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Roberto Bissio, coordinator of Social Watch, a global civil society alliance, addresses a panel discussion titled 'Post 2015 Development Agenda: Future Global Development Partnership,' at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity yesterday

RAJIB DHAR

Post 2015 dev agenda: Human rights should be main concern

UNB

Ensuring human rights and addressing inequalities worldwide should be the main concern in fixing the post-2015 development agenda, said the development activists at a discussion in the city yesterday.

"The World Bank sets the poverty threshold of earning US\$ 1.25 a day. Even if the things go on 'business as usual', it would be achieved in any way. So, it can't be the goal to press the governments to accelerate the poverty eradication efforts," said Roberto Bissio, coordinator of Social Watch, a global civil society alliance working in more than 100 countries.

Criticising the World Bank's definition of poverty at the discussion, he said it is a mere income approach of defining poverty.

The panel discussion, titled 'Post 2015 Development Agenda: Future Global Development Partnership', organised jointly by EquityBD, Social Watch Bangladesh and Unnayan Samunnay at the Dhaka Reporters' Unity.

Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of EquityBD, Ahmed Swapan of VOICE, Aminur Rasul of Unnayan Dhara Trust, Prodir K Roy of Online Knowledge Society, Dr Sobel Iqbal and Badrul Alam of Bangladesh Krishak Federation (BKF), and Barkat Ullah Maruf of EquityBD, among others, spoke at the discussion. ■