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Written statement submitted by Association du développement et de la promotion de droits de l'homme, 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.



Written statement

The Association du développement et de la promotion de droits de l'homme welcomes this opportunity to contribute to the discussion of results and achievements in Mauritania in the context of the Sustainable Development Goals. Among the 17 Goals, our work and monitoring has focused on Goals 4 (education), 5 (women's empowerment) and 10 (inequality reduction).

With respect to Goal 4, the Association chairs the Réseau Mauritanien pour l'Education pour Tous, a network promoting access to quality basic education for all in Mauritania. By basic education, we mean preschool, formal primary education and functional literacy training for young people who did not finish primary school.

Actions to promote quality basic education for all are based on three closely linked strategies: (1) advocacy; (2) strengthening joint action by Mauritanian civil society and (3) a holistic approach to the right to education.

With respect to Goal 5, our organization has carried out many projects in rural areas where much progress has been made in the empowerment of women, as illustrated by their present ability to run their own projects.

In Mauritania, a strategy of accelerated growth and shared prosperity will cover the period 2016–2030, coinciding with that of the 2030 Agenda. This process involved a number of stakeholders, including civil society.

The reforms pursued since that time have created some of the necessary conditions for development. They include the enactment of a personal status code and a mandatory basic education law and the blossoming of children's rights organizations.

We note that the quota for women in elected office and decision-making positions represents a major step forward in Mauritania. The Mauritanian Government and the development partners are to be congratulated for their determination and commitment as well as for these remarkable results.

In this connection, we recommend continuing current efforts to combat child labour, early marriage of girls, excision and dropping out of school.
