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Human Rights Council Forty-sixth session 22 February–19 March 2021 Agenda item 3 Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by Chinese Association for International Understanding, 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.

[01 February 2021]



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

Seek consensus on the most pressing issues concerning human rights and jointly find solutions to improve the wellbeing of the humanity by enhancing exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations

Established in 1981, the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU) is composed by social activists, scholars and representatives from all walks of life. It is committed to enhancing mutual understanding and cooperation between China and other countries, promoting exchanges and mutual learning among different civilizations, safeguarding world peace, promoting common development, and empowering the building of a community of shared future for mankind. CAFIU proposes that efforts be made to seek consensus on the most pressing issues concerning human rights and jointly find solutions to improve the well-being of the humanity by enhancing exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, and promoting understanding among peoples of different countries across the world.

There are over 2,500 ethnic groups and many religions in over 200 countries and regions in the world. Civilizations were shaped by the collective memories of countries and ethnic groups throughout history, making our planet a colourful world. The achievements in all civilizations constitute the collective heritage of the humanity, providing a source of inspiration for us and the foundation for progress. Thanks to these civilizations, we are able to enjoy diverse cultures and inexhaustible creativity. In the modernization and globalization process of human society, different civilizations have increasingly contributed to the building of a shared homeland for mankind and the promotion of the progress in human civilization and the peaceful development of the world. Better exchanges and mutual learning among different civilizations are important for us to enhance mutual understanding, seek common values, and work together to address the common challenges facing the humanity. In today's world, the primary goal of conducting exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations is to satisfy people's pursuit of a better life. The international community, including the political, economic, and academic circles, and civil society of all countries, should strive to promote exchanges and mutual learning among different civilizations.

Living a happy life is the primary human right. Better education, more stable jobs, higher income, more reliable social security, higher standard of medical and health services, better living conditions, and more pleasant environment represent the common pursuits of people all over the world. With COVID-19 raging across the globe, people's lives are under grave threat. The world economy is in deep recession. What we have learned from the pandemic is that people in different parts of the world are increasingly interconnected, and building a community with a shared future for mankind is the right direction for the development of humanity. As guardians of our planet, we should share our valuable experience in fighting COVID-19, and enhance international coordination and cooperation. It is a specific way of exchanges and mutual learning among different civilizations in public health, and an embodiment of our values as well.

It is our wish that the Human Rights Council and other United Nations agencies work in a fair, objective and non-selective manner to promote exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations that accommodate the common pursuit of the humanity, and promote the idea of wide consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits so as to guide the international community towards better cooperation in protecting and developing human rights.