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Statement submitted by the Organisation pour la communication en Afrique et de promotion de la coopération économique internationale, 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

Developing countries face many challenges in their effort to find a place in the community of developed nations. We would like to draw particular attention to one of these challenges: poverty eradication. Indeed, poverty has always been an obstacle to the emergence of many developing countries.

This makes it urgent to foster agreement on the main policies and other requirements for building productive capacity in developing countries. Without this common understanding of development policies, it is quite likely that the emergence of developing countries will remain an unmet goal for years to come.

The deadline for assessing implementation of the Millennium Development Goals is fast approaching, yet we all know that many of these countries will not achieve the Goals. Despite the efforts of developing countries, it will be difficult — if not impossible — to meet these Goals in such a short time frame. This further strengthens our conviction that it is urgent to foster agreement on the major policies to be implemented through a carefully considered, fully accepted synergy.

We consider building the productive capacities of developing countries to be fundamental for job creation, which is the natural lever that we can use to eradicate poverty. The creation of decent, sustainable employment is the best solution for combating poverty. We all know that the shortage or absence of jobs provides a fertile ground for poverty in developing countries.

Economic and financial crises, compounded by climate change, have played a significant role in widening the divide between rich and poor in developing and developed countries alike. That gap can be narrowed only by increasing productive capacity in developing countries, thereby stimulating job creation and, in turn, driving up consumption.

Policy strategies must therefore be formulated by consensus even though we must factor in the specificities of each country. Globalization means that any economic or financial crisis necessarily has repercussions around the world. Consequently, unilaterally adopted crisis exit strategies would not be feasible. This need is particularly great in the case of developing countries, which are suffering so much from the current financial crisis and the effects of climate change.

In conclusion, our Organization advocates strengthened international cooperation and technology transfer in order to help developing countries, particularly in Africa, to create jobs and provide the basic social services needed for sustainable economic growth and poverty eradication.
