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## **36<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council**

### **ITEM 6 - UPR Outcomes India**

21 September 2017

*Speaker: Amock Alikuleti*

Thank you, Mr. President,

RADDHO welcomes India's continued improvement and commitment to meaningful engagement with the UPR mechanism in its third cycle review, as well as its increasing engagement with other international instruments and human rights mechanisms.

Regarding the Government's response to ESC rights, we salute the country's prioritization of poverty eradication and inclusive sustainable development through consolidated initiatives undertaken in accordance with the global 2030 Agenda.

Such initiatives include good coverage of ESC rights such as housing and health, as well as significant steps taken towards inclusive and quality education for all; efforts to eliminate all forms of malnutrition through the National Food Security Act, as well as progress on employment through the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

India's cyber governance and coverage throughout the country should be commended. Equally commendable is India's role in technology transfer to developing countries in the spirit of South-South cooperation; this stands as an example of good practice.

India is the largest democratic nation in Asia based on a pluralistic, multicultural and multi-ethnic society that faces security challenges linked to the identity crises of several separatist groups and movements along its borders. Given the complexity of this situation, RADDHO invites India to continue the dialogue to resolve these difficulties through a comprehensive, socio-economic and inclusive policy.

We encourage the Government to continue on the current path of empowering minorities and vulnerable groups with a view to ratifying ILO-convention 169.

On the basis of India's strengthened engagement with the international community, we are hopeful that India will complement its progress in protecting human rights with ratification of CAT and the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Thank you.