



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
28 June 2024

English only

---

## Human Rights Council

Fifty-sixth session

18 June–12 July 2024

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 World Eco-Design Conference, 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.

[27 May 2024]

---

\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



## **Ecological Design and Human Rights**

World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) respects all forms that promote and protect human rights, including civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights, including the right to development. The World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) actively advocates for various aspects such as economic, social, and cultural rights, environmental rights, protection of the rights of specific groups, and participation in global human rights governance. We emphasizes the interconnection between human rights and sustainable development from three aspects: industrial ecology, humanity ecology and environment ecology, and provides sustainable solutions through innovative ecological design integration, contributing to global human rights governance, safeguarding public rights and interests, addressing livelihood issues, and improving the quality of the ecological environment.

In the aspect of industrial ecology, the World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) promotes healthy industrial ecology with the power of design. The World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) launched the low-carbon development project of Eco-Design Town (formerly Tangwei Village) with the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (UN Technology Bank), respecting and promoting the realization of regional development rights. The World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) cooperates with the UN Technology Bank to promote open-source technology transfer to the LDCs, accelerating the development of science, technology and innovation and sustainable technology in the LDCs and facilitating the integration of human rights and technological sustainability. We co-organizes with the UNIDO to launch the UNIDO Eco-Design Leading Talent Training Program, sharing experience in the eco-industrial development, exploring new mechanisms and models for coordinated development of economy, society, environmental resources in different countries and regions, thus promoting sustainable economic rights globally. The World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) has continuously strengthened its partnership with the UN agencies, especially the UNIDO, the UN Women and the UN Technology Bank, advancing development through cooperation, promoting human rights through development, and improving living conditions to promote common development.

In the aspect of humanity ecology, the World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) embraces the concept of respecting and promoting diversified human ecology through design. We co-established the Wanqu Open University of Design (WOUD) with Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e), Zhejiang University (ZJU) and other famous universities around the world, and jointly trained 100 postgraduates worldwide every year, which respects and assist in the advancement of cultural rights through institutional cooperation. We co-initiated the International Design Education (IDE) Program with the UN Technology Bank, which enrolls 50 students from the least developed countries (LDCs) to study industrial design engineering every year, effectively promoting the construction of an inclusive society and enhances the well-being of individuals and communities. We co-launched the Eco-Design Leading Talent Training Program (EDLTTP) with the UNIDO, and jointly trained nearly 100 representatives from more than 40 countries in the Asia-Pacific and Africa, thereby promoting human rights and cultural rights through practical actions, contributing to global human rights governance and safeguarding public rights and interests. We recognizes the significant positive impact of gender equality and the empowerment of women and has been on the progress to achieving Digital Design·Women Empowerment through the Program for Digital Design and Women's Poverty Alleviation, the One Village One Product (OVOP) Program, the IDE Program and the UNIDO-EDLTTP. The beneficiaries of the programs cover rural women in China, young women in the LDCs, and female workers of government, academia, and private sector of the world as well as the UN agencies, emphasizing the interconnection between human rights and civil, social, and cultural rights activities. It provides sustainable solutions through the integration of human rights and ecological design innovation, contributing to safeguarding public interests and addressing livelihood issues.

In the aspect of environment ecology, the World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) creates environmental ecology for sustainability by design. We promote the establishment of the China's First Eco-Design Town, and the permanent site of World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC), the National Eco-Industrial Design Institute (EIDI), the Designers' Village, the Yadong River, the Eco-Design Avenue and the General Aviation Airport, which have been completed and officially put into used. The low-carbon development project of Eco-Design Town enjoys economic, social and environmental benefits. It is highly sustainable, and of great practical significance to the promotion of the cause of human rights. The operation team of Eco-Design Town embraces the concept of ecological development and applies massive ecological, low carbon, environmental friendly technologies. In line with the ecological landscape, the team carries out micro reconstruction of the Yadong River, takes the mountains, water, forests and grass along as a life community to protect, so as to restore the biodiversity of the river. At the same time, the team strictly protects the original natural environment, uses measures such as re-greening of the damaged forests and enrichment of the non-commercial forests, so as to repair mountain soil erosion areas, and make the proportion of blue-green space stable over 70% to maintain ecological balance. These changes have significantly promoted the employment of the surrounding villagers, achieved comprehensive development of rural industries, effectively promoted the implementation of economic rights activities in the region, fostered economic prosperity and social progress, reduced poverty and inequality, and realized comprehensive social advancement.

As an NGO with the UN Consultative Status, the World Eco-Design Conference (WEDC) will further integrate civil, political, economic, social, cultural rights, and the right to development with education, design, ecology, innovation, and sustainable development through the aspects of industrial ecology, humanity ecology and environment ecology. We will further effectively promote the protection of human rights and take solid steps towards fostering social stability and harmony, strengthening democracy and the rule of law, foster economic prosperity and social progress, and realizing cultural diversity and social harmony. It not only conforms to the development trend of the international environment and human rights, but also contributes to the realization of the goals of the 2023 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

---