



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 – 59th Session –
Item 3.- Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur
on Leprosy (Hansen’s disease)***

***Statement by Mr Hervé Arot,
Main Representative of the Sovereign Order of Malta’s Leprosy (Hansen’s
disease) CIOMAL Foundation***

Geneva, 20th June 2025

Mister President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

The CIOMAL Foundation and the Sovereign Order of Malta welcome the Special Rapporteur’s call for an increased international cooperation in the fight against leprosy / Hansen disease, in her annual report to this Council.

We have a longstanding field experience both in priority and least developed countries and comply with the four pillars of the Principles and Guidelines highlighted in Section II of the report. The search for sustainable funds in order to achieve these goals is critical and little support has yet been obtained through mutualizing resources among donors.

The conclusions of the report call several times for the setting up of reporting and funding mechanisms in order to strengthen international cooperation.

We fully support this proposition and believe that a single or plural leadership must still be found to achieve sizable progress and we would appreciate the Special Rapporteur’s advice in this respect.

Thank you for your attention.