalent social injustice that is the main cause of unrest in the country;
- ii. Develop a coherent policy and strategy that aims at reducing the high unemployment and underemployment rates;
- iii. **Introduce a minimum wage** and strictly monitor and implement minimum labor standards in all sectors including domestic workers;

B. RIGHT TO EDUCATION – NEW DEV'T & NEEDS

- developed 5th Education Sector Development Plan (ESDP V) of 2015;
- Considering the complicated problems of quality education, the government has recently rolled out a road map to be implemented in the next implementation phases;
- Deregulation and privatization of primary education where **high and unaffordable tuition fees exclude children** from low-income families;
- High rates of violence in class rooms and gender based violence in the school environment are still rampant;
- Almost no schools that accommodate mental, physical, hearing and sight disabilities out of the capital city;
- 76% of schools are without water** while only 11% of primary schools have an appropriate water facility
- The pupil-to-class and pupil-to-textbook ratio still stands as an obstacle to quality education.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON R/T TO EDUCATION

- i. Ensure that **equitable attention is given across different regions** and socio-economic classes for access to education. In particular, policies and schemes targeting the poor and disadvantaged and the existing disparities in gender, disability, rural-urban, etc. should be designed;
- ii. Intensify interventions to combat violence in schools and take measures towards ensuring a safe school environment; and,
- iii. **Increase financial allocations to the education sector**, so as to guarantee high quality public education, and give children the chance to enjoy their right to free primary education.

C. RIGHT TO HEALTH– NEW DEV'T & NEEDS

- Though committed to ensure universal health coverage, **low insurance coverage;**
- neglect of the public healthcare sector & growing privatization affects poor households
- enormous expansion of health extension workers and health centers in terms of service delivery, it is estimated that only 75% of urban households and about 42% of rural dwellers are within walking distance & rural –urban disparity
- In 2017, physician to population ratio has reached **1:17,000 population**
- Emigration of trained and talented health professionals
- **no complaints mechanisms for cases of clinical malpractice** or infringements of patients' rights & no reliable expert evidences

RECOMMENDATIONS ON R/T TO HEALTH

- Taking urgent action to address the escalating cost of healthcare;
- Exerting relentless efforts to provide universal health insurance;
- Prioritizing the development of policy and legal framework for access to redress in case of medical malpractice;

D. RIGHT TO HOUSING – NEW DEV'T & NEEDS

- The heightened lack of affordable housing owing to inadequate public investment and rampant corruption in the construction sector;
- Absence of law protecting buyers from real estate developers; tenure of rental houses;
- The pro-poor housing policy do not cater to the needs of low-income households rather for upper-middle income and luxury
- condominium housing project suffer from lack of facilities, services and proper infrastructure

RECOMMENDATIONS ON R/T TO HOUSING

- Avail adequate legal and regulatory frameworks that govern real estate developers and rental of housing units;
- Launch a comprehensive housing policy to increase affordable housing, regulate the private housing sector (rental houses) and intensify government investment in the housing sector

From all the members of our coalition:

- Ethiopian Lawyers Association (ELA)
- Ethiopia Women Lawyers Association (EWLA)
- Vision Ethiopian Congress for Democracy (VECOD)
- Ethiopian Human Rights Council (HRCO)
- Consortium of Ethiopian Rights Organization (CERO)
- Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations (NEWA)
- Ethiopian Young Lawyers Association (EYLA)
- Transparency Ethiopia (TE)
- Sara Justice from All Women Association (Sara Justice)
- Ethiopian National Association for the Blind (ENAB)
- Advocates Ethiopia (AE)

THANK YOU
