



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
24 April 2012  
English  
Original: French

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### Substantive session of 2012

New York, 2-27 July 2012

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda\*

**High-level segment: annual ministerial review**

### **Statement submitted by the Association nationale Al Hidn, 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.

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\* E/2012/100.



## Statement

The Association nationale Al Hidn takes note of the holding of the high-level segment and recognizes the importance of this year's theme, "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals". The Association feels that, in a climate of global economic slowdown and financial crisis, the promotion of decent work for all at all levels should be a global objective, and should also be part of the efforts to realize the Millennium Development Goals and the commitments of the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development.

The Association also emphasizes that decent work is not only a question of employment or social protection but also one of governance, and recalls that the objective of decent work calls for a body of economic and social policies implemented by accountable institutions, political commitment, and a strong and organized civil society.

The Association supports the efforts made in this area and asks all partners to honour their commitments. It therefore recommends:

- The incorporation of decent work into national, regional and international development objectives, policies and programmes, and the acceleration of the implementation of the four pillars of the International Labour Organization's approach, in particular the adoption of preventive strategies and the implementation of measures designed to protect maternity and improve health and safety at work for pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding;
- The creation of an equitable economy based on competence and competitiveness through equal opportunity and the right of access to information;
- The mobilization of internal resources and the promotion of investment through the improvement of the general investment climate, in particular through the reduction of management expenditure linked to cumbersome administrative procedures and bureaucracy;
- The growth of infrastructure investments and the involvement of the private sector through public-private partnerships;
- The adoption of an active approach to the promotion of entrepreneurial abilities and innovation at the company level to create new activities;
- The implementation of policies and strategies for the enhancement of women's entrepreneurship development and women's representation in bodies participating in social dialogue;
- Capacity-building for science, technology and innovation;
- The promotion of youth employment through the implementation of skills development policies and strategies, in particular in terms of vocational training, capacity-building and the free movement of labour;

- The rehabilitation of young people in the field of small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular agricultural enterprises;
  - Rural land use planning in order to ensure stability in the countryside and contribute to its development.
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