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Statement submitted by World Circle of the Consensus: Self-sustaining People, Organizations and Communities, 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

Harmonious and productive living through self-sustaining people, organizations and communities

In times of crisis, all the parameters that define humanity are challenged and the extent to which positive outcomes may be manifested is a function of each individual's stage of development and the collective consciousness of the community of which he or she is part. It can be argued that both individually and collectively we listen to and engage with the world through multiple intelligences in the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual dimensions. At the heart of these intelligences is a shared consensus of core virtues, values and vision.

It is only through positive premeditated visioning that it is possible to develop this consciousness to build self-sustaining people, organizations and communities. We are approaching or, as some argue, already in a time of crisis, where effective response, relief, rebuild and resilience strategies are required to deal with both natural and complex disasters. The same challenges are faced by those wishing to terraform countries from underdeveloped to developed status. This whole-system approach integrates all the change vectors.

In order to deliver effective and sustainable change, it is necessary to fully understand the vectors involved. There are three primary inputs of health, education and enterprise that are facilitated by information, resources, psychology, connectivity, agriculture, science and engineering to deliver self-sustaining outcomes in terms of wealth, citizenship and the environment and consequent harmonious living.

Good governance and social responsibility facilitate the middle ground of balance between the rule-based needs of conformity and the outcome-based needs of flexibility, based on inculcated core values and delivered outcomes. The top-down and bottom-up approaches need to be integrated into a 12-year strategic change plan to avoid social and economic morbidity.

The organization's approach has facilitated disadvantaged people coming out of traumatic situations, including conflict, abuse, natural disasters and poverty. In inner city areas, where trauma is often common, this approach, while originally developed for long-term unemployed young people aged between 18 and 24 years, may have a powerful positive impact on those who have been excluded from the education system.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Task Force on Education for the Twenty-first Century concluded that education took place throughout life in many forms and was represented by four pillars, which might be expressed in the form of the four intelligences:

- (a) Learning to do (physical intelligence);
- (b) Learning to live together (emotional intelligence);
- (c) Learning to know (mental intelligence);
- (d) Learning to be (spiritual intelligence).

Our evidence suggests that primary education defines up to 80 per cent of life outcomes, making it the crucial period for investment to develop self-sustaining people, organizations and communities and achieve harmonious living. We believe that it is only through self-sustainability that the Millennium Development Goals may be achieved.
