



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
23 April 2012
English
Original: French

Substantive session of 2012

New York, 2-27 July 2012

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda*

High-level segment: annual ministerial review

Statement submitted by Women's Environmental Development and Training, 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 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2012/100.



Statement

As affirmed in its national employment policy statement, the Government of Cameroon has decided to make employment a central thrust of its development policy. Accordingly, the Government has included employment as one of the three strategic areas in its growth and employment strategy paper, seeing it not only as the product of economic growth but also and especially as a driver of such growth and a catalyst for poverty reduction. The document addresses three key aspects of the employment issue, namely:

- (a) Increasing the supply of decent jobs:
 - Development of small and medium enterprises and the promotion of decent wage and salaried employment, including the removal of institutional constraints, the promotion of emerging growth centres and the establishment of an incentive system for the creation of wage and salaried employment;
 - Promotion of self-employment;
 - Targeted job programmes;
- (b) Matching demand for jobs to supply;
- (c) Improving the efficiency of the job market.

With this growth and employment strategy paper, policymakers affirm their will to focus the strategy on wealth creation and on job creation to ensure the fair redistribution of the benefits of growth.

The paper also reaffirms the Government's resolve to pursue all the Millennium Development Goals. It has become, in line with the Paris Declaration, the blueprint for government policy and action as well as the focal point for cooperation with technical and financial development partners. It is thus the driving force behind such growth and for the redistribution of its benefits to the most vulnerable segments of the population with a particular emphasis on women and youth.

The paper marks a first step towards the fulfilment of a very long-term vision for development and sets out an integrated comprehensive strategy which will serve as a springboard for all action over the next ten years in Cameroon.

The organization is committed to the successful implementation of the growth and employment strategy paper. It supports government efforts to modernize the production system and to foster human development while tackling the three major challenges facing Cameroon, namely: first, job creation; second, poverty reduction; and third, tangibly improving the quality of life.
