

**Review of the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic,
Social and Cultural Rights
Content of the Macao SAR's Speech**

The Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the PRC protects the fundamental rights and freedom of the residents of the Macao Special Administrative Region (Macao SAR) at the constitutional level and serves as the skeletal norm for the protection of human rights. Through laws and statutes, the Macao SAR specifically carries out the protection for all types of human rights on this basis.

Since the review of the First Implementation Report of the Macao SAR Government by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in 2005, the Macao SAR has been committing to the improvement of the recommendations provided by the Committee in the concluding observations and safeguarding human rights at different levels, including in the legislative aspect and the policy enforcement aspect, and has achieved considerable results. For instance, the Law for the Employment of Non-Resident Workers for perfecting the norm for labour law further guarantees labours' rights. The Macao SAR proceeds to the investment of more resources in the existing work basis for optimising the policies and measures in the area of people's livelihood/welfare, such as the establishment of a complete basic social protection system, the provision of medical allowances, 15-year free education, fixed-amount subsidisation for encouraging all citizens to continue their education and the building of public houses for resolving residents' housing problem. Furthermore, the Macao SAR has always been sparing no effort with regard to the Committee's recommendations, including the promotion of human rights education and the publicity of the awareness of human rights protection to the public (including civil servants and judicial officers) in the hope that law enforcers will fulfill their duties on the basis of holding firm to the protection of human rights.

The Macao SAR Government will continue to boost the overall steady development of society, study the feasibility of the gradual implementation of a long-term scheme in the area of people's livelihood/welfare and ensure tangible protection for residents' fundamental rights.

