



**“Voluntary contribution to the Third Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the People's Republic of China, for the 31st Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review 2013-2018”**

Review Period: 2013-2018

**Legal Status:** Civil Association, **Tax Information Registry (RIF):** 40987533-4, **Address:** Avenida Caroní, Edificio Boconó, Piso 2, apartamento N° 6, Urbanización Colinas de Bello Monte, Parroquia Nuestra señora del Rosario, Municipio Baruta, Estado Bolivariano de Miranda, Venezuela. **Telephones:** 0212.751.07.63; 0416.704.48.18; 0426.919.10.41 **Email:** [Fundavivienda.ven@gmail.com](mailto:Fundavivienda.ven@gmail.com).

1- **The Fundación Venezolana por el Derecho a la Vivienda (Fundavivienda)** is a non-profit social organization, originated from the Red Metropolitana de Inquilinos (Metropolitan Network of Tenants), an organization that operated for 12 years and gave as result the first law carried out by the popular initiative in Venezuela: the Law Against Arbitrary Evictions and the Law for the Regularization and Control of Housing Rentals. We have participated in conferences in World Social Forums since 2009, UN-Habitat Rio de Janeiro and UN-Habitat III, being the winners of the Salvador Allende Award in Honorary Mention for the Eradication of Forced Evictions in Venezuela; we are also part of the international platform International Alliance of the Inhabitants. We presented "The Voluntary Contribution to the Second Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela for the 26th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review 2012-2016".

2- In June 2017 in the city of Caracas, we decided to change our legal status from the social movement (OCV Metropolitan Tenants Network) and registered as a non-profit foundation.

3- Fundavivienda's work field includes research, promotion, dissemination, education, research and defense of human rights, with special emphasis on the right to housing. We defend the right to housing and participate in international activism. We promote the Right to Housing from an ecological and self-sustaining perspective of the relationship between the environment, living beings and housing; as a whole that functions in a holistic manner, integrating other rights such as health, food and culture. We design the house respecting the rights of Mother Earth.

#### **4- Advances in the National Human Rights Policy of the People's Republic of China.**

5- The People's Republic of China respects and guarantees human rights, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. It is a signatory to the International Covenant on Civil, Political, Social and Cultural Rights and other international human rights treaties, which are included in the rights and guarantees of the Constitution of that country, to maintain international peace and security and the enjoyment of a life of dignity, freedom and increasing well-being for its citizens.

6- However, it can be observed that in the extensive development of economic development, the People's Republic of China has had to make great efforts to avoid imbalance, lack of coordination, unsustainability, disparity in development between cities and rural areas and between different regions; factors that increase poverty in the most vulnerable sectors.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>“China remains a developing country with a large population. United Nations, General Assembly "National report submitted under paragraph 5 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 \* China" A/HRC/WG.6/17/CHN/1 (5 August 2013) pp.20-21.

7- Following the above, China has carried out a series of Plans (2012-2015)<sup>2</sup> and (2016-2020) in which it proposes the improvement of the welfare of the people by providing a higher level of security for the rights of the people, together with the joint work of the government, institutions and social organizations to promote the development of the cause of human rights in China. At the UPR, China 2013, most member countries in China recognized improvements in human rights protection for the most vulnerable groups.

### **8- Challenges and opportunities for the People's Republic of China in the field of housing rights and housing.**

9- Housing and habitat in China has been structured on the basis of accelerated economic growth, addressing the massive migration of rural workers to the city. In this regard, the Chinese government must continue to generate policies that provide better conditions for rural workers and their families, who have not been legally resettled, do not enjoy the same public services, protection, benefits and work as the urban population, which marks a wide gap between the two populations, resulting in major congestion in the city.

10- In view of the expansion of cities, it is vital to continue promoting efficient spatial planning and structuring to avoid aspects such as: rural urban disparity (rural towns within the city), growing demand for infrastructure and therefore high housing prices, many of which are inadequate, insufficient supply of social housing, and low rental market development. In rural areas, irregular and low-priced land purchases should be avoided, as should the increase in new housing that exceeds urban housing. In addition, the necessary efforts to avoid environmental pollution in large cities are highlighted.

11- The above represents a major challenge for China: to take advantage of urbanization to move towards sustainable, inclusive urban development with Chinese features that reduce regional disparities and provide affordable housing for the most disadvantaged sections of the population.

12- Coordinate the progress of urbanization towards developed production, prosperous living and civilized rural atmosphere, with clean and orderly landscape with less carbon emissions.

13- China, aware of its urban problems, published its "New National Urbanization Plan" 2014-2020 based on the following characteristics: a) putting people first, b) synchronizing the progress of industrialization, c) computer expansion, d) urbanization and agricultural modernization, e) improving urban planning, f) protecting the ecological environment and preserving China's cultural heritage. In doing so, it aims to achieve a prosperous, modern and fairer society, and the experts recommend that any problems that may arise in the implementation of these measures be dealt with adequately and in a timely manner, in order to avoid affecting the justice and social stability of the country for a long time to come.

#### **14- Recommendations to the People's Republic of China.**

15- We commend the Chinese government for its "New National Urbanization Plan", we invite it to periodically evaluate its impacts in order to decide and apply the necessary control and adjustment measures.

<sup>2</sup>Between 2008 and 2012, the income of rural and urban dwellers increased annually by 9.9 per cent and 8.8 per cent, respectively. China implemented the development-oriented poverty reduction framework for rural China (2011-2020), which resulted in a drastic decline in the rural population living in poverty...<sup>12</sup>. Between 2009 and 2012, the Government allocated more than 450 billion yuan in assistance funds to build state-subsidized urban apartments and renovate slums...<sup>13</sup>. China had made the reduction of major polluting emissions a binding objective of economic and social development and had taken steps to improve mechanisms, strengthen monitoring and address outstanding environmental problems. **United Nations, General Assembly, "Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review" (A- Statement by the State under Review), 4 December 2013, 25th session, A/HRC/25/5 pp.3-4.**