



**STATEMENT TO THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL BY MR. RUDI
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ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL
SOLIDARITY**

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Mr. President, distinguished delegates, ladies & gentlemen,

I thank you for this opportunity to present my report and engage in a dialogue, which I hope will continue as in the past year to valuably shape the scope and potential of my mandate.

This mandate has emerged from resolution 2005/55, where the former Commission on Human Rights emphasized the importance of international solidarity as a vital component of the efforts of developing countries toward the realization of the right to development of their people and the promotion of the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights for everyone.

The Commission tasked the independent expert, which it appointed for a period of three years, to study the issue of international solidarity and human rights and to prepare a draft declaration on the right of peoples to international solidarity.

As the holder of this mandate, I would like to present the basic elements of my present report, the priorities identified in this report, future focus areas, and followed by some concluding remarks.

The definition of international or more appropriately global solidarity applied in this report is what I had outlined earlier: the union of interests or purposes among countries of the world, and social cohesion between them, based upon the dependence of States and other international actors on each other, in order to preserve the order and very survival of international society, and in order to achieve collective goals, which

require international cooperation and joint action. Global solidarity does encompass the relationship of solidarity between States and other actors, such as international organizations, and civil society.

The three focus areas in the report that develop the human rights of people through international solidarity are namely: international cooperation, global response to natural disasters, diseases and agricultural pests, and third generation rights. These three major areas of focus point to the existence of international solidarity in international forums.

On the focus area of **international cooperation**, it is of essential importance to the realization of the right to development and in contributing to equality in development. The benefits and burdens of this global world are not evenly distributed and the world needs a fairer distribution of the benefits of globalization. General Assembly Resolution 55/2 states that the central challenge we face today is to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the people in the world. The Resolution further states that, while globalization offers great opportunities, its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed.

It is only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future that globalization can be made fully inclusive and equitable. With this second report, I hope to bring about further acknowledgement of international solidarity as a right of peoples. I see the duty of solidarity as an imperative prerequisite of globalization. International cooperation can ensure that globalization is made fully inclusive and equitable and also lead to achieving sustained growth, to ensure that people in all developing countries can benefit from globalization.

The spirit of international cooperation as an approach to globalization is enacted in the Monterrey Consensus which emphasizes the need for international cooperation and joint action in line with the spirit of solidarity, in facing global economic challenges. This is also reflected in MDG 8, where the concept of solidarity is closely related to the partnership aspect. I suggest a number of practical steps including endorsement of regional initiatives for monitoring the realization of human rights, especially the right to development.

The report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the 2005 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2005/65) addressed the human rights dimension of the Millennium Declaration and in particular the links between human rights and the Millennium Development Goals. I call for adequate resources to be made available to developing countries for the purpose of meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

The second area of focus is the **global response to natural disasters, diseases and agricultural pests**. With an increase in the impact of natural disasters in recent years, this has created a growing recognition of international solidarity and the sustainable development and related efforts needed to prevent and reduce the effects of natural disasters. My suggestions include providing assistance and cooperation in developing and implementing measures for disaster relief and emergency response, through exchange of information and technology based on mutual assistance.

On diseases, promoting health and fighting pandemics, such as HIV/AIDS, malaria and the emerging avian influenza, will improve the

lives of many people and resonate with Millennium Development Goal 6 and only accentuates the need for international solidarity in this area. On agricultural pests, any disruption of the agricultural sector can lead to adverse consequences and also lead to slowdowns in poverty eradication and can seriously impede bio-security and fighting hunger. There is a need for international solidarity in helping developing countries develop analytical, scientific, and administrative and infrastructure capacities in agriculture.

The third area of focus would be what is referred to as ‘**third-generation rights**’. These third-generation rights include the right to development, already mentioned in the context of international cooperation. More broadly, third-generation rights could be seen as rights of solidarity.

In closing, this mandate could continue to expand on any of the focus areas mentioned, namely, international cooperation, global responses to natural disasters, diseases and agricultural pests, and third-generation rights. International cooperation, MDG 8, and the right to development might be given more attention in the form of research and exploration.

I look forward to an interesting dialogue and a fruitful cooperation with you all.

Thank you all for your attention.