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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by the Working Women Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[24 August 2014]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Promotion of Working Women's Rights in Sudan

- Working Women Association (WWA) is a voluntary, non-governmental organization was established in 1991, and its membership includes women working in the state in the public and private sectors as well as the unorganized sector. WWA look after working woman in order to serve women's issues in general and working women in particular.
- WWA aims to promote the professional, intellectual and cultural competence for its membership, WWA also play a role in social integrated projects which adopt social solidarity. The WWA works through multiple activities and programs to enhance the quality of economic and social status of working women through the adoption of an economic vision and initiatives designed to increase production and establish the concept of saving and rationalization of consumption.
- The issue of training and capacity building of working women in the work place considered as a top priority for the WWA in its endeavors towards improving women's sector, and to highlight her distinguished role in the labor market.
- WWA calls for the achievement of social change in the circles of the Sudanese community through eradication of harmful traditional practices affecting the health of mothers and daughters as well as the disseminations of good spiritual humanity values , virtuous practices and patterns of behavior between memberships in other areas.
- The effort exerted by the WWA aimed to achieve comprehensive and sustainable development, in this context WWA since its establishment work to address the major challenges faced by women working in the various work sites in Sudan in accordance with a strategic plan and clear vision adopted as part of its action plan.
- WWA works to implement the programs and activities across many axes of work i.e. economic axis, culture and training axis, media and public relations axis, social axis, legislation and human rights axis.
- WWA endeavors to promote human rights in general and the rights of women in particular among working women, WWA work genuinely through its branches in other locations to secure the necessary protection for women in the workplace, while ensuring they are not exposed to any form of violence or harassment due to gender, WWA guided by directives enshrined in the International conventions and treaties within the framework of the International Bill of human Rights and the International Labor Organization as well as good values in the divine laws and norms which have been inherited by the people of Sudan.
- WWA works in particular in the field of advocacy for the review of labor laws prevailing in Sudan in line with the conditions of working women. WWA seeks to contribute to solving the problems faced by working women in the workplace by inviting various relevant agencies and partners to create an enabling working condition in order to ensure the achievement of conducive and decent environment for Sudanese women in the labor market in the various positions and at various levels.
- WWA pay special attention for the promotion and advancement of the role of women in conflict resolution and peace building as the fact that women considered usually from the most affected groups by the armed conflict in the Sudan, and in this regard displaced women received considerable share estimated from WWA programs and activities in pursuit of eradicate the negative impact of the armed conflict on women , more over to provide protection and ensure rights of women in the potential areas of tension and conflicts in Sudan.
- Since the issues of women in rural areas is a major challenge for women in the Sudan, WWA is sparing no effort to take care of rural working women through assistance in securing the tools of production and dissemination of models of small scale industries and secure means of microfinance to serve the development of rural women in different parts of Sudan, and contributes besides to the achievement of overall social and economic development.
- WWA enjoying an observer member status at the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (UN ECOSOC). Since the acquisition of the membership of the UN ECOSOC membership at the year 2010 WWA did not spare effort to strengthen links and to achieve communication with the United Nations specialized agencies and the counterpart organizations at the regional and international level through international partnerships and exchange of experiences and build good models in order to serve the goals and objectives set forth in the literature of the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations that calls for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals , empowerment of women and enhancement of women capabilities and improvement of women situation. In this context WWA is willing to express its readiness to collaborate with the regional and International organizations, brotherly countries and UN agencies working in the field of women's development in order to serve the noble objectives of the development of Sudanese women and empowering them in various fields.