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Statement submitted by Science of Spirituality, 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.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

Science of Spirituality is dedicated to transforming lives through meditation, under the guidance of Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj. In alignment with the sustainable development goals of the United Nations, Science of Spirituality promotes human unity along with respect for all life and the environment in which we live.

One of the most urgent global issues of our time is the impact of climate change on the stability and viability of human populations around the world. We have seen the dire consequences of ill-informed and unwise policy choices regarding fossil fuel, coupled with resistance towards efforts to help re-establish ecological balance. Meditation helps raise the consciousness of the world. Through this practice, awareness is enhanced to perceive the intricate interconnectedness and interdependence of all life. This shift not only informs new priorities in lifestyles, such as vegetarianism and support for organic, sustainable agriculture, but also affirms what can be termed the ‘ecology of the soul,’ or a renewed vision of wholeness on a planetary level. In accord with the mission of the United Nations, Science of Spirituality views this holistic paradigm as the key to establishing effective international efforts to create a healthy climate action plan.

The United Nations’ goal of human empowerment and equality, resonates with Science of Spirituality’s unflinching commitment to comprehensive education, fostering a future generation of peacemakers who will be conscious of the impact they have on society and our planet. Darshan Education Foundation, founded by Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj in 1995 in cities across India and Colombia, South America, furthers this aim. The academies provide inclusive education for boys and girls, helping them develop intellectually, physically, emotionally, and most important, spiritually. This enables students to meet life with a knowledge supported by wisdom, ethical values, good decision-making skills, intercultural understanding and respect for all.

Gender parity, one of the key sustainable development goals, is indispensable for global economic, social, and political advancement. Celebrating the girl child, giving her equal access to education and health care and protecting her from violence will help her realize her full potential. Only then can she can make a substantive contribution to society. If sustainable peace, economic recovery, and social justice are to be achieved, we need to utilize women’s talents and enable them to actively participate in the governing structures of their communities. Science of Spirituality has established Silai Centers throughout India, empowering women by teaching them skills for financial independence, greater stability, and self-efficacy.

The United Nations functions as a unifying forum bringing together disparate countries and cultures for the common good. The principles espoused by Science of Spirituality serve as a way leading to a more peaceful, harmonious world. In meditation, one perceives the oneness of all life, irrespective of race, creed, gender, or culture. While supporting the goals of ecological sustainability, gender inclusivity, individual empowerment, and excellence in education, Science of Spirituality fosters inner fulfilment through meditation. This expresses itself in dedication to service and striving for spiritual enrichment, peace, and global consonance.