

Joint Written Contributions to the Draft General Comment on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
and the Environmental Dimension of Sustainable Development



DMUN Foundation
Katija Hyoungjoo Neuber Institute¹

**Joint Written Contributions to the Draft General Comment on Economic,
Social and Cultural Rights and the Environmental Dimension of
Sustainable Development**

For Consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Office of the
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Submitted on behalf of the Foundation and the Institute by:

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¹ The Katija Hyoungjoo Neuber Institute is a Member Organization of the DMUN Foundation and serves as its policy advocacy and think-tank organ. The Institute shares its governing body with the Foundation.

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Excellency,

The Office of the Executive Director presents its compliments to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and has the honor to refer to the following information from Mr. Jaewon Choi, the Executive Director of the DMUN Foundation.

The Office of the Executive Director, in representation of the Executive Director, avails this opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration to the Committee and the Office.

Paragraph 1

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "...taking into account their different national realities, circumstances, capacities and levels of development."

With: "...taking into account their different national realities, circumstances, capacities, and levels of development, while emphasizing the inclusion of youth perspectives and ensuring intergenerational equity as a core principle of sustainable development."

Paragraph 2

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "...which should constitute the bedrock of all measures adopted by States parties to advance sustainable development."

With: "...which should constitute the bedrock of all measures adopted by States parties to advance sustainable development, ensuring the active participation of youth-led organizations in monitoring and implementing these measures at the local and national levels."

Paragraph 5

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "High-income states should collaborate with global youth platforms to design educational campaigns on sustainable consumption patterns, encouraging young people to lead behavioral change initiatives in their communities."

Paragraph 8

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Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "States should actively support the inclusion of youth in international decision-making bodies related to environmental governance, ensuring they have a seat at the table in global climate negotiations."

Paragraph 13

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "States must respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all in their climate policies."

With: "States must respect, protect, and fulfil the rights of all in their climate policies, ensuring youth participation in designing adaptive and mitigation strategies."

Paragraph 15

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "States should also create mentorship programs where experienced policymakers and environmental scientists collaborate with young professionals to foster capacity-building for equitable and sustainable policy design."

Paragraph 18

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "Youth innovation hubs should be created to develop solutions for sustainable resource management, with funding from both governmental and private sectors."

Paragraph 21

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "Preventing, mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change is therefore an important obligation of all States in the context of international cooperation."

With: "Preventing, mitigating, and adapting to the effects of climate change is therefore an important obligation of all States in the context of international cooperation, including the establishment of youth-led task forces in vulnerable regions."

Paragraph 27

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "States are required to act cooperatively and collectively to achieve sustainable development and protect human rights."

With: "States are required to act cooperatively and collectively to achieve sustainable development and protect human rights, including through the establishment of global youth forums to discuss cross-border solutions to planetary environmental crises."

Paragraph 30

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Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "States must ensure that international technology transfer agreements prioritize accessibility for youth-focused enterprises, particularly in developing countries, enabling the next generation to lead innovation in climate adaptation."

Paragraph 31

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "International climate funds should include a designated allocation for youth-led climate resilience and sustainability projects, promoting their leadership in affected areas."

Paragraph 38

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "States must ensure that the issuance of any licence or permit for activities related to natural resource extraction is preceded by appropriate due diligence regarding human rights and the environment..."

With: "States must ensure that the issuance of any licence or permit for activities related to natural resource extraction is preceded by appropriate due diligence regarding human rights and the environment, including the mandatory consultation of youth from affected communities."

Paragraph 44

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "Women frequently have an inferior legal, social and economic status based on unequal power structures and patriarchal societies."

With: "Women and young girls frequently face an inferior legal, social, and economic status due to unequal power structures, patriarchal societies, and systemic discrimination, requiring targeted interventions to ensure their full participation in sustainable development efforts."

Paragraph 47

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "States must promote scholarships and grants aimed at empowering youth from marginalized communities to pursue education in climate science and environmental law."

Paragraph 60

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "States should develop protection mechanisms to guarantee the participation and inclusion of children and adolescents in the making of decisions that affect their futures."

With: "States should develop protection mechanisms to guarantee the participation and inclusion of children, adolescents, and young adults in the making of decisions that affect their futures, particularly in local climate adaptation projects."

Paragraph 65

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Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "Governments should partner with youth organizations to design public campaigns on the importance of sustainable water use and conservation practices."

Paragraph 73

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "Education for sustainable development, human rights and environmental protection, including climate change, needs to be valued and regarded as a lifelong learning process..."

With: "Education for sustainable development, human rights, and environmental protection, including climate change, must be incorporated into primary, secondary, and tertiary curricula, with specific programs designed to empower youth as future leaders in environmental governance."

Paragraph 85

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "Indigenous youth must be prioritized in programs aimed at preserving traditional ecological knowledge, ensuring their active role in biodiversity conservation and land management."

Paragraph 94

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "...special attention must be paid to ensuring that groups and institutions representing the human rights of future generations have legal standing and access to effective remedies."

With: "...special attention must be paid to ensuring that youth-led organizations and groups representing the human rights of future generations have legal standing and access to effective remedies, including simplified procedural access to environmental litigation."

Paragraph 97

Type of Modification: Insertion of New Paragraph

Modification: Add: "Customary and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms should integrate youth mediators, particularly in communities where generational divides affect land use and environmental protection strategies."

Paragraph 100

Type of Modification: Modification of Existing Paragraph

Modification: Replace: "States should respect, protect, promote and facilitate the work of human rights and environmental defenders..."

With: "States should respect, protect, promote, and facilitate the work of human rights and environmental defenders, including young activists, by implementing protections against reprisals and establishing youth-focused environmental advocacy funds to support their work."