Globalization, Development and Health: Realizing the Individual Right to Health Through the Collective Right to Development

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### History of Collective Rights

Arose out of Non-Aligned Movement- 1960s-70s Sometimes termed "third generation", or "solidarity" rights

Features

- Operate at a societal level
- Aggregate rights are distinct from the sum of the individual rights
- States also have rights

### Examples of Collective Rights

Right to Self-Determination, 1948 Right to a Clean Environment, 1972 Right to Peace, 1978 Right to Development, 1986 Right to Public Health, 2006

### Background on the Right to Development

- Declaration on the Right to Development, 1986
  - Advocated by Developing States
  - Response to clemands of the NIEO Movement
- Vienna Declaration, 1993
- Adopted as a "Collective" Right with obligations of the international community
- "Rights-Based Development" vs. "Right to Development"

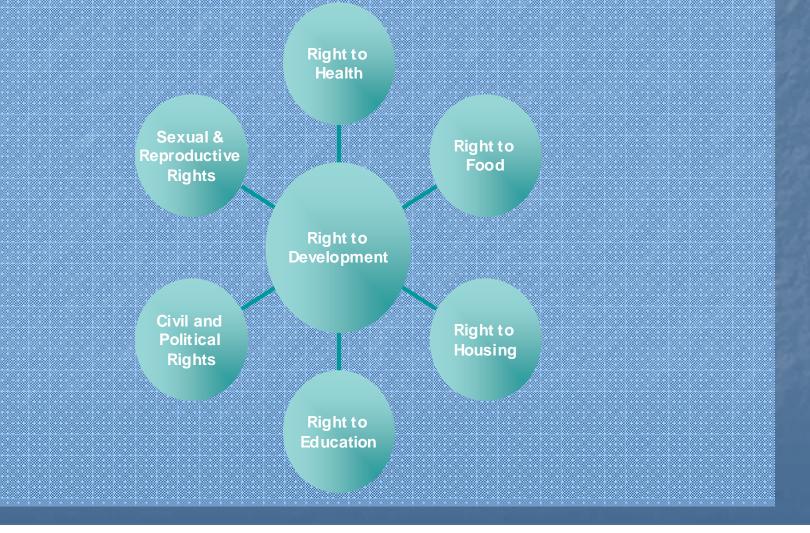
### Normative Elaboration

- 1998- Independent Working Group on the Right to Development established,
- 4 Meetings
  1998-2004- Independent Expert, Arjun Sengupta
  - 6 Background Reports
- 2004- High Level Task Force established
  3 Meetings

### Normative Elaboration

Right to a *process* of development Growth with Equity Fair distribution of the benefits and burdens (inequality-reducing growth) Assist least well off first (poverty-reducing, not trickle-down) Emphasizes participation and a "synergy of rights" Operates as a "vector" of rights

# The Right to Development as a Vector of Rights



# Infant Mortality: Example of the Right to Development Operating as a "Vector" of Rights Reption of the Wo

Women's Sexual & **Reproductive Health** 

Maternal Education

Infant Mortality

**Nutrition** (Inter-partum & Post-partum)

Water/Sanitation, Housing Conditions



# Enforcement: Two Levels

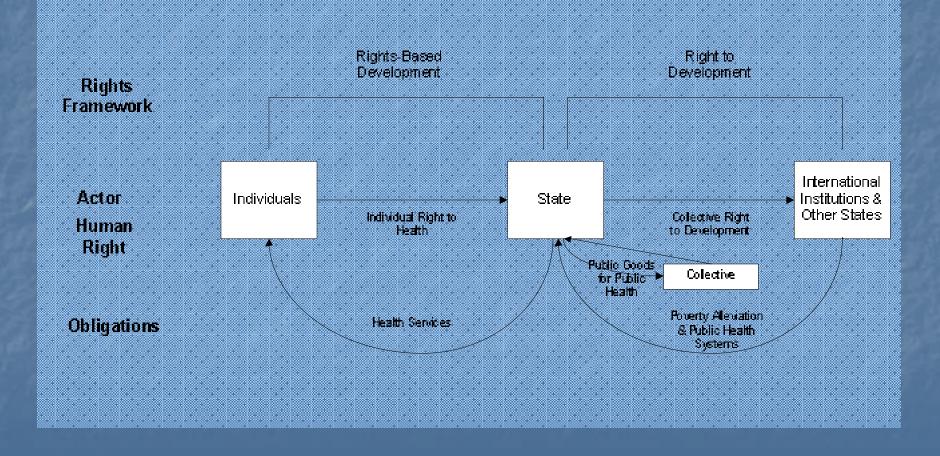
Intra-national Obligations- Individual Rights Against States

International Obligations- Collective Rights of States/Peoples During Development Obligation of the international community to cooperation towards realizing the right to development.

# The Power of the Right to Development: International Obligations

Respect- IFIs (World Bank & IMF) have an obligation to respect the rights of states. Protect-International community has an obligation under the right to development to protect states from non-state actors (such as Multi-National Corporations). Fulfill-World Health Organization can be viewed as the institutional mechanism for *fulfilling* the obligations of the international community

# Complementarity of the Right to Development and Right to Health



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#### Forthcoming Article

Meier, B.M.M., Fox A.M. "Maximizing the Available Resources: Employing the Collective Right to Development to Achieve the Goals of the Individual Right to Health," Human Rights Quarterly, forthcoming, March, 2008.