

UNDP Statement

HRC58 | Tuesday 21 March 2025 | 9:30-12:30

Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on minorities

Excellencies,

UNDP welcomes the work of the Special Rapporteur in clarifying states' obligations regarding the right to identity for persons belonging to minorities. UNDP is committed to contributing to good practices in protecting the human rights of minorities.

Firstly, UNDP provides **financial and technical** support to a range of actors, including civil society and community-based organizations, to enhance the participation and representation of ethnic and religious minorities in decision-making processes and spaces.

Secondly, UNDP actively collaborates with the justice sector, civil society, and community-based organizations to dismantle barriers that hinder the full participation of minorities. In 2023, UNDP implemented programs **in 21 countries**, working alongside faith-based organizations, religious leaders, and women of faith to safeguard human rights—including freedom of religion or belief—to prevent religious discrimination.

Finally, UNDP welcomes the Special Rapporteur's **recognition of the interconnectedness** between the right to identity of ethnic, religious, and linguistic minorities and that of other minority groups, including intersex people.

Excellencies,

UNDP remains committed to integrating these obligations into its development programming, ensuring the right to identity for all minorities. We look forward to strengthening cooperation with all actors in this regard.

Thank you.