



**RTE Statement at the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
(CESCR)'s NGO Annual Meeting**

February 2024

Dear Committee members,

I am Rajakumari from the Right to Education Initiative.

We thank your Committee for holding this Annual NGO meeting. We would like to express great concern regarding the latest General Assembly resolution to cease hybrid services for official meetings, including the ones with your Committee. This decision seriously undermines the participation of NGOs not based in Geneva or Europe and those with limited resources. In addition, this decision appears to undermine global efforts to address climate change.

Civil society organisations have long demanded effective means for remote participation due to the glaring obstacles faced in accessing multilateral spaces by rights holders, particularly civil society organisations in the global south.

Therefore, we appeal to your committee to add your voice to the collective concerns raised by civil society organisations across the globe and offer equal opportunity, in engaging with your Committee through hybrid and virtual meeting spaces.

Thank you.

Delivered in a recorded video.