



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER
OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE
AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

***Human Rights Council – 47th Session –
Item 3.- Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Leprosy***

***Statement by Mr. Hervé Arot,
Main Representative of the Sovereign Order of Malta's Leprosy
CIOMAL Foundation***

Geneva, 1st July 2021

Madam President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

Relying on the findings and recommendations put forward by the Special Rapporteur in her report to this 47th session, the CIOMAL Foundation, on behalf of the Sovereign Order of Malta, wishes to submit the following concrete proposal:

Setting up special bodies at national level dedicated to persons affected by leprosy and their families, providing economic inclusion through microcredits, adequate housing and scholarship grants.

These country bodies would be run in a tripartite way: public sector, private sector and advocacy associations within the national leprosy programs. They would be responsible and accountable for planning, funding, fairly allocating the resources and monitoring the implementation of the programs.

The CIOMAL Foundation has been able to manage such programs on its own for many years and believes that pooling resources would generate a much larger impact.

Benefits: fighting discrimination in the access to decent livelihoods and key fundamental goods, empowerment, fostering dialogue among local stakeholders and finally reasonable funding costs.

Could the Special Rapporteur consider supporting this concept and would she recommend it to all stakeholders?

Thank you for your attention.