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**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and
to the special session of the General Assembly entitled
“Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace
for the twenty-first century”: implementation of strategic
objectives and action in critical areas of concern and
further actions and initiatives**

Statement submitted by Dayemi Complex Bangladesh, 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.



Statement

A two-centuries-old dynastical religious platform for the cause of human values, housed in the religiously renowned premises of Dayera Sharif, in a densely populated area of the old historical place at Azimpur in the heart of Dhaka, culminated in the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh in 1969. A lone dilapidated wall at the premises of the Dayera Sharif, built after the Moghul structural pattern, still stands as silent testimony to its glorious past. Here, from this great house, the message of fraternity and universal brotherhood were preached and its values upheld by the great learned spiritual advocates occupying its seat as descendants of Prophet Muhammad. The Prophet Muhammad stated that “Human beings are crowned creations of Almighty God and the descendants of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham); Christians, Jews and Muslims are cousins and brothers”, in accordance with the Holy Koran.

His Eminency Hazrat Shah Sufi Syed Dayemullah, the spiritual occupant of the House in the immediate past, is the founder and Chairperson of the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh. He was a devout saint with dynamic vision. His relentless efforts were directed to the formation of a spider web of the socioeconomic activities of this organization throughout Bangladesh. He breathed his last breath in 1995. During his third visit to the holy city of Mecca on a pilgrimage in 1987, His Holiness Shah Sufi Syed Dayemullah, the forty-second direct descendant and spiritual successor of the Holy Prophet of Islam Hazrat Mohammed, bestowed the forty-third spiritual successorship upon His Eminency Dr. Hazrat Shah Sufi Mohammad Nurul Alam. The Dayemi Complex has become a symbol of succour to the poor, destitute and distressed. It made a clarion call for rehabilitation of tens of thousands of people rendered homeless owing to river erosion, floods, cyclones and other natural calamities. A never-ending rehabilitation process of distressed humanity has accelerated under the initiative and dynamic guidance of its Chairperson, who has fully addressed himself to the Herculean task of uplifting those people who have less. It is no wonder that this spiritual saint could rightly identify the ills with which his country is infested.

Bangladesh, the most densely populated country of the world with 120 million people on 54,000 square miles of land, is also the second poorest country in the world. Illiteracy, poverty, unemployment and overpopulation are the main factors for Bangladesh to be in such a plight. Agriculture, which accounts for 85 per cent of employment, remains primitive with the lowest per-acre yield. The growth of an industrial economic base is measurably hindered because of the absence of impetus and necessary expertise. The Dayemi Complex Bangladesh upholds that the only panacea for amelioration of the sufferings of the people is to evoke a fundamental change in their outlook at grass-roots level, and that can only be brought about by the eradication of ignorance from among the vast masses. Since its establishment, it has founded, more than 100 educational institutions and orphanages throughout the country. It can take pride in its achievement of providing accommodation for more than 3,000 orphans, irrespective of caste and creed, who can engage in conventional, religious, technical and vocational pursuits in the 15 orphanages built so far. The schools, colleges and madrasas (religious institutions) established and run under the patronage of the Complex have contributed towards betterment of human resources.

Currently, the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh is carrying out its ambitious 10-year pilot plan (June 2007-2017) for uplifting, rehabilitating and developing the

tribal areas, unemployed young men and women, orphaned children and men, women and children affected by disaster throughout Bangladesh, and for encouraging a microcredit programme among the distressed women victims in the tribal area and the Hill Tracts area of Chittagong Division. The Complex is working to provide necessary help and assistance for proper sanitation and supply of pure drinking water throughout the rural areas of Bangladesh and is also working to promote education for prevention of HIV/AIDS.

The United Nations office of the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh in New York is officially submitting the present proposal regarding its proposed humanitarian projects on absolute humanitarian grounds. The Complex is working for the following humanitarian projects in Bangladesh:

- Rehabilitation of 3,000 orphaned children in 15 orphanages in rural areas every three years, with educational and vocational training for income-generating programmes.
- Rehabilitation of 2,000 distressed women per year with vocational training for income-generating programmes.
- Rehabilitation of 50,000 men and women of the Chittagong Divisional Tribal area and 100,000 Myanmar and Pakistani Bihari refugees in Bangladesh through microcredit as well as a microfinance income-generating programme with the Sonali Unnayan Foundation and the Save the Green Foundation of Bangladesh.
- Provision of necessary assistance for proper sanitation, supply of pure drinking water and education for the prevention of HIV/AIDS throughout 200 locations in the rural area of Bangladesh along with medical assistance for the needy, poor and distressed orphaned children, men and women.
- Promotion of agricultural development, fishing and poultry farming for unemployed young men and women.
- Rehabilitation of victims in cyclone-affected areas; promotion of a solar energy project for rehabilitation and development of rural and tribal areas as a pilot project.

Besides the above, the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh has been working on a project to absorb and integrate beggars and distressed tribal men and women of the Chittagong Hill Tracts into the mainstream of society. The magnitude of social menace as posed by the beggars can hardly be underestimated. The overall improvement of the socioeconomic condition of the people depends on complete eradication of the problem of beggars in accordance with the Millennium Development Goals.

As regards funding and implementation of projects, the Complex depends on its own resources and funds received as donations from benevolent and philanthropic institutions of national and international stature. Constitutionally, it can also depend on their direct participation in the projects.

The Dayemi Complex Bangladesh is now working in the national as well as international fields for propagation of faith, unity, discipline, peace and prosperity for distressed humanity. In order to discharge its functions and to maintain liaison with various world bodies, governments and non-governmental organizations, the

Complex has established its offices in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Addis Ababa. His Eminency Dr. Hazrat Shah Sufi Mohammad Nurul Alam, President/Chief Executive Officer of the Dayemi Complex, has been Permanent Representative and World Peace Envoy to the United Nations since 1985. His Eminency has empowered and designated his younger son, Syed Harmayen Khalil Ullah, as Deputy Custodian of the Holy Dayera Sharif Azimpur and the Dayemi Complex Bangladesh with immediate effect.

Because of the expanding gigantic task embarked upon by the Complex with its own meagre resources and with a view to running these projects more effectively, we cordially invite foundations and organizations to participate directly and generously in our economic and humanitarian projects. Those projects provide impetus to the poverty-stricken, distressed and oppressed people living in subhuman conditions in Bangladesh and regions encompassing Third World countries by contributing and providing material, financial, technical and expertise support to all or any of our socioeconomic and welfare projects for eradication of poverty, disease, illiteracy, unemployment, hunger and the effects of natural calamities and man-made disasters, and for protection, welfare and security of the oppressed.

The human being is the crown creation of Almighty God. Jews, Christians and Muslims are cousins and brothers; why are they fighting each other? We are the descendants of prophet Abraham. In accordance with the Holy Koran, Muslims pray five times for descendants of Abraham; why do fanatic Jews, Christians and Muslims not recognize the value of that? Be aware for the future, don't fight each other.
