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Written statement* submitted by The Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[1 February 2019]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



The Implementation of Human Rights in China

We, the Vietnam Peace and Development Foundation, would like to express our appreciation of China's achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights.

China has made tremendous economic and social development and become the world's second largest economy. As a result, more than 13 million new jobs are created and 13 million people escape from poverty every year. The basic living needs have been met for the 260 million elderly people, 85 million people with disabilities and more than 60 million urban and rural residents living on subsistence allowances. China has also achieved universal coverage of the nine-year compulsory education and social security system.

Regarding religious freedom, China has made efforts to realize its commitment to protect religious freedom by adopting policies on freedom of religious belief, building active and healthy religious relationships, and maintaining religious and social harmony. China has integrated religious work into the national governance system and improved the management of religious work under the rule of law. There are 1,787 religious sites in The Tibet Autonomous Region, with over 46,000 monks and nuns and 358 living Buddhas. The tradition of living Buddha incarnation has been fully respected. The Chinese Government respects the religious belief and customs of Muslims, makes arrangements for 15,000 Muslims to make pilgrimage to Mecca. In Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region, there are over 24,000 mosques, with over 29,000 imams.

Religious communities have good access to public services. All religions in China receive full support by the Chinese Government to adhere to the principle of independence and self-administration and to develop exchanges and cooperation with their foreign counterparts on the basis of equality, goodwill and mutual respect.

We do hope that China will continue to respect and protect its citizens' freedom to religious beliefs, and strive to build the country into a prosperous, strong, democratic, culturally advanced, and harmonious country with a sound environment.

Concerning international human rights governance, we respect the Chinese Government approach to human rights from a historical, dialectical and developmental perspective. Moreover, China sticks to the peaceful development, upholds multilateralism, safeguards international justice. We totally acclaim China's active participation in international human rights governance, bringing up such initiative as "promoting human rights through cooperation", "promoting human rights through development" and "promoting human rights through poverty reduction", and commitment to build a new type of international relations based on mutual respect, equity, justice and win-win cooperation, and create a community of shared future for mankind, making great contribution to the healthy development of world rights cause.

We highly appreciate that China is making effort to strengthen international cooperation to better protect human rights by conducting constructive dialogue with other countries based on equality and mutual respect. In the past 5 years, China conducted more than 50 human rights dialogues with more than 20 countries and organisations, supports multilateral human rights mechanism to perform their duties in a just and objective way.

We note with appreciation that China announced at its 3rd round of UPR that it will contribute US\$800,000 annually to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and will invite the Chair of Working Group on the Right to Development, Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to visit China.

We applaud China for recently providing Chinese solutions to global human rights governance. China is actively engaged in global governance of human rights, making proposals at the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Human Rights Council and on other occasions to promote the establishment of an international human rights system that is fair, just, reasonable and effective. Nevertheless, China renders help to other developing countries in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, promoting the realization of

the right to subsistence and right to development in the world and making great contribution to world peace and prosperity, and international human rights development.

We truly encourage China to continuously maintain its important part in global human rights governance, promote an equitable, just and effective international human rights system.
