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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement submitted by Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations, 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.

[7 August 2026]

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



Climate Finance as a Human Rights Imperative: Bridging the Gap Through Technology and Innovation

I. Climate change, climate finance, and human rights: An inseparable chain

Climate change poses an immediate and serious threat to the full enjoyment of human rights. The increasing frequency of extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and shortages of food and drinking water directly undermine the rights to life, health, an adequate standard of living, and development. Tackling climate change requires not only mitigation and adaptation measures, but also sufficient, predictable, and sustainable climate finance. The scale and speed of such financing will determine whether the world can effectively address climate change, and thus whether the human rights of billions of people can be protected. Climate finance is not an optional supplement—it is a baseline necessity for human rights protection.

II. Climate finance as a legal obligation and a human rights imperative

Climate finance is not charity; it is a legal obligation under international law. In its advisory opinion of July 2025, the International Court of Justice affirmed that States have binding obligations to provide climate finance. Yet the current financing gap is enormous—developing countries face an adaptation finance gap of approximately USD 310 billion per year, more than twelve times the finance they currently receive, while global fossil fuel subsidies and investment still amount to nearly one trillion dollars annually. Without adequate funding, climate action cannot materialize, and the rights to development and health of developing countries and the most vulnerable will be further undermined. Bridging this gap requires more than political commitments among governments; it also demands technological innovation and industrial transformation to amplify the impact of every dollar invested. This is precisely where technology enterprises and civil society can play a vital role.

III. What Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations can do

Zhongguancun Federation of Social Organizations is uniquely positioned to contribute to this global effort. As a 5A-level hub-type social organization operating under the guidance of the Beijing Municipal Science & Technology Commission and the Zhongguancun Administrative Committee, the Federation brings together 170 social organizations and covers over 100,000 technology enterprises across Zhongguancun, China's premier innovation hub. Its members span cutting-edge sectors including digital economy, artificial intelligence, biopharmaceuticals, new energy, and energy conservation and environmental protection.

The Federation has already demonstrated its commitment to sustainable development. Its written statement on "Building Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Communities" was officially included in the official documents of the UN Economic and Social Council's 2026 High-Level Segment. The Federation has also actively participated in the UN Human Rights Council's 57th session, with its report formally included in the session documents.

In the area of climate action specifically, the Federation has taken concrete steps. In September 2025, it co-organized the "Chain-based Enterprise Assistance" (Staff Innovation Achievement Exhibition and Exchange Event) in the zero-carbon field, focusing on ESG empowerment and energy transition outcomes. The event brought together social organizations and enterprise representatives from the green energy and energy conservation sectors, showcasing innovative breakthroughs and wide applications of zero-carbon technologies across different subsectors.

Looking ahead, the Federation commits to the following actions:

First, facilitate technology-for-climate matchmaking. Leverage our network of over 100,000 enterprises to connect climate finance sources—whether from multilateral funds, green bonds, or impact investors—with vetted, scalable climate technologies developed by Zhongguancun companies.

Second, build international cooperation platforms. Building on our track record of hosting international forums such as the “Civil Wisdom·Shared Sci-Tech Innovation” forum at the Zhongguancun Forum, we will create dedicated platforms for global dialogue on climate technology and financing, bringing together stakeholders from across the innovation ecosystem.

Third, document and share best practices. As we have done in the areas of urban sustainability and social inclusion, we will systematically document the climate innovation practices of Chinese technology enterprises and share these experiences with the international community, contributing China’s solutions to global climate governance.

Fourth, advocate for rights-based climate finance. We will continue to participate actively in UN Human Rights Council processes, ensuring that the voices of technology enterprises and civil society organizations are heard in global discussions on climate financing, and that climate finance serves not only to reduce emissions but also to protect and advance human rights for all.

Climate change is the defining challenge of our time. The gap between what is needed and what is being done remains vast, but it is not unbridgeable. With political will, financial commitment, and technological innovation—and with the active engagement of social organizations or NGOs — we can build a future that is both sustainable and just. We call on all stakeholders to join us in this urgent endeavor.
