



Oral Statement for the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for Item 3 of the 51st session of the Human Rights Council

20 September 2022

Thank you, Mr. President.

We welcome the report of the High Commissioner on the importance of the economic, social and cultural rights (ESC rights) framework in the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has revealed deep inequalities which have increased poverty, exponentially raised unpaid care and domestic work for millions of women and girls, and pushed people into hunger and unemployment. It has highlighted weak social protection systems and decades of austerity and privatization policies that have left public services underfunded and dismantled.

The climate crisis further disrupts the ecosystems necessary for sustaining life on our planet. The impacts of these interlinked crises have left those historically prevented from enjoying their ESC rights in one of the most challenging positions confronted in human history.

As the report highlights, comprehensive recovery policies and practices must address conditions of unsustainability and inequality, and consistently integrate human rights, especially economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. GI-ESCR will be publishing a report during a side- event on the 3rd October highlighting the opportunities that a rights-aligned gender-just transition offers to achieve this goal.

We invite the High Commissioner to work with all stakeholders to ensure the international human rights framework is used as road map to ensure a transition towards a future that enables the enjoyment of human rights for all on a thriving planet.

Thank you

Contact:

[Alejandra Lozano](#), Programme Officer on Climate and Environmental Justice, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, info@gi-escr.org