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**Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development
and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
priority theme: strategies for the eradication of poverty
to achieve sustainable development for all**

Statement submitted by Modern Advocacy, Humanitarian, Social and Rehabilitation Association, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution [1996/31](#).

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

Addressing Psychosocial Poverty Issues on Inclusive Social Justice and Zero Tolerance to Impunity against the Poor

Introduction

The importance of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals for truly “leaving no one behind” is acknowledged in Ban Ki-moon’s opening speech on the commission’s fifty-fourth session. Also, in assessing the veracity of the fact that too many people continue to face exclusion and frustration while “working harder” and still “falling behind”, implies there are serious systemic lapses in social justice considerations and pragmatic poverty eradication solutions. From the social inclusion perspective, meeting-up with social justice implies effective adjustments of diverse views and acculturations. The 1995 Report of the World Summit for Social Development considers social inclusion also referred to as social integration or social cohesion as that which represents a vision for a “society for all, in which every individual, each with rights and responsibilities, has an active role to play”. Though the report provides a medium for mutuality and reciprocity, without the notion of inclusive social justice in line with equity concerns it demurs unclear.

Considering that the intrinsic understanding of the notion of poverty within the recent sustainable development context can only be attained by assessed individual psychological positions, the instrument of social justice that could adjust and empower a psychologically unstable person needs prior attention.

Objective

Identify the psychological instrument of poverty and empower vulnerable people’s mindsets towards unbiased participation efforts in sustainable community development opportunities

Purpose

Erase individual intuitive perceptions on poverty and raise confident and reliable socio-interactive sustainable development desires and activities amongst vulnerable community persons

The Hurdles on Poverty Eradication towards Sustainable Development for All

The aim of the side event of the Economic and Social Council Integrated Segment of 9 May 2017 introduced a comprehensive social justice consideration for poverty eradication. It mentioned an important equilibrium factor “reaching the furthest behind on first counts” thereby introducing a merger dynamics of equity in opportunity. It also points out the respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination for all peoples despite their physical and moral disparities. However, there are still pending issues that continue to promote increased poverty levels despite all rhetorical dispositions for its mitigation.

(a) **The Mindset of the Poor.** Feeling lacking and/or cheated and/or neglected and/or discriminated upon. Social inclusion and social justice requires that this mindset should adjust to accommodate the overwhelming acculturated opinions and positions of others thereby universalising and mitigating the intimate psychological stronghold that causes the sense of poverty. Such an adjustment is an ambiguous wholesome momentum which requires careful considerations from limitless individual positions. This is a problem.

(b) **The Social Construct on Poverty.** A state of lack of material and/or moral and/or technical and/or financial and/or other resources that equate living standards of some to those of others considered well-to-do. Societal conceptions over the poor induce very discriminatory and prejudicial feelings thereby influencing individual psychological positions with regards to social inclusion and social justice towards segregation. This wages a double-sided worry wherein the well-to-do feel a heavy burden to share with “undeserving” others meanwhile the unfortunates believe they have been cheated, neglected or discriminated upon to have been where there are. This is a bigger Problem.

(c) **Discriminatory Justice Mechanisms.** The placement of costly legal procedures that limit the needy from accessing full and unbiased legal support invigorates the psychological feeling of acute poverty in the senses of defeat, failures and existential limitations within the scope of social inclusion and social justice. This enhances outright opportunities for manipulations, exploitations and marginalisation perpetrated by capitalistic individual and corporate ventures. For example, in Cameroon on 01 December 2016, the multinational telecom company orange through its North West Regional branch schemed its way about and shameless exploited a social gathering for public support organised for over 200 vulnerable rural community widows and orphans and as well damaged the moral integrity of the engineering civil society organisation that works to empower social cohesiveness and the wellbeing rights of the vulnerable majorities. When such exploitative acts remain unsanctioned and unpunished either based on lack of resources or legal procedural knowledge of the victimized then there is a heavier worry.

Achieving Poverty Eradication through Psychological Empowerment

With respect to the earlier mentioned problematic, there are numerous ways to address intimate individual set-backs on eradicating poverty within an inclusive social justice context that takes into account an effective and reflective application of equity principles.

(a) **Inclusive social justice** that takes into consideration the mindset of the poor can approach issues from building self-confident personalities among the vulnerable majorities. The process of social inclusion and social justice can adopt a rights-based orientation through which equity should enhance ethical justice in favour of the “least behind”. This implies setting forth free and effective legal mechanisms that monitor, investigate, report, and prosecute people within socially inclusive structures for the benefit of the vulnerable or the poor. It is also imperative that these measures are assessed and evaluated as completely understood and known by the potential target victims.

(b) **The appalling nature of societal assessments and social appreciations** on poverty victimize individuals, communities and entire nations upon segregated bases. In our capitalistic world of today, social cohesive bonds are governed by “gain-gain” parameters that harness mutual benefits and opportunities thereby promoting social exclusion of the needy majorities. This position requires a speedy

need of moving beyond philosophical conceptions on social justice parameters towards seeking, harmonising and propagating values that expose mutual socioeconomic benefits between societal classes. The well-to-do or the rich should be able to perceive sound reasons for building socially cohesive bonds with the unfortunates or the poor.

(c) Juridical issues and processes are set forth to protect all and at the same time, they are inconsiderate of the natural divide between those who can afford it and those who cannot. This builds a discriminatory appreciation of social justice with respect to poverty eradication. Psychologically, the intimate ability to work towards a common community goal can be weakened from individual thoughts of insecurity and powerlessness. The arms of the law through equity principles or ethical justice mechanisms need rigorous application towards eradicating poverty. While capitalism is crucial for economic growth, inclusive social justice needs to surmount capitalistic norms and provide for automated reparative measures that uplift vulnerable people within socially inclusive societies. Corporate bodies and rich ventures should legally support and should not be allowed to exploit or to manipulate the ignorant and the poor victims that suffer their abuses. Community development opportunities should recognize the importance of identifying, prohibiting, and dismantling discriminatory, exploitative and manipulative practices of both a direct and indirect nature for poverty alleviation.

What We Have Realised So Far in Our Poverty Eradication Attempts

Our inclusive positive human growth project called BREATH meaning Bringing Relief Everywhere and Assistance to Humanity borne out of the conceptual ethics of mutuality and social equity growth towards resolving community worries ([E/CN.5/2016/NGO/3](#)) has:

- Used its socioeconomic progress for positive humanity concept addressed as “Na Wetti” in pidgin language this means “What is happening?” to educate youths in urban slums, promote economic activities, build socially cohesive partnerships with business enterprises, economic operators, government delegations and educational institutions towards the ethical coexistence and need to support and improve on the living conditions of sick people, orphans, widows, detainees and the ageing.
- Organized social gatherings with community groups, traditional rulers and councillors, business entrepreneurs, artists and variety of cultural entertainers for pragmatic education on the benefits in meddling profitable activities with social welfare concerns for vulnerable and most unfortunate persons. This also rewarded outstanding individuals with special certificates, attestations and philanthropic cards in recognition for their works to help fight psychological poverty among vulnerable people.
- Conceived and implemented ideologies for developing and promoting natural talents of vulnerable people including orphans, widows and other street youths through professional fashion wears production and musical recording. This also developed annual social joints football tournaments wherein issues about sustainable development activities are discussed especially with respect to care and concern for empowering the poor.

The power of a man is measured in his will to carry on which is empowered by a sound and self-confident mindset. Give him reason to fear-not and watch him transform a stream into an ocean. Let’s bend the rule of law to truly empower the vulnerable majorities and thus erase poverty from the earth’s surface.