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The Secretary-General has received the following statements, which are being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

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1. ABAAD Resource Center for Gender Equality

Twenty-six years since the adoption of the most ambitious agenda for the empowerment of women and girls everywhere, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is yet to be implemented practically and concretely. Women and girls around the world continue to face systemic barriers holding them from equal participation in all areas of life. We at ABAAD strongly believe that building stable, prosperous, inclusive and sustainable societies requires the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all women and girls, and therefore call upon member states to commit to addressing systemic imbalances and accelerate progress towards gender equality.

Much has been accomplished by countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, however, progress has been slow and often hampered due to crises, armed conflicts and entrenched traditional social norms that lead to discrimination and prevent the full advancement of women in society. Considerable political, institutional, societal, economic and cultural challenges continue to hinder the accelerated realization of gender equality in the MENA region in alignment with the Beijing Platform and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.

Major obstacles that MENA countries continue to face include:

- The constant changing and transformative context along with the instability on political, security and economic levels which often affect women disproportionately.
- Lack of transitional justice approaches that help deal with the legacy of the country's past.
- The non-alignment of national legislations with international conventions such as The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- Institutional fragmentation and downward accountability, along with lack of diligent planning, monitoring and transparency.
- The scarcity of gender-based statistical data that allow accurate assessment of the gender gap and help with program planning and advocacy efforts.
- Inadequate government funding which prevents the integration of gender issues in budgeting.
- Lack of a gender equality perspective in education curricula.
- The growing politicization of media.
- Lack of awareness, capacity and resources of service providers and front-liners and other stakeholders to operationalise international commitments, standards and tools.

We call upon United Nations Member States to urge countries of the MENA region to:

- Invest in peacebuilding rather than war.
- Incorporate gender equality approaches in all transitional justice tracks.
- Amend national legislations so that they are aligned with international human rights conventions and standards.
- Adopt legislation and measures and provide the necessary services to address the consequences and causes of violence, including sexual violence, faced by women in times of conflict.
- Strengthen the capacities of national women machineries.
- Develop effective national action plans and mainstream gender equality and provide the necessary budgets for implementation of the strategies.
- Ensure people-led and rights-based approaches across.
- Develop standardized operational procedures to prevent and respond to Gender-based violence (GBV).
- Reform educational systems and curricula to include a gender-lens and support gender-positive learning from early education onwards.
- Ensure prioritization of GBV in Health Emergency Plans such as addressing domestic violence as major cost of COVID-19 outbreak.

2. ABC4All (A Better Community For All)

As a result of several meetings held with our beneficiaries, community members and women and youths in our operational areas, it was suggested that based on our recommendations and lessons learnt, that community members especially the women and youths should be encouraged and empowered to be involved in all our project activities especially in the project design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

Considering the current concerns regarding COVID-19 to achieve the accelerated action and transformative pathways with special realization of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, ABC4All has designed programmes for a successful and sustainable delivery outcome. ABC4All will encourage its beneficiaries to identify the needs and problems affecting their community in order to bring about a transformed society and create a positive impact into their lives. It will also help them own the projects and become responsible and accountable realizing the theme of this year's High-Level Political Forum.

The lockdown and imposed quarantine on the citizens of Sierra Leone because of this pandemic, has had a negative impact on the organization's agricultural activities, which have been destroyed or damaged. In addition, most of our school going children have been impregnated, sexually abused and raped. Some have been forced into early marriages and some have become commercial sex workers. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our community and the economy of the state due to bad business, closure of borders and the socio-economic activities which has contributed to the high increase of commercial sex workers, who can sole survive through this mean.

Focusing on the current concerns, ABC4All is prepared to implement projects that are sustainable and bring about a transformative change to make our beneficiaries self-reliant and independent. Our projects will also be community driven wherein our community members will be fully involved in the process.

3. Academy of Labour and Social Relations

Role of Wages in the Reproduction of Labour Potential as an Instrument to Sustainable Development - a Russian perspective

This written statement presents Russia Trade Union Academy's vision of the means to ensure sustainable development on the way of humanizing labour and its remuneration.

Wages are material remuneration for work. Labour is a purposeful human activity that results in the creation of goods and services. In the process of appropriate human activity, there is a consumption of resources, which can be represented in the following form:

$$OS + M + H = P$$

Where: OS-fixed assets; M-materials; H-labour force (the ability of a person to work); P-product.

The product, fixed assets and materials are owned by the owner, and only the ability to work belongs to a person – an employee.

Reproduction is a constantly recurring cyclical process of consuming necessary, renewable resources. The sources of renewal for fixed assets are depreciation charges, for materials – working capital, and for a person-the source of renewal of the total physical and intellectual abilities consumed in the production process is wages.

In 2019, there were almost 20 million people in the Russian Federation with incomes below the subsistence minimum. According to Rosstat, in 2019, Russian families assessed their financial situation as follows (in % of the number of respondents):

Not enough for food-0.7; only enough for food-14.1; enough for food and clothing-49.4; enough for durable goods-32.6; enough for everything-2.7.

Labour potential of society is the total social ability to work, potential labour capacity of companies, which includes professional qualifications of the working population and socio-personal characteristics, i.e. qualities, demand for which occurs on the 5th level of Maslow's pyramid, and is available today only 2.7% of the Russian Federation's population.

Social development today is already weak, but it is still supported by the labour potential formed during the Soviet period. According to our estimates, under favourable living conditions, it will still last for a maximum of 15 years. At the same time, unprofessionalism, indifference to cultural values, lack of desire for knowledge and self-improvement is manifested on a larger scale.

To ensure the full reproduction of the labour potential of society, it is necessary to calculate the minimum wage, not based on the subsistence minimum, but based on a rational consumer budget.

A rational consumer budget reflects the consumption of goods and services, and the provision of household items for cultural and economic purposes in accordance with scientifically based standards for meeting rational human needs. Its components are as follows (%):

Food-30; non-food products- 47 (of them: fabrics, clothing, shoes- 20; furniture, cultural and everyday items- 18 and other products -9); all services-23.

The approach proposed in this text can be used in the development of a system of indicators for the purpose of forecasting and managing the reproduction of the labour potential of society in different countries.

4. African Youth Movement

COVID-19: Supporting My Society

The world we live in has changed and post COVID-19 things will not be the same again. As NGOs, we have realised how fragile and interconnected our world is that an event in China is now having global catastrophic impact. How prepared are we in supporting those in rural communities including the vulnerable ones? How can NGOs be that voice to give hope to people in need? COVID-19 has taught us to urgently build trust between governments and between people and governments, to harness local skills and resources to proffer localised solutions to COVID-19 and other problems we face. As we have seen, the rich and the poor suffer the same fate under COVID-19. We must come together irrespective of divide to solve societal problems remembering always that despite humongous sums spent for disaster relief only development can reduce vulnerabilities, and the hazards arising from the socio-economic structure.

5. Åland Islands Peace Institute, The

Differentiated Solutions to Global Problems

The development of inclusive and peaceful societies is a constant struggle for all states around the world. It is so now and shall be so in the future, since natural and human conditions change constantly. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions in inclusive societies is the thrust of the work of the Åland Islands Peace Institute.

Nature impresses us with its multiplicity and biological diversity. Those are values to be cherished and are well enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Such pluralism needs to be affirmed also in human societies. Human rights, the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples as well as mechanisms for power-sharing and multilevel governance are tools for this goal. The rights of minorities and indigenous peoples are inherent components of the human rights undertakings of states. Such rights need to meet also the challenges posed by climate change, ecological degradation and pandemics.

Regional differentiations and the use of local knowledge are necessary tools while trying to solve global problems in local contexts. Inclusive and pluralistic institutions and processes are, therefore, needed within the broader frameworks of human rights and the rule of law.

Only conditions of peace can allow us to meet the demands of pandemics and environmental threats. We support the call of the United Nations' Secretary General, António Guterres, for a global ceasefire, the ending of the "sickness of war" and the strengthening of health systems in all states and regions. The principles of the Charter of the United Nations give us good ground for such efforts. The on-going work of the International Law Commission for rules on environmental protection in relation to armed conflict is in line with this direction and deserves our full support. These were also themes that were discussed recently in the Kastelholm Peace Talks held on the 30th of March 2020 on the Åland Islands under the heading "War, Peace and the Environment".

The Åland example shall soon be celebrating its centenary anniversary (1921-2021). This prompts us to celebrate, but also to enquire. How well do we respect minorities today? How well do we recognise the pluralisms of our world and our societies?

6. All India Women's Conference

AIWC is a premier organization committed to education and empowerment of women.

SDG 1: No Poverty

AIWC offers vocational training and socio-economic programs among the urban and rural poor and runs a Vocational Training Institute in New Delhi for the underprivileged in partnership with a leading national open access university. It provides marketing and sales platforms for traditional artisans.

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

Programs on health, nutrition and family welfare, especially menstrual hygiene, and cervical vaccines for girls in slum areas for a safe future.

Mobile healthcare vans in remote areas and primary health care units improve access to basic healthcare for the urban poor. Crèches across India ensure a healthy mid-day meal for poor children, including in Leprosy Survivors Colony in Delhi.

SDG 5: Gender Equality

AIWC is consulted by policy makers on critical issues like laws on prevention of child marriage and domestic violence. It interfaces with committees of parliamentarians on the prevention of sexual harassment in the workplace, commercial surrogacy and women safety.

With its sister organizations, AIWC recommends to governments on reforms in the criminal justice system, stringent punishment for rape and institution support for survivors. This has contributed to more forensic labs for speedy prosecution in rape cases, inclusion of death penalty for child rape and fast-track courts.

Twelve shelter homes for abandoned and distressed women - victims of violence, rape, trafficking - impart skill training and education and offer family counselling round-the-clock.

AIWC has contributed to India's progressive legislation for women safety at work. The International Labour Organization (ILO) now recognises sexual harassment at work as a violation of human rights. Members serve on internal committees of organizations which redress complaints of sexual harassment. As experts on the panel of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, they conduct awareness workshops for employees of government departments and corporates, and for members of internal committees. They participate in discussions on women issues on radio and television.

SDG 13: Climate Action

The organization interlinks SDG 13 and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) processes and implement programmes through its branches.

Advocacy: AIWC advocates for gender integration into climate change policy at the international, national and regional levels. The organization propagate differential and disproportionate impact of climate change on women through our programmes.

Awareness: There is a need for research-based awareness and AIWC does programmes on topics related to climate change.

Climate change mitigation: Energy conservation, solar energy propagation and efficient use of available energy for mitigating climate change are some of AIWC programmes. We have also created usable models to strengthen the propagation within AIWC premises. Many of AIWC branches also conduct disaster preparedness programmes primarily for women and children.

Gender and urban climate scenario: To integrate gender into urban planning, climate change policies and related implemented plans, AIWC has a project in Delhi Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai on 'Gender into urban climate change initiatives' (GUCCI) with support from Gender CC, Germany.

Other initiatives: Issues and challenges which connect to GHG emission and climate change including waste management, sanitation, health and water conservation.

7. All India Women's Education Fund Association

The All India Women's Education Fund Association (AIWEFA) completes its 91 years in the service of communities, especially women and children. Founded on the principle that education is the catalyst for change, the organisation established the home science college, Lady Irwin College for women in 1932.

From 2015 to 2017, the organisation, disseminated factors responsible for the transition of women from education to full employment; correlated the sustainable development goals (SDGs) with rural activities and urban living; networked with global south nations to identify good practices that could be replicated and scaled up. Overwhelmingly, economic empowerment emerged as the transformative pathway for women's empowerment.

From 2017 to 2020, the organisation commenced skill development in new employment opportunities like car driving, financial advisory services, self-defence and cyber security.

In rural areas, like the far-flung Andaman and Nicobar Islands, trainings were conducted to revive crafts through new product development, enhanced capacity and human resources, with inputs on intellectual protection and registration.

The 'Khadi goes Global' programme complemented the government's Khadi and Village Industries (KVIC) initiatives to create awareness of the fabric as a sustainable, ethical product that conserves energy, reduces greenhouse gases and has a low carbon footprint. The organisation partnered with the government, collaborated with women's chambers of commerce and fashion council to showcase khadi collections by foremost designers in India and at the United Nations. This low-cost business model, benefiting 0.88 million spinners and weavers of KVIC, offers them the option of working from home; gender parity wages for equal work; recognition of women's unpaid care work; and training for empowerment of women as citizens.

On the social front, AIWEFA reached 20,000 women, youth and elderly beneficiaries through seminars, workshops, role plays, poster competitions, film screenings to enhance inter-generational bonding, advance good parenting techniques, prevent drug abuse and ensure healthy lives and promote wellness in old age.

As COVID-19 strikes a death blow to the health of economies, in India, 6.3 million self-help groups are operating community kitchens and stitching masks; direct benefits cash transfers to widows, women and the disabled are being given; 80 million households are receiving free gas cylinders; 800 million people are availing free distribution of grain and lentils.

As the world slows down, AIWEFA plans to use technology and frugal innovation to 'leap frog' into a sustainable future that includes women's health, nutrition, sanitation, unpaid care work; design skill sets for socio-economic impact; combat violence against women, girls, elders; and continue to award organisations working with children with disabilities.

8. Anglican Rite Roman Catholic Church

The ongoing global pandemic has not only spawned a global humanitarian crisis, but also exposed a serious problem facing future collective action towards the SDGs. The chaos caused by the pandemic and government responses to the pandemic is setting the stage for long-term economic disruption in both the developed world and the developing nations. During the current humanitarian crisis and likely upcoming economic problems, it is clearly the most poor and vulnerable that are the most at risk, even risk of death from starvation and health problems. The developing situation furthermore hampers the ability of especially the developed world to provide environmental and social sustainability assistance, thereby compounding problems faced by developing countries and potentially hundreds of millions of people or more around the world.

It is ultimately the developed world that must drive sustainable development, for they have the resources and the demand for sustainability. In the developing world, not only are there fewer resources, but there is understandably and rightly more focus on more immediate needs, such as food, shelter, and infrastructure, rather than environmental and social protection. It is also the developed world, particularly through its supply chain connections to the developing world, that is the main driving force in promoting and maintaining environmental and social sustainability in the developing world. For example, many problems such as child labour, slavery, and human trafficking have been improved and can continue to be improved through initiatives established by companies in the developed world.

Therefore, the current pandemic and government responses to the pandemic around the world have spurred not only a direct humanitarian crisis, particularly in the developing world, but run the serious risk of a long term setback to environmental and social improvements in the developing world. Without serious, concerted effort on the part of developed countries and international bodies such as the United Nations, all the gains from the work towards SDGs of recent years stands a significant probability of being quickly undone. That is particularly troubling regarding the most poor and vulnerable people around the world who have been helped through improvements originating with efforts to promote and implement the SDGs. That becomes increasingly difficult as developed countries suffer an economic setback and may begin to focus their resources more on some of the more immediate needs in the same way that developing countries do.

9. **Ankara Foundation of Children with Leukemia**

Investment and Cooperation in the Battle against Cancer to achieve all Sustainable Development Goals

Humanity is at a historical crossroads. The Covid-19 pandemic is a wake-up call to all. The death of thousands of people did not just reveal the vulnerability of our health systems. From economy to education, global trade to environmental pollution, the alarm bells began tolling in every sphere of life. The lifestyle of mass consumption and severe destruction of the environment is not sustainable.

18 million people were newly diagnosed and 9.5 million lost their lives due to cancer worldwide in 2018. Mostly in low-income countries, this means that 30 000 people every day or 1200 people every hour lose their lives due to cancer. As primary cause of death, 300 000 children are diagnosed with cancer each year. While the role of genetic factors in all cancer cases is around 5%, the external factors such as food/nutrition, environment, working conditions account for over 90%. Studies also revealed that certain viral disease negatively impact the bone marrow, organs and lymphoid system causing leukemia, lymphoma and other cancers. However, at least 50 % of all new cancer cases and related deaths are preventable.

Ankara Foundation of Children with Leukemia has been providing treatment, education, economic and social assistance to children and adults battling against cancer under the conditions of poverty and inequalities for over 20 years.

Cancer has been telling us quietly but insidiously for years, what the Covid-19 pandemic has rapidly and loudly shown to the whole world. Those working in the field of cancer know too well that cancers or other diseases are not just a matter of healthcare services. Rapid implementation of more participatory, egalitarian policies that prioritize life and nature in all spheres is needed.

For the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, we call upon the United Nations and its related institutions, the World Health Organization (WHO) and all the world governments to consider the following:

- All governments must support and allocate greater funds for independent research on the role of viral diseases as cause of cancers especially leukemia.
- NGOs must be strengthened and funded to promote cancer free lifestyles and to raise awareness that cancer and leukemia are preventable diseases.

- We call for prevention of commercialization of health research and greater investment in medical/healthcare research/development especially in the field of cancer with a greater community/public health focus.
- The cooperation between NGOs, patient rights organizations and WHO, health ministries must be strengthened.
- All world governments must pledge to provide accessible and affordable universal healthcare for all. Healthcare/pharmaceuticals especially in cancer treatment are very costly, common solution urgently needed.
- Without further delay bad agricultural practices including use of pesticides and other chemicals must be brought under strict control. Cooperation and policy to prevent external cancer-causing factors must be developed.
- Healthy eating and active lifestyle, battle against obesity must be integrated to education curriculum of children and youth.

10. Architects for Peace Inc.

Architects for Peace represents the professions of the built environment for a sustainable and just urban habitat. We were established in 2003 in response to the twin crises of human conflict and ecological collapse. We gained special consultative status in 2004. For 17 years, we have published, campaigned and promoted social justice based on sustainable urban development – social, economic, and environmental - through our membership and action in the Asian-Pacific, European, and Latin American regions.

In addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) we have focused on three: SDG 11 - Sustainable cities and communities, as cities account for 60% of greenhouse emissions and consume about 78% of the world's energy; SDG 13 - Climate Action as the foundation of our organization and SDG 16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions.

We work at the global level of cooperation to develop ethical cities with both the urban and business arms of the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme in South America and Australia. At a community level, we have contributed to stronger communities in Australia by building resilience through participation and decision making. At both a public and institutional level we are involved in world environmental days and international conferences on peace and environmental justice.

Finally, in a time of social and public health crisis, we work to build and respect democratic institutions to deliver social justice and rationally address natural disasters, whether pandemics or climate change, of human or natural causes.

Architects for Peace supports the Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. We urge this office and the United Nations to strengthen and build upon international governmental cooperation seen during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is instructive for addressing the threats to public health and sustained economic development posed by climate change. We urge and support democratic institutions to seize this moment.

11. Ashiana Collective Development Council

The entire world is at war with an invisible enemy – the novel coronavirus. Most important lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic are: 1) this war must be fought together, and 2) we are all in this together. These lessons will and should help us to build and strengthen the global partnerships. The public health issues can help us create new pathways and understandings. Building stronger alliances between the Member States through public health and succeeding with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, is the way forward for all.

The novel coronavirus, and the disease it causes, COVID-19, have triggered unprecedented turmoil and disruption around the world. Empty streets, shuttered shops, overflowing hospitals. With a vaccine to protect against the disease still a distant possibility, our best weapon remains staying away from each other – interacting more and more in the virtual sphere for education and business. While social distancing saves lives, it drags down the global economy and threatens jobs. Middle- and high-income countries in Asia, Europe and North America have been particularly hard hit, so far. The expectation and fear are that it is only a matter of time before the disease strikes with full force to the less stable societies and economies, where the damage could be exponentially worse.

The Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) with the United Nations System and the World Health Organization (WHO) are looking closely at the implications of the spread of the virus in those countries – including those that host special political missions – and sounding the alarm. The virus has changed the way of life.

12. Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Starting the Decade of Action for Sustainable Development with Accelerated and Amplified Action to Advance Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and Gender Equality of Women and Girls in Asia and the Pacific region

The Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) welcomes the priority theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level Segment. We are presenting this statement at a time where the Asia Pacific region's already slow trajectory to realise the sustainable development goals is further threatened by the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Progress is uneven and the region is still far from achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

About 60% of the world's population resides in this region. At least half of this figure are women and girls, the populations of great concern to us. Despite some advances including lowering measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) and increasing girls in school in some countries, substantive gender equality remains a dream for many particularly for marginalised women and girls who are, but not limited to, poor, lesser educated, from rural and hard-to-reach areas, with disability, of lower caste, indigenous, not subscribe to traditional gender or sexual norms, stateless, undocumented migrants, and those who suffer because of the humanitarian crisis resulting from conflict and climate change.

The region continues to face the highest rate of maternal mortality after Sub-Saharan Africa due to high fertility rates resulting from unmet need for contraception; teenage pregnancies in the absence or lack of access to comprehensive sexuality education and contraception; early and forced marriages and; unsafe abortion, signalling deep-seated inequalities, fuelling barriers to quality and affordable access to health services. High levels of unintended pregnancy are observed and child, early and forced marriages are still rampant. The region is far from achieving universal health coverage. A comprehensive range of sexual and reproductive health services is still not included in the Essential Services Package.

With the shift in priorities for COVID-19 response, health and wellbeing of women and girls should not be compromised. Governments must accelerate their response by:

- Upholding commitments to fully implement the SDGs, underscoring the need for full realisation of SDG 3 and 5 through national policies, laws and implementations.
- Ensuring that health is a human right provided to all and carry out constitutional obligations to adequately resource and provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights that is acceptable, accessible, affordable, and of quality for all women and girls.

- Addressing unmet need for all sexual and reproductive health information and services including access to contraception and add safe abortion to essential service.
- Provide adequate financial, human and infrastructural resources towards implementing health policies.
- Improve public investment in health and develop social protection systems and health strategies to provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive rights for all women and girls.

13. Association Humanity First Cameroon

Le «droit de jouir d'un meilleur état de santé possible» implique que soit réuni un ensemble de critères sociaux favorables à l'état de santé de tous, notamment la disponibilité et l'accès aux services de santé de qualité. C'est du moins ce que prévoit l'Objectif de Développement Durable (ODD) 3 en lien avec le bien-être sanitaire. Toutefois, la réalisation du droit à la santé est étroitement liée à la réalisation des autres droits humains compris dans la Déclaration Universelle des droits de l'homme. Seulement, pour les minorités sexuelles et de genre, selon qu'ils vivent dans un environnement hostile ou pas, ces droits sont violés et obstrués par les pesanteurs socioculturelles et légales. Cette déclaration vise à montrer l'impossibilité d'atteindre l'ODD 3 en contexte d'exclusion sociale et de violation des droits humains.

Les minorités sexuelles et de genre sont souvent moins susceptibles de jouir du droit à la santé. Ce postulat suffit pour mettre en exergue les difficultés auxquelles ils font face pour avoir accès aux soins et services de santé de qualité, dans un environnement de répression juridique et de violations des droits humains. Pour juguler ces problèmes, l'Association Humanity First Cameroon travaille depuis déjà dix ans, à la prévention, le dépistage et la prise en charge du VIH en direction des hommes ayant des rapports sexuels avec d'autres hommes (HSH) et les femmes transgenres. Elle protège également les droits humains de toutes les autres minorités sexuelles et de genre dans leur globalité. Notre constat est que, par rapport à la population générale, cette population présente des taux de mortalité et de morbidité bien supérieurs liés au VIH. Les personnes particulièrement vulnérables à l'infection à VIH notamment les HSH, appartiennent souvent à des groupes victimes de discrimination et défavorisés sur le plan social et économique. Pour ce qui est du contexte du Cameroun, les minorités sexuelles et de genre sont visées par des lois et des politiques qui tendent à aggraver cette marginalisation et qui rendent encore plus difficile l'accès aux services de santé. Ils ont également du mal à faire face aux infections émergentes comme le COVID-19.

Il est donc important pour le Cameroun d'abroger toutes les lois discriminatoires afin de participer efficacement à l'atteinte des ODD à l'horizon 2030.

14. Association Jbel Ayachi pour le développement culturel, social, économique et de l'environnement

The world is experiencing unprecedented days, the COVID-19 pandemic that hit countries worldwide has no gender, race or religious bias. However, it showed us without doubt the main areas on which humanity should focus on education, health and local economy. It has moreover shown how much technology is becoming unavoidable as it succeeded to accelerate the digitization and the dematerialization of the governments and businesses administrations. of governments and businesses.

Information and communication technologies (ICT) should be used by people worldwide to ensure equal access to education, health, security as well as for financial inclusion for all. Having said that, such uses are based on significant access to ICT which can be facilitated or hampered by several factors, including affordability, adequate content, and skills.

Therefore education, training and capacity building, particularly in rural areas, especially in the field of ICT, serves to significantly promote social inclusion, but must nevertheless be adapted to the needs of local populations which, despite their universal aspect can vary significantly from one region to another or from one community to another.

In order to be able to make this happen, we will have to focus on the following aspects:

Educational aspect

- Invest in the children' education through profound country-based and gender-sensitive reforms of educational programs, adapted to the needs and specificities of each region and based on the use of ICT and new learning tools by including IT specialists in their development.
- Promote and fund content elaboration that is adequate, relevant and adapted to the specific needs of communities.
- Develop and reinforce ICT skills especially of women and girls in rural areas, to guarantee their social and financial inclusion.

Social aspect

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the main role women play in societies worldwide: 70% of the world's healthcare staff are made up of women and due to the lockdown women are teaching, taking care of home-schooled children and managing their workload simultaneously. The lockdown registered high rate of domestic violence against women. A socially gender-based approach should be adopted in order to allow more equality.

15. Association Nationale pour Promouvoir la Société Civile et la Citoyenneté

Action accélérée et voies transformatrices: réaliser la décennie d'action et de réalisation pour le développement durable

Le développement durable, cette ambition de vivre et profiter des ressources de notre terre sans toutefois compromettre les droits des générations futures semble elle-même compromise par l'indifférence de l'être humain lui-même victime d'une mondialisation farouche appuyée par un développement technologique capable d'élargir les inégalités par l'adoption de plus en plus de l'intelligence artificielle et de contribuer aux changements climatiques néfastes pour la biodiversité par la croissance des déchets de l'activité humaine.

Ainsi pour arriver à réaliser un développement durable dans ses trois dimensions, économique, écologique et social, il est temps d'unifier nos efforts autour d'un concept mondial favorisant tout d'abord la transition énergétique vers les énergies renouvelables afin de réduire la pollution de l'atmosphère ce qui permet de diminuer la quantité de dioxyde de carbone et par conséquent protéger la couche d'ozone, ainsi que, réduire l'effet de serre et protéger notre terre contre l'érosion, la sécheresse, la fonte de glace et garantir une durabilité à la biodiversité de notre environnement. Ensuite agir en sorte que le développement technologique notamment en matière d'intelligence artificielle contribue à combattre les inégalités, réduire les écarts et offrir à tous les êtres humains les moyens adéquats pour subvenir et répondre à leurs besoins. Enfin - et devant la croissance des déchets de l'activité humaines - encourager l'économie circulaire qui vise à maximiser le recyclage des matériaux et à optimiser l'utilisation des ressources naturelles.

Pour ce faire il est impératif de travailler ensemble et de coopérer car il est impossible de trouver des solutions isolées. Les actions à pourvoir dans l'immédiat consistent à passer à une transition vers un modèle plus durable, nécessaire pour vivre dans un monde plus équitable et préserver notre planète et ses ressources naturelles. Ce modèle s'appuie sur des piliers dont les enjeux se résument en la surveillance de la qualité environnementale des activités humaines pour limiter les impacts environnementaux et préserver les écosystèmes et les ressources naturelles à long terme. L'assurance d'une équité sociale pour garantir à tous les membres de la société un accès aux ressources et services de base (éducation, santé, alimentation, logement) pour satisfaire les besoins de l'humanité, réduire les inégalités et maintenir la cohésion sociale. L'efficacité économique en diminuant l'extrême pauvreté et en garantissant l'emploi du plus grand nombre dans une activité économique dignement rémunérée. L'économie durable est une gestion saine des activités humaines sans préjudices pour l'Homme ou pour

l'environnement. Ces piliers du développement durable doivent être accompagnés de principes fondamentaux que sont: la solidarité entre les pays et les peuples, les précautions dans les décisions afin de ne pas causer de catastrophes quand on sait qu'il existe des risques pour la santé ou l'environnement, la participation de chacun, quelque soit son statut social, afin d'assurer la réussite de projets durables, la responsabilisation de tous les citoyens, pour que celui qui dégrade et pollue répare.

16. Association camerounaise pour la prise en charge de la personne âgée (ACAMAGE)

Action accélérée et voies de transformation réalisant la décennie d'action et livraison pour le développement durable

Le programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030 et les 17 objectifs de développement durable (ODD) doivent être atteints et à temps: Le tout premier Sommet sur les ODD de l'année dernière a noté des retards dans l'implémentation globalement. Le besoin est donc urgent et impose de trouver de nouvelles voies dans l'accélération, d'après la Déclaration même du sommet.

ACAMAGE est une ONG qui œuvre pour le bien-être des personnes âgées, en promouvant et protégeant leurs droits humains au Cameroun. Elle travaille avec les réseaux concernés. Les personnes âgées doivent vivre en dignité, autonomie et indépendance, jouissant de tous leurs droits humains, comme tout le monde. Il s'agit donc de la lutte contre les inégalités, la pauvreté et les maladies.

Tous les instruments existants de droits de l'homme ont montré leur limite envers les personnes âgées, ce qui a motivé en 2010, la mise sur pied par les Nations Unies, du Groupe de travail spécial à composition non limitée (GTCNL) chargé d'examiner ces instruments, d'en relever les écarts, et de voir la possibilité d'un instrument juridique contraignant. À date, ce groupe est à sa 11e session annuelle qui n'a pas pu se tenir en début d'avril compte tenu de la crise du COVID-19. Une nouvelle Convention sur les droits des personnes âgées est en pleine élaboration.

Ceci s'ajoute au premier Sommet sur les ODD qui a relevé des insuffisances et retards globalement.

La population des personnes âgées (60 ans et +) croît à un rythme jamais égalé dans l'histoire planétaire et il est prévu qu'elle dépassera celle des jeunes. Cette cible s'impose par son nombre et sa force, en plus de sa capacité d'acteur du développement.

Conclusion

- La Convention relative aux droits des personnes âgées: Tous les États membres, toutes les parties prenantes doivent plus que par le passé combattre ensemble l'âgisme, la discrimination, la violence que subissent les personnes âgées. Ils doivent prendre part aux travaux préparatoires et aux sessions du GTCNL sur le vieillissement à New York. Les missions des États membres aux Nations Unies doivent supporter cette Convention en donnant un avis favorable et rapide sur les recommandations intergouvernementales négociées en rapport

avec la très grande importance de cette Convention. Dans la même lancée, notre souhait est de reprogrammer la 11e session du GTCNL dès que possible, sans attendre l'année prochaine, pour éviter de retarder les échéances.

- Le programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030 et les 17 objectifs de développement durable (ODD): Tous les États membres et parties prenantes doivent plus que par le passé, tenir compte des personnes âgées dans l'implémentation des ODD et les associer en même temps. Les personnes âgées bénéficiant de tout ceci vivront dignes, et seront capables plus que jamais de participer pleinement. Ce qui permettra sans nul doute l'accélération de la réalisation de la décennie d'action et l'atteinte des ODD. Vivement que le COVID-19 prenne fin.

17. Association for Protection of Refugee and Internal Displaced Women and Children

The Islamic Republic of Iran has been hosting one of the world's largest protracted displaced caseloads for the past four decades.

However, continuation of the said service cannot be sustainable as the unilateral coercive measures (UCM) has unjustly pressured the country. The financial crises induced by the UCM will broaden the social gap between Afghans and the host community that, might inadvertently increase instances social tensions. Considering the volatile nature of the socio-political scene in the Middle East, containing any potential tension will be a high-risk costly intervention which will put an extra uncalled-for pressure on hundreds of the extremely vulnerable Afghan migrant and refugee families.

The present lack of access to international humanitarian fund to help the displaced community lead a decent life with dignity will leave a negative mid to long-term effect on their quality of life in the Islamic Republic of Iran. Currently, out of the 250 million USD required to include 500,000 undocumented children into the Islamic Republic of Iran's formal education system only 5 million USD is contributed by international institutions and UN Agencies. The skyrocketing costs to cover medical fees incurred by the Afghans nationals residing in the Islamic Republic of Iran is likewise mostly covered by the Iranian government.

Women and children have always fallen victim to armed conflicts, political crises, natural and man-made disasters in which they have played no role. The same group comprises the most vulnerable group at times of crises. It is expected that their specific needs should always be duly considered and documented in policy documents, as well as local, regional and international planning in order to decrease any further pressure on them in case of on-going conflicts. In doing so, the conflicting parties also recognize their basic rights which would hopefully lead to their exclusion from further tension and pressure. All institutions, at local, regional or international levels should seek to allocate specific resources (financial and otherwise) to cover education, health, psychosocial and survival needs of women and children at risk.

Recommendations:

- To move more swiftly and surely towards fulfilment of SDGs especially SDG-IV, the Association for Protection of Refugee and Internal Displaced Women and Children strongly believes that, more emphasis should be placed on psychosocial training for children, parents/caregivers, teaching personnel and host community members.
- The Association for Protection of Refugee and Internal Displaced Women and Children calls on countries to join forces to lift the UCM that seriously

hinder achievement vis-à-vis SDGs ensuring that humanitarian aid and assistance is not, at any point, influenced by politics.

18. Associação Jadir de Taekwondo

We are going through a time of great challenges, with a large impact on the economy, life and health of the global population. Reducing the effects of this crisis will require the efforts of everyone, especially on the most vulnerable populations.

General Assembly resolution 58/5, *Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace*, A/RES/58/5 (3 November 2003), recognizes sport as a powerful tool to promote development and peace. In this regard, we would like to reinforce the importance of sport as a key instrument for contributing to peace, social inclusion and maintaining a healthy life. Due to its universal appeal, which facilitates reaching the most vulnerable, sport can be considered a low-cost and high-impact tool. In addition, sport has also been used in post-conflict areas, acting as a positive catalyst for empowering refugee communities.

Founded in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the Jadir Taekwondo Association (AJTKD) has been developing sports and social projects for children and youth in social vulnerability for 20 years, mobilizing communities, offering free sports classes and addressing themes such as: environment, peace, drug prevention, social inclusion, female empowerment and violence prevention, therefore contributing to several sustainable development goals.

AJTKD believes in the role of sport as an important tool to transform the lives of children and youth and contribute to achieving the sustainable development goals.

19. Burundi Rugby League Rugby A Xiii Cooperative

Suite aux difficultés que le monde rencontre avec la pandémie du COVID-19, les organisations de sports surtout liées aux rugbys league africains et le Moyen-Orient auront des difficultés à récupérer leurs atouts acquis durant ces derniers temps.

Nous perdons des biens et un manque de suivi post pandémie est en vue, surtout dans la majorité de nos régions.

Les indicateurs de la faim vont augmenter, la pauvreté pourrait augmenter la criminalité dans certaines régions, les infrastructures de la santé pourraient subir des dégâts dus aux différentes techniques de "framing" et montages politiques dans les régions en cours d'élection.

Pour pallier à ces cas généraux, nous souhaiterions solliciter une aide pour que nous puissions participer avec nos réseaux bien soudés et pour que nous puissions avoir une continuité harmonieuse au sein de la communauté et dans notre environnement.

Burundi Rugby League Rugby A Xiii Cooperative étant participant à l'initiative du sport pour le changement des climats, nous souhaiterions faire remarquer que les "Wills of God" continuent à creuser les écarts entre les communautés du nord de l'hémisphère et du sud.

Pour pallier à cela, il est nécessaire d'avoir un minimum de fonds pour les plaidoyer, formation et mobilité des réseaux.

20. Business Innovation Research Dev

The United Nations have surveyed city risks as a key dimension of change. Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) said hazards can impact cities differently and reduce the growth. World Meteorological Organization (WMO) message was that disasters stabilized to 200,000 killed people annually and recovery cost 200 billion. On the one hand, city supply chains are aging. Populations in cities cannot be displaced when a risk is predicted. COVID-19 was unknown. Post-recovery operations are a best friend of old people with physical stamina and mental fitness for transforming cities against risks. Government website's recommendations and business monitoring with announcements are short term actions. Locking down people was meaningful for families and aged persons, over 70 years - not fit for going into the city streets can spread the virus. Fears created a lockdown of billions of earth population, which is like an economy of war, thus an economic slowdown resulted. 2008 US financial crisis showed, a decade was necessary to recover the growth. On the other hand, for 3 months the water in rivers and lakes was cleaner, the biodiversity was returning quickly, cities were less polluted, we could hear birds singing again, there was increasing solidarity and people were talking to each other again. A wider range of relationship reflected the fact multiple organizations (individuals, households, NGO, firms, governments) were often linked to a system. A data mining experience is important to analyse gaps between predictors that can vary permanently with the real experience learning curve, therefore thus an important need for understanding risk and building more Multi Hazard Early Warning System based on surveillance with data mining.

21. **Bäuerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwäbisch Hall w.V.**

Localizing the SDGs by Creating a Worldwide Network of SDG-Regions

In order to realize a decade of action, sustainable development goals (SDGs) action is necessary to get the agenda on the ground with a top-down policy: Localizing SDGs.

Bäuerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwäbisch Hall w.V. conducts every year in March jointly with the Foundation House of Farmers, a World Organic Forum at the Castle of Kirchberg/Jagst, Germany. This year, in 2020, the topic of the 4th World Organic Forum is:

“Localizing SDGs by Creating an International Network of Sustainable Development Goal Regions”

More than 15 regions around the globe had been invited to the summit from the 11 to 13 March 2020, but due to the corona virus pandemic it failed, and will be recalled from the 6 to the 8 March 2021 under the same topic.

Rural areas can be classified as an SDG-Region if they are implementing projects according to the 17 development goals on advanced level. An evaluation of the project outcomes and results will classify the individual SDG-Regions according to their achievements on different levels from initial stage up to advanced level.

The network provides permanent interaction and exchange of knowledge and experiences in implementing successfully SDGs on the ground level. A yearly summit will be the platform for further exchange especially with international reputed experts and subject matter specialists.

Focus of course will be on eradication poverty in all its forms and dimensions due to the focus of “Integrated Rural Development Projects”. Further on the three main dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental targets.

In the field of agriculture “agrarian change” is the main challenge and most projects are focusing on environmentally friendly practices and creating new value chains for the benefit of rural farming families.

All activists around the globe are invited to join the next summit of the World Organic Forum from the 6 to the 8 March 2021, to become member with their homeland to the global network of SDG-Regions.

22. CIBJO - The World Jewellery Confederation

CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, remains committed to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to furthering this objective through the leadership, educational activities and other services that it provides globally within the greater jewellery industry, along its full value chain, from the mining regions through to the retail markets. More specifically, it supports the theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level segment “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” obligating itself to sustained action within its sector and among its stakeholders during the final ten years of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Understanding that all 17 SDGs are inter-related, through its involvement with the greater jewellery industry, CIBJO specifically addresses areas of good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), energy (SDG 7), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12), climate action (SDG 13), life below water (SDG14), life on land (SDF 15), peace, justice and strong institutions (SDG 16) and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17).

The current COVID-19 pandemic, which poses massive health and economic challenges to the world community in general, represents a particular risk to the sector that CIBJO serves, and more particularly to those individuals and communities in developing countries, who rely on the support and economic leverage provided by the jewellery, precious metals and gemstone sectors, which currently are under threat. At the same time, new technologies and processes that are being applied to cope with the pandemic and its various impacts provide the promise of improving CIBJO’s ability to better serve its stakeholders beyond the crisis. Most importantly, COVID-19, which does not discriminate between people, nations and regions, underscores the degree to which all of humanity is interdependent.

Since the start of the worldwide lockdown that followed the outbreak of COVID-19, CIBJO has initiated an industry-wide forum to discuss its impacts and formulate collaborative solutions, including those directed at stakeholders in developing countries. A webinar programme that currently is being conducted is drawing between 350 and 700 participants per session.

These activities complement a series of actions that CIBJO has been involved in over the course of the past 12 months. These include the introduction in January 2019 of the first universal set of standards for the responsible sourcing of materials in the jewellery industry, called “The Responsible Sourcing Blue Book”. It follows the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Due Diligence Guidance for

Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas, and supports the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Much activity over the past year has focused on environmental sustainability. This has included CIBJO's Jewellery Industry Greenhouse Gas Measurement Initiative, and a programme being conducted with research bodies in Italy, Monaco and Japan, looking at reviving coral reefs that have been impacted by global warming and ocean acidification.

23. CLIPSAS

The Aretecracy: A democratic method to guarantee the Sustainable Development Goals

The United Nations has defined sustainable development as the capacity of a society to meet the basic needs of people without damaging the ecosystem or causing damage to the environment.

17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were determined to balance environmental, economic and social sustainability, considering that the countries are committed to accelerating progress for the most backward. All levels are necessary to achieve these ambitious goals: it requires the collaboration of governments, the private sector, civil society and citizens alike.

The outlook presented by our planetary republic today gathered within the United Nations is demoralizing and discouraging. Democracy is hijacked by populism, which does not discriminate; neither first nor third world ideologies nor States. Decision-making by populist governments is erratic and unpredictable; the SDGs require legal certainty and long-term policies. Without a doubt, the greatest threat facing the 17 SDGs are populist governments. There is a democratic method whose implementation could confront populism; it is the aretecracy. Generally, the internal legal order of the States establishes minimum requirements to exercise the executive power. Today anyone can come to power. The aretecracy considers that only those who are qualified should govern. Aretecracy implies a democratic, qualified and legitimate system in which there is popular participation through suffrage in free elections. The inhabitants of a State would periodically elect their representatives, as long as they have been previously qualified to govern through a prior qualification process. The easiest way to promote aretecracy is by creating aretecratic laws, that is, by raising the ethical and merit requirements that are required to exercise executive power in a given state.

A more complex aretecracy would require a procedure to which applicants to represent the people must submit. This process should aim at the objective and qualitative qualification in abilities, skills and ethical qualities of the candidates who intend to exercise popular representation.

Some essential criteria of the pre-qualification process are the following:

- Judicial, administrative and disciplinary resume.
- Demonstrable social work.
- Public and private action of the applicant according to human rights.
- Degree of academic preparation and the candidate's experience.
- Ethical reputation

Aretecracy is an option in favour of the progress of humanity and can become an antidote against populism and corruption, as well as a guarantee to achieve the SDGs.

24. Campaign Life Coalition

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be achieved when the focus is on the human person and family as they are at the center of each sustainable development goal (SDG), as well as the implementation of their corresponding efforts. This is in accordance with the 2020 High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. By looking at each SDG through the lens of strengthening families worldwide, we can accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Sustainable development begins with, and is determined by, the health of families on a regional basis. Globally, governments determine the health of their respective nations by the status of the families within as they are the predominant factor in the determination of sustainable wealth creation, opportunity and a nation’s future. Families light the pathway towards a world where every life is valued, protected and where no man, woman or child is left behind but is empowered through the lens of each SDG. The same degree of focus in the creation of the SDG’s is required in the application and therefore, the achievement of these goals.

Campaign Life Coalition calls for:

- A sustainable, fresh and effective means of empowering the family and the individual when approaching discussions regarding the SDG’s and their implementation.
- Enrichment of social policies and their corresponding actions to protect the family and all human life from conception to natural death.
- Ensuring the preservation of familial and cultural values.

Families are not only consumers, but they are also units of production. Each unique family generates income and employment, both of which have an immediate impact upon sustainability. Investing into the healthy development of all members of the family, as well as the individual, knits together the significance of every human life and the progressive fulfilment towards sustainable development.

We know the family is a driving force to building stronger economic, social and educated societies while maintaining the principles and values of cultures globally. The SDGs can be furthered when implemented into family friendly laws and policies.

The 2015 World Family Summit in Cairo Egypt set its Agenda as “Transforming our World: A New Agenda for Action Framing the Sustainable Development Goals at the Smallest Unit of Social Capital the Family” which unanimously approved the Cairo Declaration which:

“Reaffirmed that the Family, as the basic unit of society, is a powerful agent for sustainable, social, economic, environmental and cultural development, including peace and security, bearing the primary responsibility for the care, development and protection of children, as well as instilling values of citizenship and belonging to the society.”

Campaign Life Coalition believes that in reinforcing and firmly translating the SDGs into family friendly policies including valuing the sanctity of every human life, regardless of age, developmental stage, location, or sex only then can we effectively pave the pathway forward for our collective future towards a more equal, peaceful, unified and sustainable world.

25. Center for Interethnic Cooperation, The

Coronavirus is a protective reaction of the planet. According to the mathematical theory of stability, an object or system of different objects is considered stable if small changes cannot bring the system out of its ground state. Life on the Earth started about four billion years ago. During this time, the Earth was repeatedly exposed to external influences - meteorites, flashes in the sun, radiation from space etc. The unique biosystem has been existing on our planet for more than four billion years. Since it has not collapsed during this enormous period of time, it means that our biosphere is a stable system. It means that there are self-defence mechanisms in the biosphere of the Earth.

The formula - whoever is stronger is right, does not exist in nature. It was invented and installed into life by people. In the nature of animals everything is balanced. Lions, tigers, hyenas cannot kill all antelopes and bison, not just because they do not want it they cannot simply do that. In that way biosphere preserves not only herbivores, but also predators. Biosphere has established the thing that we are calling “social distance” nowadays long time ago. The people became so powerful that they began to radically change the biosphere. We built factories, machines that pollute the environment, we began to intensively cut down the forests. In order to feed the vast population of the Earth, we began to use chemicals and even antibiotics in agriculture. We started fishing in gigantic volumes.

As a result, we have done serious damage to the Earth’s biosphere. At some point, the biosphere’s self-defence mechanism should have been activated in order to eliminate the threat spoken about. Since the threat comes from people, the mechanism of self-defence will be directed against people. Viruses have proven to be ideal tools for this. There are tens of thousands of them. Some of them have been living in people for a long time and they are constantly mutating. Maybe, thousands of years ago there was already a virus infection similar to COVID -19. However, then there were not many people and they lived far from each other. Over the past 50 years, the situation has changed a lot. Huge megalopolises have appeared, consuming a gigantic amount of food stuffed with all sorts of chemical and biological additives and creating the same amount of waste. These megalopolises are an ideal reactor for a chain reaction that can go from person to person.

Coronavirus violently restores the social distance that used to be in nature. It mostly struck the developed countries, which are more responsible for the ecological situation created in the world. In fact, this is a warning to all of us. Viruses will continue to mutate, and there may be ones that, for example, will kill more than fifty percent of patients and only men. Mankind should be getting ready for such a scenario development now.

26. Centre d'études diplomatiques et stratégiques

Implementing the fourth sustainable development goal through improving of the higher education performance

Quality education is an essential part of the sustainable development goals. Investment in education is and investment in human capital and in long range and intergenerational development objectives.

The last report on the Millennium Development Goals performance disclosed a success in achieving universal primary education (more than 80% of African children school enrolment).

Nevertheless, the emphasis on primary education compelled the governments and international organizations to dedicate a growing share of their educational resources to the primary level, therefore affecting negatively the public funding of higher education.

The consequence was everywhere, that higher education systems that are the drive for a high-quality education were lacking resources, and this affected the whole educational chain.

Through our cooperation with academic institutions abroad, we realised that international exchanges were slowed down by the lack of public funds.

This was the visible part of the iceberg, as the hidden part is the lack of human and financial resources to undertake the necessary reforms as it has been noticed for instance in some Middle Eastern countries where the highest qualified professors were employed by the state universities from where many students from wealthier social classes were moving away in order to privilege private structures.

The reform of this key sector for a high-quality education needs for sure a mobilisation of national resources, but also an international support both in terms of expertise sharing and in terms of additional funds allocated within the framework of a detailed reform agenda.

The key axes of this transformation are expected to be presented as follows:

- The share of expertise in order to improve governance and to develop an efficiency-oriented administration, supported by the funding for seminars and international meetings for this.

- The share of teaching experiences in order to help students to develop cognitive resources.
- The support for comprehensive studies of the whole educational system in order to develop the complementarity between higher education and teacher training for the lower levels.

Improving the quality of teaching and governance in higher education is a drive for the development of human resources and supports the accomplishment of all the other sustainable development goals.

27. Centre for Human Rights

While the effect of COVID-19 on all the sustainable development goals (SDGs) has been and is being documented and examined across the world, the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, draws attention to the importance of the sustainable development goal (SDG) 16 – anchored on the principle of the rule of law – in these times.

The standard government response has – understandably – been to enforce severe restrictions on freedom of movement, in situations generally referred to as “lockdowns”. However, grave concerns have already arisen that some of the measures adopted by the governments are disproportionate, and involve the use of excessive force, lack transparency, misuse emergency regulations, and that the restrictions are serving as a smokescreen behind which governments are engaging in repressive practices.

It is crucial that the rule of law, accountability, transparency, and access to information are maintained in this period. It is only when these principles are observed that a people-centred approach, responsive to the most vulnerable, will be able to ensure that “no one is left behind”.

Lockdowns should not have a more severe effect on the right to life or other fundamental rights due to excessive securitisation. In the enforcement of lockdown regulations, the role of law enforcement ought to be aimed at persuasion where possible, and coercive measures only a last resort, while also adhering to the recommended practices such as physical distancing.

Emergency measures must conform with the principles of legality, necessity, proportionality, precaution and non-discrimination. These measures should be reviewed continuously and reasons for their imposition provided.

It is now more important than ever that oversight is ensured through the judiciary, the legislature and independent human rights institutions. Human rights defenders must not be prevented from doing their work. Reinforcing human rights monitoring during this period will create conditions that would enhance the realisation of all the SDGs.

In a time of closure, transparency and access to information is of increased importance. Government institutions should where necessary, continue to operate virtually, and in doing so, ensure that accessibility is allowed and increasingly entrenched. The public should be given access to information that underlies government’s decisions about

steps it takes to contain COVID-19. Full and accurate information dispels myths and misconceptions. The press should be allowed to operate freely.

Even – or particularly -- during periods of crisis, governance processes should involve civil society, to ensure more accountable, responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making.

Looking beyond the pandemic, COVID-19 could provide a prism through which we may more closely examine and improve underlying defects and faultiness related to the rule of law, to not only deal better with future disasters, but also to allow for conditions that enhance the realisation of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

28. Centro UNESCO De Donostia-San Sebastián

Les objectifs de développement durable et l'Université des Nations Unies – Renforcements des capacités

L'Université des Nations Unies (ci-après, UNU) est un instrument éducatif de haut niveau institué par l'Organisation des Nations unies (ci-après, ONU) pour promouvoir l'excellence dans la formation des personnes et des pays aux compétences socialement utiles.

Il s'agit d'un outil qui fournit des ressources pour former les attitudes et les compétences des individus et des groupes à travers l'enseignement et l'apprentissage; qui maintient à jour la performance des tâches pour le développement humain et social; qu'elle se déploie dans des relations de coopération internationale; et qu'il exerce les objectifs de développement durable (ODD) en appuyant son hypothèse par une éducation permanente et sans frontières de race, de sexe, de religion ou de culture.

L'ONU témoigne de ces aspects de l'éducation, du développement intégral, de la coopération et des ODD et d'autres plus spécifiques lorsqu'elle se réfère à l'activité avec laquelle l'UNU contribue à l'établissement du mandat du système de l'ONU. Contribution qualifiée pour le développement considérable des capacités des utilisateurs qu'elle réalise. L'assistance technique de l'UNU est, en tout état de cause, inexcusable si elle est destinée à agir pour la mise en œuvre universelle des buts et objectifs de l'ONU.

Il est opportun de souligner la concordance entre les objectifs de l'ONU et les possibilités de l'UNU. Comme le montre également spécifiquement ce que l'ONU dit à propos de cette institution universitaire tout en continuant à rechercher des moyens techniques adéquats pour renforcer les capacités du personnel des organes et agences du système, ainsi que celle des pays.

C'est dans cette perspective d'exigence de réalisation de l'excellence pour les peuples et les nations que l'UNU se situe. Et son travail vise la formation pour savoir comment faire face afin d'accomplir des tâches de développement humain intégral avec compétence et capacité. Pour cette raison, l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies (ci-après AG) reconnaît comme utiles les «contributions apportées par l'Université aux travaux de l'ONU»; par conséquent, il encourage « les organes, organisations et agences du système des Nations Unies à tirer parti de la capacité de recherche et des résultats de la recherche de l'Université, qui devrait devenir l'une des principales institutions universitaires de l'ONU par le biais de son réseau mondial de centres et de

programmes de recherche et de formation »; et, par conséquent, il invite à une plus grande coordination et coopération avec d'autres organes des Nations Unies, à une plus grande diffusion des résultats de ses enquêtes et à une collaboration plus large avec la communauté universitaire internationale encore élargie d'institutions et des chercheurs, en particulier dans les pays en cours d'élaboration (A/RES/47/200).

29. Chant du Guépard dans le Désert

Nécessité d'un Partenariat mondial pour une coopération efficace

Sans aucun doute les 17 objectifs du développement durable (ODD) sont déjà très exhaustifs et couvrent considérablement les défis et les besoins de la communauté internationale à cet égard. Cependant, le Partenariat mondial pour une coopération efficace afin d'atteindre ces objectifs indépendamment des différences politiques, raciales et ethniques est une urgence incontestable qui n'a pas encore été réalisé et qui a besoin d'une solution sérieuse et à long terme.

Jusqu'à présent en raison des actions unilatérales et de la croissance et du développement arbitraire utilitaire sans tenir compte des intérêts d'autres pays, le monde a subi de graves conséquences, les ressources naturelles sont limitées chaque jour, les valeurs écologiques de la terre ont été détruites, la structure de l'habitat de nombreux animaux a changé, les habitats ont été fragmentés et la plupart des espèces animales et végétales sont menacées d'extinction en faveur des ambitions humaines. Cependant, à partir d'aujourd'hui nous sommes dans un monde menacé plus qu'avant par les grandes crises tels que le changement climatique et la pandémie du COVID-19. Ceux-ci ont très vite prouvé à nous tous, leurs impacts catastrophiques et mortels ayant rendu la tâche difficile aux planificateurs. Dans ce contexte, le besoin d'éducation, d'information et de sensibilisation de tous les groupes se fait sentir plus que jamais.

Nous souhaitons que les hauts fonctionnaires présents au Conseil économique et social des Nations Unies prennent des décisions audacieuses sur la nécessité d'une gestion intégrée, coordonnée et engagée de tous les États et de toutes les cultures, afin d'examiner les moyens d'accélérer les actions pour la réalisation des Objectifs de développement durable.

30. Child Family Health International

Sustainable development depends, in part, on the understanding of local leaders, as well as international stakeholders, of sustainable solutions. Within the health and social service sector, it is increasingly recognized that sustainable approaches require staffing and leadership by national and local citizens who have technical, linguistic, cultural, and contextual expertise. This sustainable model is a stark contrast to voluntourism and poorly trained outside short-term visitors being relied upon for sustainable solutions. Child Family Health International, a US-based non-profit civil society organization, is leading with mechanisms by which students, trainees, volunteers, and other stakeholders can appreciate and support sustainable interventions. It is increasingly recognized that there are legal and ethical challenges to short-term visitors trying to assume roles that require long-term commitment, continuity, and locally contextualized expertise. CFHI has collaborated with the World Medical Association, Forum on Education Abroad, Consortium of Universities for Global Health, and other organizations to develop guidelines and standards for appropriate scope of practice of visiting students and professionals, as well as approaches that honour the primacy of local workforce and expertise. This often requires re-thinking of power/privilege/expertise dynamics of outsiders from other countries (often individuals coming from HIC into LMIC with good intentions to help). There is also growing evidence that visitors' practice outside their scope of training in clinical settings when volunteering in LMIC based on training in HIC. These dynamics highlight opportunities to optimize oversight, preparation, and role of visiting students/faculty/professionals.

CFHI is working with health systems in twelve countries to assist in managing visitors to optimize the emphasis on sustainable health and social system solutions. This involves steps from marketing/messaging of opportunities, pre-departure training, establishment of appropriate competencies and activities for visitors, as well as quality monitoring. Fair Trade Learning is a multi-institutional initiative to ensure host and partner communities are appropriately leading regarding visitors, as well as being compensated for efforts involved in hosting and co-development of agendas/programming. CFHI respectfully submits this written statement to bring attention to the role in how visitors are oriented to sustainable solutions and involved in supporting those solutions rather than undermining them.

31. Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice

A New Vision for the Future in Our Society

The last year fell on our 30th Anniversary, and we looked back on our historic movements over the last decades. Of significant importance to democratic and socioeconomic transformation with sustainable development in Korean society, have been three key factors: (a) Housing Price Reform: the alleviation of housing bubbles between stated value and real price; (b) Chaebol Reform: the breakup of the corporatocratic structure; and (c) Manifesto Movement by monitoring the governmental activities and evaluating their performance. These are really something many Koreans thought we're supposed to do.

However, nothing has changed. In retrospect, the last 10 years, we saw political tensions and upheavals successively in our society. Such a radical change in all the state affairs of security, diplomacy, economy, society and industry, etc. has been bringing about a new order and related problems—such as the “False” industrial revolution—that cannot be resolved by traditional theories any longer and that cannot help being a real challenge for us to achieve sustainable development and economic justice. Such a road-to-Damascus conversion— “Digital” conversion—was dashed by big business and governments that maintained the status quo in the population aging and decline, in low growth and polarization, more and more. And such a socioeconomic inequality becomes fixed now, and forever. For unless we break it through this status quo, we won't survive any longer.

Now then, we suggest you set a new vision for the future in our society on the ground of our empiricism, a new mission statement that is fixed to achieve the following six goals including twenty-two detailed targets (with over ninety methods):

A. Fair Economy

A-1. Establish a fair market with economic orders (six methods).

A-2. Promote innovation for inclusive growth (nine methods).

A-3. Earn economic esteem on decent work (four methods).

A-4. Re-establish the governmental role to realize a fair economy (four methods).

B. Social Justice

B-1. Eradicate windfall profits out of the housing speculation (three methods).

B-2. Establish justice and taxation (three methods).

B-3. Reform structural corruption (three methods).

C. Community Well-being

C-1. Secure social welfare based on the full-scale budget and fiscal soundness (three methods).

C-2. Reinforce housing welfare (three methods).

D. Social Inclusion

D-1. Do technological innovation for the human being (seven methods).

D-2. Close the socioeconomic achievement gap in education (four methods).

D-3. Realize the society without hate and discrimination (three methods).

D-4. Narrow the development gap between local areas (three methods).

E. Democratic Communitarianism

E-1. Reform politics and the judiciary (five methods).

E-2. Reform the government (two methods).

E-3. Strengthen local autonomy with decentralization (five methods).

E-4. Strengthen CSO partnership with citizen participation (Drafts).

F. Community Peacebuilding

F-1. Develop sustainable inter-Korean relations, denuclearize the Korean Peninsula and build peace regimes (six methods).

F-2. Building a new system of peaceful cooperation in Northeast Asia (six methods).

F-3. Toughen safeguards system (seven methods).

F-4. Cope with disasters, climate change and environmental destruction (two methods).

F-5. Protect food security and sustainable agriculture (three methods).

32. Congregation of the Mission, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, DePaul University, International Association of Charities, International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Sisters of Charity Federation

End Homelessness, Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

By exacerbating existing inequalities, coronavirus provides clarity about vulnerable populations globally. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be accelerated through protection of persons most vulnerable now and post-virus. As members of the coalition Working Group to End Homelessness, we call upon the United Nations to address and end homelessness. Policies and programs focused upon homelessness contribute directly towards the achievement of many sustainable development goals (SDGs) in an integrated way.

For some, coronavirus is a death sentence. The New York Times reported on April 24 that the virus had spread to more than a third of the city's 450 shelters and that 51 people had died of coronavirus complications.

Persons without homes are among those most impacted by the coronavirus because of weakened immune systems due to multiple factors. The unhomed face other significant risks because they cannot gain access to basic amenities and resources, protective equipment, testing, affordable housing, or uncrowded shelter.

Women who are without homes can experience violence, abuse, trauma, and other health issues. Further, family-oriented shelter/housing is not always readily available. Policies sensitive to the unique needs and experiences of women and families are warranted.

Addressing homelessness starts with disaggregated data related to homelessness, as well as ensuring inclusion of persons without homes in official statistics.

We call for:

- Implementation of recommendations in Resolution E/CN.5/2020/L.5, entitled, "Affordable Housing and Social Protection Systems for All to Address Homelessness."
- Assurance that persons without homes have access to basic needs, such as food and hygiene items, supportive services, and healthcare services, at all times.
- Investment in construction of permanent, affordable housing units commensurate with local demand; rental assistance; and homeless services.
- Policies preventing eviction in times of crises.

- Housing, health, and social services geared towards vulnerable populations, including women, children, families, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities.
- Collection of disaggregated data related to homelessness.
- Stronger social protection systems, such as unemployment and health care benefits.
- Immediate opportunities for affordable, safe, and supported family separation for domestic violence victims.
- Thorough review of corona virus response and improved plans for future crises which impact homelessness.

33. Concern for Human Welfare

The global pandemic COVID 19 have initiated a pushback in the socio-economic condition of the Universe. The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) must take into consideration to set up guidelines for the respective member states and the civil society organizations (CSOs) to achieve the targeted sustainable development goals (SDGs) within a span of a decade. The following points are placed for the consideration of the HLPF to accelerate action and transformative pathways to realise the action to deliver the sustainable within a decade:

- It's high time that the member states should involve the respective organisations under general consultative status to Economic and Social Council on designing a road map to achieve the SDGs. More emphasis should be given on environmental sustainability projects and livelihood opportunities as this two are basic catalyst for the survival.
- We would like to appeal the HLPF to adopt a concrete policy on alternative livelihood opportunities for those who have lost their livelihood in COVID-19 or else we can notice a surge in the cases of human trafficking which will again set back the objective of SDGs.
- Accelerated growth on SDGs cannot be achieved without a gender equality initiatives. We would rather place a humble request for consideration of the HLPF to design and document a policy for the CSOs to involve women and transgenders in the board to achieve the SDGs within a span of a decade.
- Detailed guidelines for the industry and the corporate should be drafted and documented to follow the ethical business practice and corporate should come forward in joining hands to achieve the SDGs not only by sharing the portion of their profits as per the CSR policy but more beyond it.
- HLPF may take into consideration to ask the member states to design a framework to encourage the individuals to be a part of the initiatives of the SDGs as a part of their Individual Social Responsible Initiatives (ISR).
- It's high time that the HLPF may take into consideration to set a target for the CSOs in consultative status to provide capacity building training to other CSOs working in the ground level jointly with the member states.

Last but not the least all the member states must come forward to adopt a global policy because the light of unity is so powerful that it can illuminate the whole world.

34. Concile Mondial de Congres Diplomatiques des Aumoniers pour la Paix Universelle des Droits Humains et Juridiques

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) called the COVID-19 epidemic "pandemic." Also known as "coronavirus", it is a new contagious virus of which many elements remain to be understood. The high level of supportive and intensive care required has placed a heavy burden on some of the most advanced hospital systems in the world. Unlike the flu, for example, there is no known pre-immunity, no vaccine, no specific treatment and everyone can potentially be infected. This epidemic, by magnitude and rapidity of its spread worldwide, has a huge impact on health care, social and economic systems worldwide as well as in the affected countries.

The coronavirus at the origin of the disease named "Covid-19", has now spread all over the planet, and through the media on 04/26/2020 at 21:55 we found out that more than 2.8 million cases were recorded in 193 countries and territories, and a total of 200,736 deaths have been recorded worldwide. Yet it is the global economic survival that is at stake. What strategy could be designed for the creation of an instrument that would revive the world economy? The countries most affected, and the Member States of the United Nations faced with COVID-19, must be strong. We will not overcome this crisis without a strong global solidarity, at the health, economic, social and rule of law level with international cooperation and multilateral diplomacy. In the face of COVID-19, we ask that human rights be respected by the Member States of the United Nations which have voted and signed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Member States of the United Nations, civil society, private business sector, with a strong global solidarity, can contribute to issues of critical concern to the 2020 Agenda on Sustainable Development. It will also provide a platform to specifically address ways to accelerate actions for the achievement of the sustainable development goals.

35. Confederation of Asia Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry

The Application of Science, Technology and Innovation Through Public-Private Partnerships to Achieve Sustainable Development

As the world struggles to cope with COVID-19, industries and markets are facing the gravest challenge since the Great Depression. To see through these tough times, applying science, technology and innovation through public-private partnerships will be critical to restart and accelerate sustainable development.

To date, there are more than 2.7 million confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide with at least 191,000 deaths. Concerns over healthcare, economies and food supplies are currently every government's main priorities. Impacts on most countries are severe, with one of the exceptions being Taiwan, Province of China, a member of the Confederation of Asia-Pacific Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Attributed to the quick and effective response in preventing the spread of the coronavirus, Taiwan, Province of China's success has set an excellent example of integrating efforts between public and private sectors with science, technology and innovation capability, as Taiwan, Province of China continues to help the global community.

To combat the disease, Taiwan, Province of China's government has established a Central Epidemic Command Center for centralized management, coordinated mask production among enterprises, and launched an eMask Ordering System with a real-time database and rationing plan. This public-private partnership model is the key to successful prevention and worth replicating in affected countries.

In addition to Taiwan, Province of China's successful experiences in health, the International Cooperation and Development Fund, an international aid agency from Taiwan, Province of China and one of the strategic partners of the Confederation, has applied public-private partnerships to assist developing countries with its best practices. The organization is cooperating with enterprises and civil society to cope with extreme circumstances through smart agriculture, such as harnessing weather forecasting and Geographic Information Systems, to increase crop production, ensure food security, improve household incomes and enhance the resilience of vulnerable farmers in Asia Pacific and Small Island Developing States.

In many ways, COVID-19 has made the world more vulnerable than ever as the pandemic has caused chain reactions of unprecedented proportions. Communities need more innovative ideas and the best technology applications that will encourage people to seek out paradigm shift solutions. To fight against communicable diseases and improve efficiency in preventing future pandemics, the Confederation urges civil society, nations and private sector to stand together and establish infectious diseases surveillance systems, globally replicate proven models to deal with widespread pandemics, and jumpstart efforts to achieve a more sustainable future.

36. Congressional Black Caucus Political Education & Leadership Institute

COVID-19 has brought unprecedented challenges to the World Order by severely disrupting each of the Member States of the United Nations. Like the layers of an onion, its abrupt and cascading effect is fast, revealing systemic weaknesses while unexpectedly highlighting the interconnectedness of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Coupled with the economic downturn, COVID-19 is forcing all sectors of society to re-conceptualize the issues and re-assess the approaches at rapid speed to meet the new shocking realities presented. Innovative thinking and methods include creating new alliances and partnerships in pursuit of common interest within and across borders.

The Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute is working on a proposal to enter into a partnership with the UN Foundation/United Nations Association-USA or other civic organizations to provide local communities within the United States of America with direct access to information and examples of best practices available through the United Nations system. Through this partnership, the expectation is to have town hall meetings with the purpose of identifying urgent solutions to key sustainable development goals that directly or uniquely affect the African American and African diaspora populations within the United States of America. The implementation of the proposed solutions will be activated at the local level by introducing and partnering the existing 220 UNA-USA chapters in 46 states with the leadership of other institutions across sectors around shared interests and goals. Since UNA-USA has community and campus chapters, this initiative will simultaneously reach and engage the youth of America.

The COVID-19 pandemic forces Good Health and Wellbeing (Sustainable Development Goal 3) and Reduced Inequality (Sustainable Development Goal 10) to be the driving forces in creating a bold new vision that integrates the remaining 15 Sustainable Development Goals. The ongoing coronavirus crisis has starkly highlighted racial health disparities. Early data suggests the virus disproportionately affects the African American, Native American, and minority populations. Rooted in the history of slavery, racism, and Jim Crow laws of the past, health disparities have plagued African Americans for generations. The International Decade for People of African Descent (IDPAD) showcases how these same issues echo across the African diaspora as an offshoot of the impact of their colonial heritage.

For instance, Chicago Mayor, Lori Lightfoot has stated that roughly 68 percent of the city's coronavirus-related deaths have been among African Americans who are only 30 percent of Chicago's population. "We see similar kinds of numbers reported across the country in large urban centres. And the answer that we believe is right is because of the underlying conditions that people of colour and particularly black folks suffer from,

whether it's diabetes, heart disease, upper respiratory illnesses " Lightfoot said in an interview on CBS-TV, Face the Nation. "The kind of things that we've been talking about for a long time that plague black Chicago, that leads to life expectancy gaps. This virus attacks those underlying conditions with a vengeance."

37. Convention of Independent Financial Advisors

The Convention of Independent Financial Advisors (CIFA) is honored to support the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the following accelerated actions and transformative pathways:

- a- education/training and outreach for investors
- b- ethical inputs in fair trade and international taxation conferences
- c- research on and identification of SDG investment opportunities
- d- promoting a new social/economic multilateralism for accelerated action

Many months before the United Nations' September 2019 Summits in NYC, a worldwide financial and economic slowdown was already looming, and is now aggravated by the most serious global pandemic and recession since 1930 (according to the International Monetary Fund). In our view, this challenging situation offers a unique opportunity for Humanity to address and resolve the most urgent reforms required in the economic, social and financial areas. CIFA offers its full support and its proactive expertise should the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) decide to use its universal leadership, powers and convening authority (under articles 62-66 of the UN Charter, Chapter X- ECOSOC), to address and resolve this historical social, health and economic crisis and move towards more sustainable solutions for development and human progress.

- a- CIFA's education/training and outreach for investors

It is our view and experience that no long term improvement to the social and economic ills of Humanity can be achieved without spending the required patience and time to teach, educate and train the young generations, the stakeholders and the future economic and social leaders, including investors. For this purpose, CIFA organizes every year since 2003 an educational Forum for its members, investors and selected guests. In 2020, the CIFA Forum to be held at the United Nations headquarters and co-hosted by Uruguay would have addressed a new concept of multilateralism through the theme "What Innovative Economic, Monetary and Fiscal Policies to Finance the Massive Investments Needed to Achieve the SDG: Sharing Transformative Experiences" (scheduled 22-24 April 2020, but postponed to April 2021 due to the pandemic).

In addition to its "transformative" initiatives in education, teaching and training, CIFA is developing with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in Geneva various SDG training sessions for investors, academics and other social or economic leaders. CIFA is currently finalizing online modules with UNITAR to outsource key investment strategies for the SDGs. We are aiming to come up with a cost-effective product that will offer various learning accelerated actions titled: Financial Literacy: Ethic and Finance (Global Financial training and certification program). These activities will contribute to the SDGs 4 and 17 by building personal

human capital, financial literacy of global citizen and ensuring a “core body knowledge” that meets UNITAR and SDG standards and certification. UNITAR “is aware that the climate surrounding learning is changing rapidly, and it is important to offer a platform that is user friendly and based on the latest technologies”. Hence, CIFA financial literacy program will answer that call. Its impact will reach private businesses and individuals and thus enabled to make educated decisions concerning their finances and investments and, by the same token, implementing CIFA Charter of investors Rights. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UNITAR and CIFA listing agreed activities is currently being drafted.

b- CIFA’s ethical inputs in fair trade and international taxation conferences

In recent years, CIFA has been invited by the United Nations and was honored to attend various Conferences, Financing for Development (FfD) Summits and Workshops of major importance for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. CIFA was present at all the 2019 ECOSOC Forum on FfD. CIFA representatives at United Nations venues were prominent international business leaders, academics and jurists with extensive knowledge and experience of world affairs and international business relations.

Of special interest for CIFA has been the new United Nations International Tax Cooperation Committee which held its inception meetings with a new expanded membership in May 2018 and April 2019 at the United Nations Headquarters in NYC. The extent of Committee’s mandate is wide and the backlog of issues overwhelming. Of great interest and concern for our investors, with items inter alia such as:

- tax rate competition between countries.
- illicit transfer of profits/ impact of digital commerce on taxation.
- social impact of carbon taxation/ universal alignment of taxation systems.
- lowering taxation to increase productivity.
- G-24 fractioning of withholding taxation on digital business.

Through this Committee (and the OECD) initiatives, we rejoice that a global consensus on the sovereign rights of each country seems to emerge to address the current tax discrepancies. Without mutual respect of cultural differences expressed in the taxation process, world peace, trade growth and global economy can hardly recover. Indeed, reaching a certain consensus on some of these tax matters could also foster growth and reduce extreme poverty, despite major differences of views still prevailing between the Group of 77 and the OECD. CIFA will continue to participate actively to the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.

c- CIFA’s search and identification of SDG investment opportunities

As outlined by the Secretary-General during the September 2019 SDG/FfD Summits, there is indeed a keen and genuine interest by the private sector to become more proactive and closely involved in FfD. Hence, efforts must be made to educate, train

and guide all parties involved to achieve productive investments for the benefit of all stakeholders. The Secretary-General announced the creation in October 2019 of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development (GISD) Alliance which will eventually propose new mechanisms to further attract investors and the private sector in FfD projects. CIFA is available to continue cooperating towards all such efforts to make investment in the SDGs attractive for the private investor.

In the above context, on 12-13 September 2019, was organized and CIFA attended in Geneva a United Nations' Workshop to finalize the Joint SDG Fund's Call for Concept Notes on Strategic Financing & Investments.

This FfD workshop was an opportunity for CIFA and other business participants, together with UN Agencies to:

- Identify and activate SDG accelerators.
- Reinforce the SDG financing architecture.
- Catalyze strategic programming and investments.

This exchange of views and information between investors and UN Agencies, on how to develop closer partnerships, was an opportunity to confirm once more the private sector's interest to invest in the FfD. At the same time the UN Agencies have to collaborate in identifying and eliminating various legal, commercial and administrative difficulties. This was a constructive step and most useful dialogue towards a meaningful relationship between the UN and the private sector in the future. CIFA welcomes such UN-Investors and Member States dialogue already started with Uruguay, Switzerland and Canada to name just a few, and will continue to support all transformative pathways leading to better investments in the SDGs.

- d- CIFA's promotion of a new social/economic multilateralism for accelerated action.

CIFA's annual Forum, regional conferences, training, teaching and publications are all geared towards the promotion and transforming of a new social and economic multilateralism reflecting reality. This will call for a major update of the 1945 UN Charter taking into account the new social and economic order of the 21st century. CIFA's members were all invited in April 2020 with a Press Release to contact and influence their respective governments and regulators to initiate this new transformative multilateral process, in the interest of all stakeholders. The 2019 and 2020 CIFA Forum held at United Nations Headquarters are planned in the spirit of a new form of multilateralism and with the co-sponsorship of various countries.

The ECOSOC should now open up and initiate such a reform process and promote a message of hope for a new form of multilateralism, respectful of the cultural tradition of each and every country, for the next Decade of Action, in order to mobilize all the energies worldwide towards a better economy.

38. Cruelty Free International

We are living through unprecedented times that will have a long-lasting impact on everyone, everything, everywhere.

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development provides a framework within which to approach existing challenges and those new challenges that will arise and the intentions behind the theme of this year's High-Level Political Forum - Accelerated action transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development - will be more important than ever.

However, this is also a moment to reflect. This is not business-as-usual. The COVID-19 pandemic has thrown into relief the animal-shaped hole in the sustainable development goals (SDGs). It has demonstrated starkly the crucial importance of rethinking the relationship between humans and non-human animals – whether that be wet markets, wildlife trade or the way we produce and consume food.

Around the globe, governments, and stakeholders are working like never before to find and test treatments, develop vaccines, and design strategies to limit transmission of the virus. Yet some research risks falling back on default methods, focusing on animal models that are not only partially approximating the behaviour of COVID-19 in humans but also adding to the suffering caused by this pandemic.

We all want a safe and effective vaccine for COVID-19 produced quickly. But we are also concerned about the suffering that is being and will be inflicted on thousands of animals, including monkeys, dogs, cats, ferrets, and mice. Genetically modified mice infected with the coronavirus, for example, frequently experience severe suffering involving laboured breathing, lethargy, and death. These animals and their experiences matter, and their suffering presents a significant ethical issue for society.

It is imperative, in the spirit of SDG 9, that efforts made by countries and institutions to coordinate research are maintained and that these focus on the use of humane and human-relevant methods as well as data sharing to prevent any duplication of effort or repeated testing on animals ensuring that information is shared between developed and developing countries.

The need for more resources to be directed towards studying the virus in humans should also be urgently addressed in a coordinated international way in order to increase our understanding of the disease, treat patients and limit the spread of the virus.

We welcome the coordinated actions at national and international level that have been initiated by bodies such as the World Health Organisation (WHO). We urge the WHO and other coordinating bodies to recognise the harms to animals used in coronavirus research and to ensure that the focus is on the use of humane, human-relevant research in the urgent search for safe and effective treatments and vaccines.

39. DIYNGO Community Based Organization

Impossibility, Compromise and Dreams

Our organisation is beset with issues. In the beginning we had a vision of previously ostracised, disparate communities connecting using information communication technologies (ICTs) powered by renewable energy enabling access to education, healthcare and governance. Little did we realise during those early days how our later years would help to unearth the many barriers that may hamper such a vision.

Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways: The Art of the Impossible

Is “accelerated action” a required vision for sustainable development given our experiences? It is certainly true that the literature proposes this notion with “technology transfer” or “leapfrogging” being particularly prevalent. However, once we start to deconstruct such theories and particularly in the context of rural African communities it soon becomes apparent that there are many rivers to cross. This takes time.

We have experienced droughts, floods, infrastructure limitations, financial restrictions and even localised conflict which all have a direct effect upon how we operate. Droughts and floods go hand in hand with the effects of climate change and are experienced particularly acutely at the front line of marginalised communities around the world. Infrastructure limitations inhibit the abilities of goods, services and even human resources to move freely around the locale. Financial restrictions imposed between nation states (duties, taxes and tariffs) plus biases evident in global flows of finance (most African countries being denied fundraising opportunities by certain online platforms) combine to deny the free flow of capital between and within communities who stand to gain the most. Finally, as another result of climate change and pressures upon traditional ways of life (such as pastoralism) we have experienced the incursion of warring factions directly affecting schools, communities and especially women and children.

The Way Forward: Realising the Impossible

We will not give up on our dream although we would welcome compromise in the spirit of multilateral diplomacy. The sustainable development goals can help us all if we work together. Our dream is that those deemed ‘outsiders’ by the global community should be included within the policies, agendas and goals the rest of us may take for granted. With current existential threats such as the coronavirus this dream remains relevant. We planned a mission to the ‘front line’ but now we must wait. Time is of the essence, yet these issues are complex. Patience, they say, is a virtue!

40. Direct Aid Organization

Direct Aid Society (DA) is geared towards the development of needy African regions as a strategy, prosperity peace, and partnership. The plan DA is to free humanity from poverty by helping without regard to individuals' cases but interest in ensuring the education of Africans as a means of changing the hardships. This realigns with the sustainable development decade of action and delivery since it makes tangible steps in support of people in vulnerable situations.

DA's mission is to provide distinguished services in the fields of education, relief, developing, and upgrading capabilities and income of poor communities to the degree of self-reliance and local resources. With a strong vision that makes it considerate to the plight of African societies as being free from ignorance, poverty, and diseases, DA resolves to a vision of the African regions with access to inclusive, equitable, quality education, healthcare, clean water and resilient infrastructure for all. Its development projects are aimed at sustainability as they are carried out in less fortunate communities with the main groups of focus being the ill patients, orphans, famine and disaster victims, and committing to doing righteous and good activities.

In ensuring an accelerated action, DA is driven by values of cooperation, loyalty, sincerity, secretariat, excellence, and preservation of human dignity without discrimination on gender, religion, or, race which are very essential sustainability measures in meeting gender equality, women and girls empowerment and the achievement of full human potential. The strategic objectives that DA ensures transformative pathways are focusing on both aspects of individual education and development, developing health services, fighting poverty, financial transparency at work, and developing human competencies.

In the vane of achieving an accelerated action and coming up with competency-based transformative pathways for sustainable development, it is important to make partnerships between all levels of the government and stakeholders such as the youth, academic, private sector, and civil society. DA has diplomatic status in many countries under agreements with foreign ministries and partners with other charitable organizations. Further, DA has started charity and Zakat contribution to help implement and reinforce its mission by providing distinguished donation services in education by building and running 304 schools, relief by forming several air bridges for relief to transport urgent aids to drought and famine areas in various African countries, and sending 700,000 tons of aids, medicine by establishing, running and managing three hospitals as well as executing more than 5,800 health programs (surgical camp, eyes camp, vaccination campaign, circumcision, medical convoy), water wells by drilling more than 24,039 surface and artesian wells to provide fresh water to people in poor villages and areas, micro finance by establishing and running 71 women vocational training and rehab centres. This is one major accelerated action aims of the organization towards sustainability in terms of self-dependency and reliance on local resources. Substantially, DA presently owns and run four universities, Al-Sumait

University in Zanzibar, Simad University in Somalia, Ummah University in Kenya and Morogoro University in Tanzania. As well as, Sponsoring of more than 12,686 students.

41. Disease Management Association of India

Sustainable Automation as SDG 18 to ensure Sustainable Development

Why Sustainable Automation as SDG 18

The pandemic - COVID-19 led to a catastrophic impact on jobs, businesses, and governments across the world. According to the World Trade Organization (WTO), global trade is likely to fall between 13 to 32 % in 2020; World Bank, the global GDP is expected to fall between 2.1 -3.9%; International Monetary Fund (IMF), global growth will fall below 7.4 %.

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), COVID-19 is going to impact 2.7 billion workers representing about 81 % of the worldwide workforce. Businesses are facing catastrophic losses, and as of 1st of April, ILO expects that sectors that employ about 1.25 billion workers, representing 38 % of the global workforce, are at risk due to severe decline and will have a risk of workforce displacement, particularly Low and Middle-Income countries.

One significant change is that business organizations will resort to automation to become independent of such future uncertainties due to such outbreaks. Which means, they will resort to automation from reception, assembling to logistics (automation across the value chain). Indiscriminate adoption of automation is where the world faces significant, long-term societal risk. Estimates before COVID-19 have quantified that automation could replace 40 % of jobs.

Recommendation

Post the COVID-19 shutdown; automation will inevitably get fast-tracked. We submit that the United Nations revisit its Sustainable Development Goals and add SDG 18, 'Sustainable Automation.' Indiscriminate automation will have a cascading effect, and this is not something the world is prepared for, given that we have 7.7 billion humans to cater to and sustain. Sustainable Automation is where we need a better understanding of the business community and political leadership that, 'profits' with the 'proliferation of technology' should not be without 'people.' If we keep people out of the equation, the consequences will undermine all other SDGs and, maybe, render them irrelevant. It is time for the United Nations to have the most critical SDG, 'Sustainable Automation,' as an 'intergenerational goal.'

About Disease Management Association of India (DMAI)

We work in the area of SDG 3, and we realize that due to automation, people may lose jobs and suffer pay-cuts, thereby making them vulnerable to sliding into poverty due to healthcare costs, and hence our proposal for adoption of 'Sustainable Automation'. We

also propose to lead this engagement with the United Nations on furthering the objectives of the UN group on Sustainable Automation.

42. EastWest Institute

The EastWest Institute (EWI), established in 1980, focuses on international conflict prevention and resolution through dialogues and back channel diplomacy to address major political, economic and security challenges. EWI supports the theme of the 2020 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) High-Level Segment “Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways.” Rapidly attaining the sustainable development goals (SDGs) is critical to global peace and stability and directly linked to EWI’s mission.

To enable the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, digital transformation must harness secure and trusted information and communications technology (ICT). EWI has worked relentlessly to ensure cyberspace security and trust by convening global leaders and experts from governments, international organizations, private sector, civil society and academia in its Global Cooperation in Cyberspace program and as Co-Secretariat of the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace.

Modern ICT can increase societal resilience by enabling rapid coordination, cooperation and response to address pressing global issues. Seismic sensor networks across the globe use cloud computing analytics to predict earthquakes and tsunamis and alert local populations. Next-generation devices use the Internet of Things to monitor nuclear activities and verify compliance with non-proliferation agreements. In the fight against COVID-19, artificial intelligence and data science are supporting rapid development of diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines, while mobile communications can enable contact tracing while protecting privacy.

Despite the international community’s efforts to establish norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour in cyberspace and committing to capacity building and confidence-building measures through a United Nations Group of Governmental Experts, an Open-ended Working Group and the United Nations High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, the benefits of modern ICT to aid international security and the betterment of society, are at risk. The number of state-tolerated cyber-attacks continues to rise, while the lack of effective transnational law enforcement cooperation lets criminals target critical infrastructure for monetary gain with impunity. Current geopolitical tensions further undermine trust in ICT as disinformation campaigns erode political systems.

Therefore, EWI invites Member States, private sector, civil society and international institutions to:

- Understand the common challenges and implications for international security when security and trust in ICT are compromised.

- Commit to accelerated, coordinated efforts to strengthen cybersecurity and fight cybercrime by prioritizing cyber capacity building and confidence building measures to accompany efforts implementing the 2030 Agenda.
- Realize that coordinated efforts to establish assurance, transparency and accountability measures, based on international, risk-informed standards and best practices, are needed to ensure security and trust in ICT.

43. Ecoforum of NGOs of Uzbekistan

Women' empowerment and gender equality

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development places gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at the heart of its implementation with its promise to “leave no one behind”. It provides an unprecedented opportunity to transform the lives of women and girls and to catalyse progress towards sustainable development in all dimensions: economic, social and environmental.

On 20 October 2018, Uzbekistan adopted the resolution “On measures to implement the National Goals and Targets in the Field of Sustainable Development for the Period until 2030”. The national sustainable development goals (SDGs) envisage a set of 16 concrete goals and 127 targets in the economic, social, and environment dimensions, as well as 206 indicators, which include 32 gender related indicators. The next step Uzbekistan adopted and introduced was a set of 54 gender related indicators and a created special web site for national SDGs.

In Uzbekistan equality of women and men rights and opportunities at all spheres of life are guaranteed by laws “On guaranties of equal rights and opportunities for women and men” and “On protection of women from harassment and violence”. Per Presidential Decree (January 8, 2019) all obstacles on participation of women in all spheres of economy were denied, special state programs and measures on promoting women leadership in the entrepreneurship were introduced.

In 2019 the National commission on gender equality and Committee on gender equality and women issues were created under Senate of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan.

Along with the existing achievements in Uzbekistan, there are still certain gender issues. In particular:

- Low level of interaction and coordination of gender mainstreaming between different actors.
- Still strong influence of traditional Gender roles and stereotypes on perception of men and women' roles in society.
- Low level of qualitative data and studies on gender perspectives in natural resources' management and statistics on impact, effects of environmental change on vulnerable groups - rural women, women with disabilities, pregnant women, etc.
- Still low-level representation of women at policy and decision-making on natural resource management and sustainable development.

As representatives of NGOs of Uzbekistan, on the eve of the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development in 2020, under the auspices of the Economic and

Social Council, we call for an integrated approach and better coordination of efforts of governmental, NGOs, business and international development actors on promoting women rights.

We ask you to pay attention to the need for the implementation of the SDGs with maximum involvement of civil society organizations.

44. Ecumenical Federation of Constantinopolitans

Sustainability on global scale depends on the sustainability of the wellbeing at the low level of the human communities, whose members are linked through cultural, religious, economic, and traditions which are evolving during history. These factors when they are institutionalized sustained civilizations are developed. Equally important factor has been education in the wider sense. However, this link should not mean any sort of isolation from other civilizations and cultural traditions. Societies isolated from others in history proved to be fading away in a short time. The unprecedented tragic experiences of humanity in the last two centuries of history, is the result of excessive centralized state power control, against the self-organization of communities and the violent destruction of the social fabric of societies having developed their own social bondage during the course of many centuries.

Based on the above-mentioned principle in order to achieve sustainability it is necessary the United Nations and member states to support the need to have a tolerant attitude towards community organizations and:

- Support cultural heritage and avoid action generating cultural discontinuities. Such actions historically proved to generate serious problems leading to strengthening tensions and clashes. Initiatives to support intercultural cooperation should be supported and promoted. The United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) should take wider initiatives to promote the ideas of cooperation between cultures. In this respect the initiatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to save monuments of human civilization is of paramount importance. We want to especially stress the necessity of avoiding the exploitation of using landmark monuments for purposes of everyday politics. Attempts to convert monuments now being used as museums to worship places whilst originally, they were built for another religion does not help tranquillity and peace.
- Allow and encourage the support of lifelong people's education for the benefit of future generations. Sustainable economic development will be more beneficial if the wider populations receive continuing education to be able to adopt to fast changing conditions in the international environment. Today communication technologies allow the implementation of continuous education and open new economic sectors and possibilities.
- Increase the social solidarity actions: It has proven that the centralization of social care systems in many cases has shown failures. Humanity must recover its natural tendency for altruism which in the last decades has been neglected and discredited somehow. Therefore, activities to stimulate the communal social solidarity efforts should be supported.
- Cultivate the voluntary spirit among citizens starting from the young generation. It is an undisputable fact that little attention has been given by

member states of the United Nations on the cultivation of voluntary spirit, especially in education.

- It is especially important in the context of securing the implementation of human rights principles which are the cornerstone of the United Nations to include the component of remedy and reparations of past human rights violations. If the human rights issues will only remain as a future promise, we will have little impact on the prevention of future tensions which are the prime obstacles to attain sustainable development

45. Education Globale et Développement

Interest and Capability: Foundation in Accomplishing Sustainable Development Goals

Objective and purpose: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will contribute to the development of peaceful people and a world in peace. This statement shows how we can develop in this direction.

Overview: At Education Globale et Développement, we work for the development of inner and outer peace by educating children, youths and adults in methods allowing them to contribute to a better society.

A way forward: the key to sustainable development and achieving its goals is that the individuals and collectivities be given the study, occupation and the field of investigation and service which will interest them in priority and which falls within their capabilities and for which they can find motivation and encouragement to learn, develop and grow further.

And what one likes and can do, one is more patient, better learns to further develop in that and is far more eager to be systematic and share with others selflessly their experience, knowledge and wealth. Thus, finally growing in one's and in contributing significantly in other's prosperity, growth and emancipation.

How to foster the sustainable development? The process of positive and encouraging accompaniment must be put in place at every moment of development for each individual or collectivity. Thus, while following rule of the just and fair law, there will be a sense of healthy responsibility on the part of all.

Thus we, at Education Globale et Développement, feel this is the key in achieving SDGs tangibly! Also, continue in keeping ever improving this achievement whether socially, economically or environmentally in dynamic human reality ensuring always the well-being of one and all. All is the one process and are inseparably together so it would lead onto "accelerated actions and transformative pathways". Thus, an integral approach at all levels and the scope of development.

46. Endeavour Forum Inc.

Our commitment as a non-governmental organization, and civil society:

We stand firm in our endeavours to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a plan of action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership – a plan to free humanity from the tyranny of injustice and poverty due to corrupt politicians, governments, terrorist regimes, population controllers and big industries paying far below minimum wages.

We want to teach future generations the importance of the natural family, honesty, integrity and the importance of ethical education to train up people to accomplish their purpose in life.

We reaffirm the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the sustainable development goals (SDGs), “to leave no one behind”. Every human being is precious and valuable, no matter how small or young; and should have the right to life.

We remain resolved, to end poverty and hunger; since poverty is the enemy, let’s eliminate poverty, not children. We reaffirm that gender equality, and informed consent will empower women and girls to make choices that will give life, not death to their children before or after birth.

We commit to achieving a world in which humanity lives in harmony with nature, to conserving and using our planet’s marine and terrestrial resources by reducing disaster risks of radiation leaks and waste into the oceans.

We understand that reducing maternal mortality and complications for women will be achieved by educating people that legally induced abortion is not a “safe” practice. To date over 100 published studies report that legal abortion increases the risk of Preterm births. As well, 60 published studies report that abortion increases the risk of Breast Cancer in women. Furthermore, a huge study published in the British Journal of Psychiatry found that women who have an abortion, have an 81% increased risk of mental health issues in the aftermath, compared to women who give birth to their unplanned children. This evidence needs to be brought to the forefront. Women need access to real healthcare, clean water and sanitation, not abortions. Parents need education on effective Natural Family Planning.

Big pharmaceutical companies and some medical researchers experiment on creating viruses that can kill people; then they push for more vaccines that include toxins which can harm babies while raking in billions of dollars globally.

We ask the Secretary-General to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first; since abortion is a cruel and inhumane torture of children before birth, it is in absolute violation of the inherent right to life for every human being. We commit to targeted and

accelerated action to remove all legal, social and economic barriers to achieve the right to life, as a fundamental human right.

We use science-based research and information to proclaim that the SDGs and world peace must begin in the womb.

47. Equality Now, ACT Alliance - Action by Churches Together, African Women's Development and Communication Network, Musawah Global Vision Berhad, Muslims for Progressive Values, Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development, and Peace

Equality in Family Law - Action and Transformation

The Global Campaign for Equality in Family Law calls on all member states to ensure equality for women and men under the law in all matters relating to the family, regardless of religion, culture and tradition. The Coordination Committee of the Global Campaign for Equality in Family Law is comprised of Act Church of Sweden, Equality Now, The Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM), Musawah Global Vision Berhad, Muslims for Progressive Values, Solidarity for African Women's Rights network (SOAWR) represented by African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), Women's Learning Partnership for Rights, Development, and Peace and UN Women.

Ending discrimination in family law constitutes “an accelerated action and transformative pathway”, the theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level Segment. This is essential to realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment. SDG Indicator 5.1.1 specifically identifies family law as one of the four legal frameworks that must be reformed to accelerate progress to achieve gender equality and to meet Target 5.1 (“End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere”).

World Bank data shows that many countries ranked at the bottom of the index for legal equality have family laws that explicitly discriminate against women and girls. Further, a recent comprehensive cross-country study drew the conclusion that “egalitarian reform of family law may be the most crucial precondition for empowering women economically”. In current times, family laws that discriminate on the basis of gender are also exacerbating the hardships caused by the COVID-19 and gendered impact of the outbreak on women and girls.

The principle of universality of human rights with regard to equality in the family should apply to all groups of women and girls, no matter their religion, custom or tradition. Governments must amend Constitutions that provide for exceptions to guarantees of equality and non-discrimination. Laws that allow for discrimination against women on the basis of religion and customs, not least family laws, must be reformed to uphold equality and justice.

As the international community marks SDG 5, governments can no longer sanction and perpetuate discrimination within the family, no matter what form it takes or the origin of the law or practice. We therefore call upon member states to accelerate efforts to repeal or amend all sex discriminatory family laws as soon as possible, and no later than 2030.

48. Ethiopia Africa Black International Congress Church of Salvation

Freedom, Redemption, International Repatriation and Compensation

Freedom, Redemption, International Repatriation with Reparation; Africa for the Africans those at home and those abroad: Seven, nine or thirteen miles of the Black Star Liner high water ships to repatriate the Africans Refugees in exile through slavery and the slave trade. Africans scattered in the Western Diaspora must return under their own vine and fig tree through history and prophecy. (Isa. chap. 43, Mic. Chap. 4, Joel chap. 3)

His Excellency King Emmanuel VII's petition to the United Nations to fulfil the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and grant Africans Reparation: Europe, North America and Arabia are responsible for slavery and the slave trade. They must pay adequate reparation to redress the over five centuries of slavery.

The Encomienda System gave successive European governments the right to export Africans slaves to the western diaspora. Europeans during the twelfth century while exploring the coastline of Africa started the kidnapping of Africans. The Papal Bull of the thirteen century divided the planet between those responsible for slavery and the slave trade in Brazil which continued the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The pirate John Hawkins in HMS Geezas started kidnapping Africans along the Guinea Coast of Africa.

The white people received five hundred years of free labour services, worked black people to death on the sugar, cotton, and tobacco plantations to provide the industrial Revolution machines of Briton with inputs. The ship building industry developed because of the enormous profit gained from the slave trade.

Millions of Black People leapt into the shark infested water of the middle passage to their death instead of facing slavery.

The nations of the western diaspora established their present-day economies pre-eminence on the backs of Africans. The cities of North America and Europe flourished enormously at the expense of the Black Africans during the industrial revolution.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights clearly states the inherent fundamental rights, which exist by virtue of natural law and not by way of any man-made laws.

Hence, Articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 15 and 28, gave Africans the inalienable rights to Reparation.

- In 1834, Queen Victoria granted 20, 000,000.00 pounds to plantation owners for emancipation. His Excellency King Emmanuel 7 demanded the same sum be paid to the slave children at 1834 value.
- A sum of 20,736,000,000,000.00 pounds compensate for the international underdevelopment of Africa.
- 43,900,000,000,000.00 pounds compensation for the constant sabotaging of the aspiration and ideals of Africans.
- 500,000,000,000,000.00 pounds to establish the essential components of Repatriation.
- 800,000,000,000,000.00 pounds to offset balance of payment problems, Western domination of trade, World Bank and International Monetary Fund inequities.

Empowering Africans at home and abroad, ensuring inclusiveness and equality because of slavery and the slave trade, demand the above sums of money to adequately redress and correct the centuries of slavery, and the lack of sustainable development.

49. Euromontana (European Association for Mountain Areas)

Mountains can accelerate action and transformative pathways for the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

Mountain areas include 29% of the area of the EU27 and 13% of its population and offer great opportunities to accelerate action and transform societies. They can be real testbeds to make the post-2020 period a real decade for action towards sustainable development. Their populations can play active roles in achieving the EU Green Deal's objectives and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

SDG 2. Zero Hunger

Mountain farming demonstrates how farmers turned natural and geographical constraints into opportunities to implement sustainable, self-sufficient, low-input and low-carbon farming systems, such as extensive livestock production. Sustainably managed pasturelands provide society with high-quality, healthy products while maintaining ecosystems, capturing carbon from the atmosphere, limiting soil erosion, and maintaining biodiversity. Mountain agriculture therefore should be further encouraged, especially within the United Nations Decade for Family Farming.

SDG 6. Clean Water and Sanitation

Mountain areas provide vital water to lowland populations. Sustainable livestock grazing decreases soil erosion and has positive impacts on water quality and quantity for downstream areas, by regulating water flows. As mountain lakes, rivers, and wetlands are affected by climate change and glacier melt, SDG 6.6 is a crucial objective, and there should be targeted action in mountain areas.

SDG 7. Affordable and clean energy

Mountain climates and terrain are favourable for producing renewable energy based on hydropower, biomass, wind, and the sun. In the past, energy from mountain areas has mainly been transmitted to, and used in, lowland areas. Yet it can also be used directly to sustain the economies of the regions where it is produced, thus supporting livelihoods and keeping vibrant populations in mountain areas.

SDG 11. Sustainable cities and communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

Euromontana calls for social innovation, place-based solutions, and community engagement to address these challenges. Examples of efficient approaches include: SIMRA - how to implement social innovation; a community network to develop the

internet; a carpooling system for sustainable mobility; an adapted governance system taking mountains into consideration e.g. the Alpine macro region.

SDG 13. Climate action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Mountain areas are already strongly affected by climate change, from melting of glaciers to species displacement or local extinction, and increased natural hazards (soil loss, flooding, wildfires). Euromontana calls for strong support to mountain populations, researchers and policy makers to find innovative solutions to mitigate and adapt to CC using a territorial approach.

SDG 15. Life on land

Mountain areas are the continent's ecological backbone and a reserve of biodiversity and are recognised for their High Nature Value. Many initiatives to monitor and protect biodiversity demonstrate the potential of mountain areas to explore solutions to achieve SDG 15.4. Yet, most initiatives are time-bound and hardly sustained in the long term. Knowledge gaps still exist regarding the responses of entire mountain ecosystems to climate change over the long term; research efforts must be increased to achieve sustainability.

50. Europe Business Assembly Limited

In this year's written statement to the 2020 High-Level Segment (HLS) of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Europe Business Assembly (EBA) would like to reiterate its commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In particular, we would like to draw attention of the ECOSOC to areas such as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), accessible education, freedom of speech and journalism standards.

At EBA we strongly support the United Nations' vision for world future and believe that Corporate Social Responsibility is one of key mechanisms that allows businesses to support the SDGs.

It encourages modern businesspeople to be more socially accountable—to itself, its stakeholders, and the public. By practicing corporate social responsibility companies become more conscious of the kind of impact they are having on all aspects of society, including economic, social, and environmental.

Furthermore, we believe that businesses engaged in CSR operate in ways that enhance society and the environment, instead of contributing negatively to them. Examples of CSR should be promoted via independent international forums and online platforms. As NGO, we organise such forums and we are happy to share the platform with interested parties.

Another paramount area is accessible education particularly in the developing countries. International community should build sustainable foundation for the world future through educating new generation. The idea of the university of the future should also be actively debated with view to build a university available to people around the world. New technology online learning can be used as one of main tools to achieve this. EBA runs a series of debates on University of the Future online from Oxford and can share the platform.

Last but not least, protection for journalists has been an important topic of recent time, impartial journalism is one of democratic pillars of our free society and we at EBA strongly believe that journalists should be able to carry out their work independently and without fear.

However, what is equally important is to ensure that journalist ethical standards are upheld, and those who try to exploit the journalist profession for financial or publicity reasons be held responsible and their victims are protected.

An establishment of independent body under the auspices of the United Nations for mitigating this kind of issues can protect journalists, journalism standards and balanced information. EBA is happy to offer a structure and working framework for this institution.

51. FEMM Foundation

The FEMM Foundation is a knowledge-based health program for women inspired by women's right to be informed participants in their own healthcare and to make voluntary decisions based on options, information, and understanding. The Foundation is dedicated to health education, medical research, and improving reproductive health care to advance women's health.

It is important to accelerate our efforts to achieve sustainable development. However, acceleration must prioritize durable solutions over fast ones. The right to the "highest attainable standard of health" is recognized by international law and reflected in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3. Good health enables participation and inclusion in society. Women constitute approximately half of the population but remain more vulnerable to health problems. Good healthcare empowers women, promoting gender equality (SDG 5).

Hormonal imbalances can affect women and girls' long-term overall health. They can also affect women and girls' ability to complete their education, engage in work, and plan their families, interfering with their ability to participate in all areas of their lives. Sustainable development requires health care that addresses underserved female reproductive health needs.

FEMM's researchers have rethought women's health. They have found that a woman's hormonal health is intrinsically linked with her overall health. They have developed better diagnostic criteria to diagnose and treat at the root conditions that often only receive symptom management. Women must be informed during reproductive healthcare counselling about how their bodies work, what is necessary for health, how various family planning methods affect their bodies, and how soon after discontinuation their fertility will return to make informed decisions.

FEMM teaches women to understand the importance of hormonal health to their overall health and how to monitor signs of hormonal activity. This empowers them to make informed health decisions, identify abnormalities, and seek appropriate health care and treatment, as well as achieve health and family planning goals.

Information-based health education and medical care is uniquely well-suited to meet these needs while respecting individual choices and values. FEMM classes educate women about the science of their bodies, how to identify when they are fertile, and how to achieve or avoid pregnancy. Knowledge-based programs do not rely on supply chains; they accompany women everywhere they go.

FEMM has developed a free, customizable app to assist. Women who use the app can track their observations and symptoms to better understand their bodies and health. It also provides insights into what a woman is experiencing in her cycle, flags potential health concerns, and connects women with medical professionals.

FEMM's Medical Management program trains doctors to diagnose and treat reproductive health problems, incorporating recent research on complex hormonal interactions. FEMM has developed innovative protocols that allow doctors to identify underlying problems with precision and treat them effectively. This medical support provides treatments that help women to live healthy lives.

The FEMM Foundation urges ECOSOC and Member States to adopt programs that educate women about their bodies and empower them to take charge of their health and fertility. FEMM is prepared support these efforts.

52. First Modern Agro. Tools - Common Initiative Group (FI.MO.AT.C.I.G)

Pandemics and the effects of climate change are unfortunately inevitable. It is said destiny cannot be changed; destiny can only be delayed. Human activities are pushing the earth from an equilibrium to an unstable position. Prevention of pandemics and climate change mitigation and adaptation would only delay the final pandemics and last effects of climate change on earth. From 1346 till date the rate at which epidemics and pandemics occur is becoming faster in a way that may be predicted. Epidemics and pandemics alone could wipe out a greater part of humanity within a short period of about four years.

After the Black Death in 1346-1353 in Asia and Europe (half of Europe died), 192 years after, the Cocoliztli epidemic (1545-1548) killed about 15 million people. Then the American Plague occurred in the 16th century and 90% of indigenous people in the northern hemisphere were killed. This helped Spanish forces to win the Aztec Ancan Forces. 117 years after, the great plague of London (1665-1666) killed about 15% of the population of London, 54 years after, the great plague of Marseilles (1720-1723) killed about 30% of the population of Marseilles. 47 years after, the Russian Plague (1770-1772) killed thousands, 21 years after, Philadelphia yellow fever epidemic (1793) killed about 5000. 96 years after the flu pandemic (1889-1890) killed about 1 million. 26 years after American Polio epidemic (1916) killed about 6000, 2 years after, Spanish flu (1918-1920) killed about 100 million, 37 years after, Asian flu Pandemic (1957-1958) killed about 1 million, 23 years after, AIDS pandemic (1981) has already killed about 35 millions, 28 years after H1N1 Swine pandemic (2009-2010) killed about 157000, 4 years after, West African Ebola epidemic (2014-2016) killed about 11000, it's just a year the Zika virus epidemic (2015) and COVID-19 is claiming thousands of lives.

In spite of continual removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, scientists say that there would be an increase in sea ice and in permafrost thawing, in heat waves, and heavy precipitation and decrease water resources in semi-arid regions.

One could conclude that climate change and pandemics can massacre humanity within about 3.5 years. The precise time and date are not known. These shall affect every part of the globe. This would be accompanied with famine and also rendering portable water undrinkable to many people. At one moment natural disasters and pandemics would intensify killing thousands and millions at other moments. Unfortunately, this is inevitable, but protection maybe a personal issue. Moral education could help.

This could lead to war, famine, disease and wild animals killing people. Sea creatures would also die from severe climate and destroying ships and planes.

NGOs and Scientists should be funded to mitigate or help humanity adapt to the most recent pandemic COVID-19, providing to communities' facial masks, water, liquid soap

and medications like chloroquine to end the disease. PPE should be provided to medical officers.

53. Fondazione di ricerca scientifica ed umanistica Antonio Meneghetti

Motivated by the theme of the 2020 High-Level Segment, the Antonio Meneghetti Scientific and Humanist Research Foundation organized in Lizori, Italy, an international course entitled “I Am Able to Do, craftsmanship through cultural diversity education” to promote capacity-building initiatives connected to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) achievements, among young people.

This course was organized around the need to ensure that younger generations be aware of the benefits of the implementation of SDG’s through cooperation, to sustain and accelerate action for delivering them. It was implemented in three modules in 2019 with a sample of 35 participants (young people, 16 to 25 years old) coming from Latvia, Lithuania and Italy. This project aims to train the young to be the “artisan of the future”, focusing on capacity-building to bridging civilizations in the name of unity and universality.

More specifically, one of the goals is to enhance the consciousness of the cultural and socio-economic identity of their countries in the young, as well as the interconnections with the identities of other participating countries, to promote capacity-building. The project contributes to the improvement of the quality of youth work, to the re-launching of artisan professions and to raising awareness about values such as ethics of work to prevent racism and intolerance.

The course took place in Lizori, a restored medieval village, which constitutes a new model for environmental education, aiming to harmonize urbanization and innovation together with civilized human development. This ecobiological place has become a worldwide model, through education and training projects based on the ontopsychological pedagogy that foster interdisciplinary, life-long learning and multicultural education, in order to train people in social functions. Lizori represents the importance of promoting a new pedagogy, founded on the specific identity of the individual and of different populations. At the basis of the course “I Am Able to Do” we find values, existential needs of youth, sharing experiences that are not confined to one single culture or territory, but universal and applicable anywhere. This illustrates how the multicultural training of the youth is crucial to promote sustainable development and contribute to achieving the SDGs for the next decades.

The results were presented by the young participants themselves, during the session “Business support for young people in contemporary society” at the III International Economic Forum held in Riga, Latvia on 31 October and 1 November 2019, organized with the Institute of Economics of the Latvian Academy of Sciences and supported by State research program project INTERFRAME-LV, Latvian and Norwegian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Forum was attended by 170 participants from 22 countries, including ambassadors from 12 countries: Estonia, Ireland, Sweden, Ukraine, Georgia, Slovakia, China, Canada, USA, Turkey, United Arab Emirates,

Uzbekistan. 56 speakers from 10 countries. There was an opportunity to watch the Forum progress online during the live stream.

Recommendations

- Promote educational initiatives related to the Sustainable Development Goals and their implementation involving young people.
- Encourage multicultural experiences among young's in order to prevent racism, intolerance and prejudice.
- Support social responsibility in education.

54. Forum Azzahrae pour la Femme Marocaine

Promotion de la famille vecteur clé pour accélérer les objectifs du développement durable

Le forum met l'accent sur les mesures à prendre par les gouvernements pour favoriser un rôle efficace de la famille en matière d'accélération des objectifs du développement, ainsi que certaines actions pouvant mener la réussite des efforts entrepris.

Le Forum étant une association nationale marocaine œuvrant depuis plus de 17 ans dans le domaine des droits des femmes et de la famille, et fédérant un réseau de plus de 130 associations féminines locales, a cumulé une expérience considérable dans le plaidoyer pour l'élaboration de politiques publiques axées sur les droits de la femme et de la famille.

Nous recommandons pour les gouvernements:

- Élaborer une politique nationale visant à promouvoir l'effectivité des droits de la famille et de l'égalité entre les sexes en adoptant une approche participative et inclusive, tout en assurant une déclinaison territoriale de ces politiques, ainsi que la mise en pratique des synergies entre ces politiques pour soutenir le développement durable en faveur de tous.
- Allouer un budget national suffisant pour ces politiques et établir un système d'information opérationnel incluant des indicateurs de résultats nécessaires à l'élaboration et à l'évaluation des politiques, des plans stratégiques, des programmes et des budgets.
- Renforcer et appuyer la communication des différentes parties prenantes pour promouvoir la culture de l'égalité et des droits humains au sein des familles et lutter contre les stéréotypes sexistes et de changer les mentalités et les comportements.
- Institutionnaliser l'approche genre dans le cadre de la politique éducative à tous les niveaux, et donner la priorité à l'éducation des filles dans le milieu rurales en appuyant le financement de leurs études universitaires.
- Renforcer le rôle des technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) dans la formation des familles et des femmes en facilitant l'accès et en améliorant l'accessibilité aux activités cognitives.
- Assurer la participation et intégration effective des habitants notamment les femmes et familles dans la prise de décision et dans le suivi des projets de développement les concernant.
- Aménager les espaces publics en prenant en considération la dimension genre ainsi que les diverses générations. Et investir dans la transformation des bidonvilles en quartiers agréables en les restructurant en unités urbaines fonctionnelles.

- Mener des études de terrain afin de soulever comment les inégalités sont reproduites dans les familles, et permettre de remédier aux causes directes et indirectes, et encourager les recherches-actions pour pouvoir appuyer les rapports familles-institutions, femmes-institutions.
- Mener un travail de longue haleine en matière de lutte contre les préjugés, favorisant la volonté de communication et compréhension des représentations de chacun.
- Promouvoir les meilleures pratiques en matière de politiques familiales ayant réussi à combattre la discrimination à l'égard des femmes, et à améliorer les conditions de vie des enfants.
- Pour atteindre les objectifs tracés pour le développement durable en 2030 on a besoin de plus de coopération, de partage du savoir et de transfert de compétences de tous pour favoriser le vivre ensemble.

55. Fraternite Notre Dame, Inc.

[English]

Fraternite Notre Dame, founded by His Excellency, Bishop Jean Marie Roger Kozik, is at the service of poor and suffering persons. It works in the missions, towards tackling poverty and promoting sustainable development.

Bishop Jean Marie introduces and develops structures in poor countries, such as Niger and Haiti, but also in developed nations such as the United States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Providing food, offering relief and comfort to the sick, assisting the dying, taking care of orphans and elderly persons: all of these are charitable works that the Christians have always performed since the early days of the Church, which consequence is always to lead to sustainable development.

The first hospitals, the first orphanages, dispensaries, asylums and schools were founded by some Christians, benefactors of mankind such as Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint John Bosco, both servants of God and servants of the poor. Secular works of assistance did but relay the novel initiatives of the Christians.

To achieve sustainable development, you must foster trade, thanks to the development of local productions. In Haiti for instance, a few years ago, Bishop Jean Marie organized the construction of roads, to allow the residents of the mountains to sell their produce on the markets.

Such constructions employ and provide a living to the local population, while improving communications, which at times were non-existent. Through such means, poor persons are taught how to earn a living, and they are attended in their basic needs, while cities are freed from laziness which begets all vices.

The high unemployment rate of European countries has caused an increase in delinquency and violence. But for any development to be durable, it should prioritize education.

Thus, Most Reverend Bishop Jean Marie Kozik has opened schools in the USA, in Niger, in Haiti. But teaching the children how to read and write is not enough: you also ought to train them in savoir-vivre, and how to share with others, live in society while practicing mutual aid and how to become self-sufficient.

The problem with our so called 'modern' society is that gradually, people grow enslaved to the internet and to the smart phones, which are made readily available to them. They become illiterate, they are no longer able to count, read or even reflect. A very well-known saying has it, that: “Science without conscience brings about but the ruin of the soul.”

In these schools, Fraternite Notre Dame not only strives to instruct and educate the children in Christian morals, giving them a sense of respect, courage and mutual aid, but they also enable them to actively contribute to the durable development of their country.

Fraternite Notre Dame's Founder strives to transmit and establish, in the missions that he has founded, this tradition of charitable Christian works, which have always been a source of durable development for the country.

[French]

La Fraternité Notre Dame fondée par Monseigneur Jean Marie Roger Kozik est au service des personnes pauvres et souffrantes. Elle œuvre dans les missions pour le recul de la pauvreté et pour un développement durable.

Monseigneur Jean Marie implante et développe des structures dans les pays pauvres comme au Niger et en Haïti, mais aussi dans des pays développés comme aux États-Unis ou en Angleterre.

Donner à manger, soulager et réconforter les malades, assister les mourants, s’occuper des orphelins et des personnes âgées sont des œuvres caritatives que les chrétiens ont toujours assuré depuis les premiers temps de l’Église et dont la conséquence est toujours de mener à un développement durable.

Les premiers hôpitaux, les premiers orphelinats, dispensaires, asiles, écoles ont été fondés par des chrétiens, des bienfaiteurs de l’humanité comme l’ont été Saint Vincent de Paul, Saint Jean Bosco, serviteurs de Dieu et serviteurs des pauvres. Les œuvres laïques n’ont fait que reprendre les initiatives novatrices des chrétiens.

Pour obtenir un développement durable, il faut favoriser le commerce grâce au développement des productions locales. En Haïti par exemple, il y a quelques années, Monseigneur Jean Marie a organisé la construction de routes pour permettre aux habitants de la montagne de vendre leurs productions sur les marchés.

La construction de routes ou autres travaux emploient et font vivre la population locale et améliorent les communications parfois inexistantes. Par ces moyens, des personnes pauvres sont enseignées à gagner leur vie, assistées en leurs nécessités et les villes délivrées de la paresse, mère de tous les vices.

Les taux de chômage élevés des pays européens n'ont fait que développer la délinquance, la violence. Mais pour qu'un développement soit durable, il doit faire de l'éducation sa priorité.

Monseigneur Jean Marie Kozik a ouvert des écoles aux États-Unis, au Niger et en Haïti. Il ne faut pas se contenter d'apprendre à lire et à écrire aux enfants, mais leur apprendre le savoir vivre, savoir partager, vivre en société en s'entraïdant, s'auto suffire.

Le problème de nos sociétés dites modernes est celui de l'esclavage par l'internet et le téléphone portable mis à la disposition des enfants. Ils deviennent illettrés, ne savent plus ni compter, ni écrire, ni réfléchir. Un adage bien connu ne disait-il pas: « science sans conscience n'est que ruine de l'âme ».

Dans ses écoles, la Fraternité Notre Dame s'efforce non seulement d'instruire mais d'éduquer les enfants dans la morale chrétienne leur donnant le sens du respect, du courage de l'entraide contribuant aussi au développement durable de leur pays.

Le Fondateur de la Fraternité Notre Dame s'efforce de transmettre et d'implanter dans ses missions fondées, la tradition des œuvres caritatives chrétiennes qui ont toujours été à l'origine du développement durable d'un pays.

56. Friends of Angola

The focus of this statement is in relation to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2020, and Friends of Angola's Focus: Sustaining Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions through Accountable New and Existing Technologies.

Research has shown that the number of individuals who engage with technology such as mobile phones has risen over the last few decades. Aside from phone calls and text messages, this medium has served as one of the leading sources of information through platforms such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and other news mobile applications. While there is plenty of positives from harnessing this approach as individuals from all walks of life such as students, women, and professionals among others can easily access what they need, their negatives are also telling. For example, such a medium can also be leveraged for disseminating wrong information and even keeping key information, which can lead to dire consequences.

Friends of Angola's Concerns

- What is the degree of accountability and transparency in relation to the access and dissemination of information for citizens of a country or a particular community? With many media houses having different agendas, what they may choose to disclose or not disclose could have dire consequences. So, in effect, what are the mechanisms that are in place to review all information before they are shared as well as who decides when to send out timely information and when?
- In Angola, the government has over the years created a number of legislatures to control access to information. Friends of Angola advocates that such policies are not the answer to curtailing false information especially as the government has a history of corruption, nepotism and authoritarian tendencies. If these policies continue to be enforced, they will limit civic society participation, and affect the objectiveness of discerning of good over false information.
- Any level of engagement in activism or sharing of information leaves civil society vulnerable to being charged with breaking the law or defamation. Recent incidents against activists who were accused of breaking the law despite non-violent actions. With all the laws, people would prefer to bury information, case studies that need to be shared so that they are known, and remedial actions can take place to ensure inclusivity, equality is for everyone.

Friends of Angola's Recommendations

- More participatory capacity building on critical thinking, personal responsibility on checking information and sharing.

- The National Media in Angola must be revamped to give a voice to the private sector to create their own content.
- More accountability and transparency from the government agencies in relation to the access and dissemination of information for citizens of a country or a particular community.

57. **Fundacion Cultural Baur, A.C.**

Baur International Model United Nations (BIMUN) on the High-Level Political Forum of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and on the Climate Action Summit

Goal 3 that includes good health and well-being that is what we are facing nowadays is, without a doubt, the gravitational axis of all human issues and their survival, due to the spin this pandemic has forced us to make necessary to solve the problems and find solutions, once and for all, to this civilizing crisis mankind faces for a better future.

In The Model United Nations on the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and on the Climate Action Summit, the students, actors and stakeholders will have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level to contact and contribute to the solutions, reproducing the works of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and General Assembly (GA), including these HLPF Workshops, Roundtables, parallel events related with 4 commissions that integrates the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The students will represent the member states through dialogue and cooperation presenting the corresponding Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). In the same way they will carry out the Climate Action Summit.

In this Model on the HLPF the works and procedures developed by the United Nations (ECOSOC and GA) will be disseminated and published, so that through VNRs the students effectively and efficiently communicate so they can evaluate progress reached and obstacles countries face.

Climate Change is a conscious and urgent topic that all students must attend and understand. Youngsters, actors and stakeholders must work with the objective to contribute now, implementing feasible simple and concrete actions. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, we will work in the same way.

This unseen simulation of the United Nations system is formed by two Models (MUN): the one called Baur International Model for the High-Level Political Forum on United Nations Sustainable Development and the Baur International Model on Climate Change.

This way, and in congruence with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development premise: Ensuring that no one is left behind, we are convinced that a strategic added value in favour of the proposals of the 2030 Agenda is the result of forming new leaders who are committed with their responsibility upon themselves and the others, in human preservation, the environment of the world and its development. These are the

reasons why this has been designed and implemented considering these valuable purposes.

The objective is to train the students in the fundamentals, objectives, guidelines and implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its review (17 Sustainable Development Objectives, 169 Goals and more than 230 proposed indicators at an international level), as well as the Climate Action Summit, emphasizing the registered advances in the systematic monitoring process, typical of its implementation. The Model United Nations on the HLPF is unprecedented, original and necessary so that students know and get closer to the work, procedures and functions of the United Nations on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 SDGs.

58. Fundación Argentina a las Naciones Camino a la Verdad

Global Crisis... Challenge for the whole Humanity...

It is easy to those that prioritize the satisfaction of their personal selfishness, to find echo among their equals. Certainly, with amazing rapidity they shall search and find justifications that quieten down their consciousness.

It is easy to those that bravely search to satisfy the “demand of the moral duty” that implies “to give of one's self”, “collaborate with their time”, “with their effort”, “with their material goods”, “with their consolation”, working daily without hour to turn the utopia of the social justice into our truth of each day.

It is difficult that the first ones have “communion of interests” with the second ones, but it is the hope of the second ones, the opportunity of the first ones. Take it or leave it.

And from all of us, depends to recognize from what personal priority we judge the truth that motivates us and motivate them. And as it is impossible to “mix oil with water”, those who prioritizes the satisfaction of their greed, they will always search how to discredit the labour of those who expose the truth of the greed that feverishly, the first ones strives to hide, behind the justifications that consoles to those that neither are willing “to share” what they never want “to give”. And because what is hidden comes to the light, with the judgment which we judge, we will be judged and by our actions recognized!

To give the best of us for the social justice transcends the borders of the human vainglory.

If we look for accelerated action and transformative pathways in order to consolidate the sustainable development goals (SDGs), Fundación Argentina a las Naciones Camino a la Verdad (FANCV) suggests emphasising the following action plan regarding the social, ethical and moral responsibility of States in order to protect their respective communities, internally and externally consolidating their alliances and commitments:

- To be responsible in decisions making to defend and promote social justice is the SDG's essence.
- No to the irresponsibility to face climate change, environment and biodiversity of which as a whole humanity, we are a link more of its DNA.
- No to the violation of human rights, of Indigenous Peoples, Migrants, Refugees and Stateless persons, Women and Children, Older Persons, Animal Rights,
- No to discrimination, xenophobia and racism.
- No to the violation of the right to freedom of conscience.
- No to the inequality, lack of opportunities and social injustice.
- Yes, to healthy peaceful convivence.

We can't be fair judges or communicators of social reorientation, in virtue of the Charter of the United Nations' spirit, if we don't adopt an equidistant position that prioritizes legal equitably, based on a peacemaker support and in pursuit of conciliation. We cannot continue to put the eyes in harmful issues of the past, that only satisfy personal grudges. It is the hour of prioritizing, unambiguous, the opportunity for salvation of present and future generations.

Universal Awareness convenes to us today into an accelerated and successful Action Plan: yes, to what perfect us as a human race and no to what degrades us.

Universal coherence consciousness: legacy consciousness.

59. Fundación Descúbreme

Pacto de Productividad (Pacto) is an international program that seeks to promote the productive role of people with disabilities through the articulation of the different local stakeholders involved in the labor inclusion of this group. This initiative was implemented for the first time in Colombia in 2009. Now, it is currently under development in Honduras, El Salvador, and Chile.

Pacto de Productividad meets the Sustainable Development Goal N° 8.5 because it seeks to ensure that persons with disabilities can access productive and decent work in the open labor market of the countries where it has been or is being implemented.

Despite the entry into force of the Labor Inclusion Law (Law No. 21.015), which establishes a hiring quota of 1% of people with disabilities for public and private organizations with 100 or more workers, Pacto is being implemented in Chile because the country does have a clear and articulated route for the employment training and labor inclusion of people with disabilities that guarantees the effective implementation of this regulation.

Pacto Chile aims to consolidate the platform for public-private collaboration that allows the articulation of the different stakeholders that are part of the ecosystem of labor inclusion of people with disabilities in the Metropolitan Region of the country. This platform establishes the foundations for the participatory construction of a model of labor inclusion that guarantees quality standards and provides technical guidelines for the proper execution of these processes.

Furthermore, this model seeks to link the supply of labor inclusion services for people with disabilities (training for employment, job placement and monitoring of worker performance), with the labor demand of the public and private sectors. To achieve this, virtual and face-to-face training will be carried out for labor intermediation organizations, training organizations, companies and public entities, with the aim of providing them with the knowledge and tools to ensure the quality of services and processes related to labor inclusion.

Once this stage is completed, in order to put into practice the knowledge acquired and strengthen the capacity of these entities to carry out these procedures autonomously and under a quality standard, Pacto Chile will guide the qualified organizations in their roles of training and including people with disabilities in the labor market. As an outcome, it is expected to train 1,600 people with disabilities in areas with highest labor demand (such as ICT) and include 2,000 people with disabilities in the open labor market. Finally, this initiative is possible thanks to the commitment and financial support of BID Lab, Fundación Descúbreme and partners in which inclusion is a pillar and value.

60. **Fundación Luz María**

Women's Empowerment: The Nexus of Sustainable Development Goals

At this time of crisis, we need international cooperation and multilateralism; the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) must be our guiding light to keep women and girls safe from violence. The SDGs have the great potential to improve the lives of women and girls around the world, and women have the great potential to promote the sustainable development goals. More than 50% of the world's population, yet under-represented in almost every axis of power, women's empowerment and gender equality lays at the nexus of the potential for world peace and requires accelerated action steps and transformative action. In order to effectively empower and mobilize women across the world, the United Nations, partner countries and organizations must take steps to dismantle systemic and socially accepted violence towards women.

In order to take action toward Sustainable Development Goal 5: women's empowerment and gender equality, member states must take legislative actions and implement programs and policies which promote the economic and political empowerment of women. In the last decade we have seen governments take political steps to encourage female participation in government including mandating equal representation in regulating bodies, and programming which encourages women to run for elected office. I encourage governments who struggle with equitable representation to explore their campaign requirements, hiring practices, and educational systems all of which can be pathways toward the inclusion of women in the halls of power.

Governments and regulatory bodies must also promote programs and policies which empower women economically. Economic dependence can often lead women to stay in situations of domestic violence which might ultimately end their lives. Micro-lending programs which encourage women to use their existing skill sets to develop economic independence have seen huge success across nations and cultures and should continue to be promoted. In addition, education is a recognized pathway for upward mobility. Member states must encourage young girls to go to school and develop math and reading skills which promote economic independence.

While governments have a large role to play in this, it is also important for community organizations to take the lead in shifting the social standards which normalize domestic violence and violence against women. This has shaped the mission of the foundation: the Luz Maria Foundation. The mission is to raise awareness, promote public events to advocate for women facing domestic violence, and assist victims through outreach programs and protective shelters. It is the role of organizations to shift the dialogue and discussions of violence against women.

During this time, the global community has seen a terrifying rise in domestic violence and violence against women; as we are forced to stay indoors for public safety, the

safety of women across the world has been jeopardized. The promotion of human rights will guide the solutions of addressing COVID-19 and bring us closer together as a global community.

61. Fundação Antonio Meneghetti

Fundação Antonio Meneghetti has been working in the countryside of Brazil in initiatives that help to accelerate action and create transformative pathways in order to realize the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, as stated by the priority theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High Level Segment and of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

The experience of the 23 social and educational projects that we maintain based on the principles of Ontopsychological Pedagogy have been giving us insights on how to accelerate the SDGs' implementation in our region and also help Brazil to reach the goals. We offer social educational projects mainly for children and youth of the public network of schools of the nine cities that compose the Fourth Colony of Italian Immigration of Rio Grande do Sul (the southmost state of Brazil). Each of our projects has a thematic that attracts children and young people with different profiles: classical music (an youth orchestra), environmental education (project OIKOS), technology education (project Youth & Technology), playing soccer (project Ball Forward), literature and storytelling (project Fostering Intelligence Through Reading), and others. Through these initiatives, we currently reach around 1500 children and youth. In each of these projects, the students learn what the Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs) are and which goal is being more applied in that specific project. These students are motivated to talk about the SDGs with their families. As all the projects happen in connection with public schools, the teachers of these schools also learn about SDGs and see how a project can transform the goals in action. Also, in the higher education institution that is connected to our foundation, named Antonio Meneghetti Faculdade, every year, it is developed an SDG project in the discipline of Entrepreneurship of the Bachelor of Law and of the Bachelor of Business. Each year, 40 students of this class divide themselves in groups and go to cities surrounding the campus to develop SDGs projects. They create these projects inspired by demands of each city, such as, public health education, maintenance of public areas, preserving green areas, teaching new competences for young people (such as citizenship classes), stopping food waste, collecting donated clothes for winter and many others.

These initiatives – from our social educational project and the experience on higher education – have showed us that it is of great impact to teach children and youth regarding the SDGs and making them connect this knowledge of the goals to their everyday reality. When a young person learns that his town, his life, the life of his friends and community is being improved by the SDGs, they spread the word and, like this, through work and dialogue, the SDGs truly turn into action. Acting locally, we believe that children, young people and educators can have a global reach. To use the SDGs as a tool of education guarantee not only to accelerate the sustainable action nowadays, as well as, guarantees that this sustainable conscience is taken fairway in the future.

62. Fédération internationale des associations d'inventeurs

The Sustainable Development Invention Day

Knowing that sustainable development and inventions can be a great help to each other and given the importance of sustainable development, IFIA has used all its capacities to take a major step in this important global event. In order to take a big step in favor of sustainable development, IFIA, recommends assigning one day in the year as "The Sustainable Development Invention Day." Thus, by engaging the inventors and enthusiasts in the happening, we could make significant progress in the field of sustainable development.

To take a big step in favor of sustainable development, IFIA suggests assigning one day in the year as "The Sustainable Development Invention Day." In order to engage inventors and IFIA members in the happening, the federation decided to arrange a competition between the members, inventors, innovators, and enthusiasts of the field, so that they could take the sustainable development challenges and turn them into opportunities in the framework of innovation, inventions, designs, and proposals and apply them to The Sustainable Development Jury of IFIA. After all, the jury will pick out the best inventions and ideas and will send them to The United Nations. In view of the above, IFIA is now ready to put this plan into practice after the final approval of this plan in the UN, and we will carry out its implementation steps in 2021.

63. Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue

Joining Forces to Enhance Equal Citizenship Rights: Reducing Inequalities within and between Countries through Strengthening Implementation by Revitalizing Global Partnerships (Sustainable Development Goals 10; 17)

We wish to thank the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council for this unique opportunity to share our proposals to promote equality and inclusiveness within and among countries and innovative initiatives to accelerate the way forward.

The fundamental goal of the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue is to strive to reduce inequality based on race, ethnicity, religion or other criteria and promote the social, economic and political inclusion and empowerment of all members of society. This is a cardinal pillar of our mission, which is dedicated to the promotion of a universal, value-driven human rights system, anchored in the principles of non-discrimination, justice and solidarity. To achieve this and counter divisive trends and elements, it is vital to raise awareness of the shared fundamental human values by fostering a sustained inter-cultural, religious and civilizational dialogue, for which the Centre offers a platform.

The aim of our combined efforts should be to reject the instrumentalization of religions by harnessing their collective energy and promoting their authentic meanings, which reflect shared universal values. To move towards a world where the full respect of equal citizenship rights for all people as rights-holders lays the foundation of social and cultural diversity, thus preventing all types of discrimination and thereby contributing to accelerated and sustainable development in pluralistic societies, as history has proven. A world where the harmonious integration of all segments of the population would relegate the notion of minorities to the dustbins of history and render the re-grouping of citizens into denominational sub-identities totally superfluous.

Recommendations

To accelerate implementation of these goals, the Centre proposes three transformative pathways, in relation to Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 17: The periodic holding of a world summit of governmental, civil society and religious leaders for the advancement of equal rights, under the auspices of the United Nations; The setting-up of an international task-force thereupon, composed of governments, non-governmental and faith-based organizations to act as a review mechanism, evaluate measures adopted and recommend guidelines to promote equal citizenship rights; and, to include a special item in the Universal Periodic Review state report on progress achieved towards equal citizenship rights.

64. Global Campaign for Education

Learning for a Collaborative World

On the occasion of the ECOSOC High Level Segment 2020, the Global Campaign for Education is calling for a focus on and for resources to be invested into challenging, undoing and transforming the social, economic and cultural barriers that prop up poverty and inequality and undermine the realization of the universal right to education and lifelong learning for all.

Education is the main driver for achieving broader social, political and economic development goals, as stated in the Agenda for Sustainable Development/Education 2030 and plays a key role in transforming patriarchal societies into ones that value equality, inclusion and justice. With this aim, States must ensure that education sector plans, policies, curricula and budgets respond to gender equality, justice and inclusion, even in times of the global emergency we all suffer, and teachers continue to be at the centre of the education response with their wages, employment and wellbeing maintained throughout the crisis.

It is clear that today, more than ever, solidarity and collaboration should be the guiding principles for education and should be reinforced not only as values but also as a practice, during a crisis, but also in daily life.

We are learning many lessons at this difficult time, and one of them is that public health and education systems play a crucial role so that no one is left behind, especially rural girls, women, migrants and displaced people, informal workers and persons with disabilities.

The COVID19 pandemic showed us the urgent need for action at both national and global levels to unlock resources, and ensure they are directed towards the countries and populations in need, including measures for debt relief and increased official development assistance.

The Global Campaign for Education underlines that these difficult times must not further trends of commercialisation and instrumentalist approaches to education, so we also call on the national governments and donors to prioritise funding free public education in all emergency responses with immediate effect.

The Global Campaign for Education encourages the United Nations System to strengthen a global response aiming to promote crisis and post-crisis evaluation plans that allow guiding new forms of social and economic response, especially the role that education plays during and after emergencies. These responses should be equitable, gender-transformative, protective of human rights and inclusive of the poorest and most vulnerable people.

65. Global Financial Integrity

International trade is the lifeblood of the global economy. However, there are severe and protracted challenges which diminish the value developing countries garner from their global trade transactions. Developing country governments are losing massive amounts of vitally important revenue due to opacity, corruption and criminal activity related to international trade. This lost revenue is the low-hanging fruit which can help countries recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and fund social programs needed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our research has shown that from 2008-2017 there was an \$8.7 trillion value gap between what developing nations reported as the value of imports and exports with advanced economies, and what the rich countries noted as the value of their trade with poor countries. This translates into a potential loss of revenue as high as \$1.5 trillion during the period. Additionally, we know that the illegal trade in legitimate business sectors such as timber, fish, and mining generate as much as a quarter-trillion in illicit proceeds each year thus robbing governments of even more income. Further, opacity of free trade zones (FTZs) facilitates corruption, trade-based money laundering, and smuggling which siphons even more money out of developing economies. Simply put, the global trade system is not working for poor nations and the opportunity cost of the lost revenue due to these activities is a debilitating and chronic condition for many countries.

What is needed is a coordinated framework of activities by ECOSOC and other relevant UN agencies, as well as the IFIs, OECD, FATF, World Economic Forum, and the European Union, which would work in concert to achieve the following:

- Wide use of the term ‘Trade Integrity’ to denote international trade transactions that are legal, properly priced, and transparent. Use of the term is very important in the effort to garner wide recognition of the underlying problem and to spur action to address it.
- Undertake high-level discussions regarding the feasibility and efficacy of having all governments post their trade transactions online. This transparency will enable civil society, academics, researchers and journalists to determine whether the developing country governments are capturing the maximum revenue from trade transactions.
- The implementation of trade risk-assessment databases in all developing countries to help customs officials to determine if imported goods are priced outside typical ranges for comparable products so that proper amounts of VAT and customs duties can be collected.
- A robust discussion about the practicality and feasibility of using distributed ledger technology in bi-lateral government pairs of customs departments to address the information asymmetry (the underlying facilitating factor in trade misinvoicing) in international trade transactions. The World Economic Forum,

which is conducting a pilot project with the InterAmerican Development Bank to use distributed ledger technology for trade facilitation purposes, is interested in the misinvoicing problem which suggests DLT may be fit for purpose.

- Public-private discussions to develop information sharing strategies which will curtail trade-based money laundering.
- Discussions between multilaterals and individual governments on efforts to improve transparency and accountability in free trade zones.

66. Global Forum for Media Development

Demand for public-interest media has never been greater and more urgent than during the COVID-19 crisis. Trustworthy information is one of the key pillars required to slow the pandemic, to mitigate its impacts, and to underpin collective societal responses to it. Public access to information, one of the key indicators of Sustainable Development Goal 16, has become even more vital for enduring, managing, and overcoming the global crisis.

Media organizations and journalists – many of whom already maintained a difficult position given shrinking revenues and business models that are failing to sustain professional journalism and news outlets – have now fallen under additional financial, professional, and existential pressure finding ways to cope and survive this global tectonic shift.

The Global Forum for Media Development, together with its members, and in cooperation with the broader press freedom, journalism support, and media assistance communities, is making an urgent appeal to all those in a position to support journalism organizations and independent media, especially those who provide professional and essential public-interest reporting during the COVID-19 crisis.

We jointly appeal to governments to respect the rights of press freedom, rule of law, access to information, and freedom of expression. States should work with journalism and media associations to assess the damage that COVID-19 is inflicting on critical public-interest reporting and the sustainability of news organizations. They should devise appropriate mechanisms to urgently provide financial support to public-interest journalism through a variety of means, while ensuring that any interventions are just and transparent, and do not undermine editorial independence or distort the marketplace.

To technology and telecommunication companies: create free and safe digital spaces for journalists and professional media to operate online; ensure algorithms recognize, promote, and reward credible, independent, trustworthy journalism; stop the use of blacklist technology, and prevent automated takedowns of journalistic content related to COVID-19; increase and expedite funding of independent public-interest journalism, fact-checking, and other measures to counter disinformation and misinformation; take stronger action against malicious actors; lower the cost of Internet connectivity, especially in emerging and developing markets, to aid access to information; and finally, step up efforts to respect fundamental human rights online.

67. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

Water Welfare initiative, a new pathway for delivering the SDGs

The world is suffering extremely from the COVID-19 pandemic, which affects all aspects of our economy, society and environment. “Water, sanitation and Hygiene, WASH” is at the right center of combating COVID-19. This unprecedented pandemic teaches us how important the “WASH” is.

However, a large fraction of world population still has no access to clean and safe water thus, put them under the great danger of water-related diseases and even death. The rapid population increase and urbanization make the scenario even worse. It left exactly a decade until 2030 for the SDGs. Water, as a cross-cutting issue, it can play a pivotal role in achieving the other Goals.

Asia is the most vulnerable region with regards to water-related problem. Over 60 percent of Global Population are located in many developing countries of Asia. People in Asia suffer from lack of sufficient & safe water caused by drought, river contamination, growing population and urbanization.

Provision of safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is a key intervention for combating COVID-19, and other water diseases as it is critical in the prevention and the provision of care for all vulnerable areas.

We agree that civil society organisations with governments and private sector must take effective actions to protect and promote the rights for development including water and health, by providing evidence, engaging in advocacy, mobilising national public health associations, building consensus, and providing services related to the social determinants of health, standard setting, regulation and fostering social partnerships.

GIWEH with AWC (Asia Water Council), has been concentrating on raising awareness of regional water-related issues and tackling them through the implementation of practical projects. In addition, AWC plans to drive forth a water welfare enhancement initiative by creating the ‘Asian Water Welfare Index’. It will be used for identifying Water-Stress regions through analysis on water condition of each region in entire Asia and developing concrete water projects. Furthermore, AWC is organizing the 2nd Asia International Water Week (AIWW) in Indonesia, 2020, October with the theme “Sustainable clean and sufficient water for all”. Health, safety and wellbeing is an integral part of our tasks

GIWEH and AWC send their ardent support to the Decade for Action to deliver the Global Goals. In collaboration with its 130 members, AWC and GIWEH will spare no efforts for the achievement of the SDGs. The potential of this intervention needs to be fully tapped if we want to achieve the 2030 SDG’s.

68. Global NeuroCare

Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

Global NeuroCare, a non-profit organization holding Special Consultative Status with the United Nations ECOSOC, focuses on transformative pathways advancing sustainable access to healthcare in developing regions, a goal reaffirmed, targeted and endorsed by the Agenda [A/RES/70/1, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, Target 3.8], providing a cross-cutting impact across the SDGs, advancing broad social protection policies, thus furthering economic, social and political stability.

Findings

Fully aware that the world is faced with the unprecedented situation of a coronavirus disease (COVID-19) that started in Wuhan, China in 2019 and very rapidly evolved to a pandemic;

Recognizing that this pandemic has infected millions, caused many thousands of deaths, wreaked economic devastation, closed travel and trade, created global shortages of food and medical equipment;

Further recognizing that this pandemic requires a global, comprehensive, multi-faceted approach to provide immediate patient care, and intermediate and long-term global health security, by strengthening public health capacity and advancing scientific technology to develop new diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines;

Noting with deep concern that addressing this pandemic will divert healthcare funding and support from ongoing programs, potentially derailing decades of progress especially in the least developed nations of sub-Saharan Africa [E/2017/NGO/16, E/CN.5/2018/NGO/20; E/CN.5/2019/NGO/33], precipitating a resurgence of infectious and non-communicable diseases, and increased maternal, neonatal and childhood mortality;

Realizing that any reversal of past gains will force millions of people into poverty, leading to increased vulnerability, marginalization and exclusion [E.CN.5/2018/NGO/20], further destabilizing global health security;

Global NeuroCare strongly reaffirms the critical necessity of ensuring well-directed financing focused on establishing self-sufficient local training programs to advance the recruitment, development, training and retention of healthcare workers in developing regions, in parallel with funding to effectively manage the ongoing pandemic, thereby promoting long term good health and well-being for all [SDG 3], a position we have

consistently ratified [E/CN.5/2017/NGO/19; E/CN.5/2018/NGO/20; E/CN.5/2019/NGO/33], and which comports with the Agenda [SDG 3.C].

Recommendations

Having considered the above, Global NeuroCare respectfully calls upon this Forum to endorse our longstanding recommendations during this pandemic, ensuring an integrated, multi-lateral, multi-faceted, cross-sector approach to improving healthcare access in the least developed regions, thus promoting a broad cross-cutting impact directly or indirectly across the SDGs by accelerating poverty reduction [SDG 1], advancing equitable health outcomes leading to global public health security [SDG 3], ensuring inclusive and equitable education [SDG 4], furthering sustained, inclusive economic growth [SDG 8.5], improving inclusion and equality [SDG 10.4], which encourages just, peaceful and inclusive societies [SDG 16], and enhances cooperation [SDG 17], thereby engendering positive economic, social and political stability, which will contribute to the global recovery from this pandemic.

69. Global Vision India Foundation

We appreciate that during the meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development-2020 convened under the auspices of the ECOSOC to be held in July 2020, the NGOs have been given the opportunity to participate. The theme "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development" should be given more emphasis in the current COVID-19 situation.

Lack of health care, sanitation

According to the report of the United Nations, more than 50 percent of the world's rural population and more than 20 percent of the urban population lack legal health care coverage. While 2.2 billion lack access to water and 4.2 billion to basic sanitation, depriving people of the most basic and effective preventative measure against the virus. It is also mentioned that developing countries spend only about 2 percent of GDP on health, compared to the global average of 4.7 percent.

Older persons, persons with disability

Older persons, persons with disabilities are most vulnerable. Persons with disabilities will be left without vital support and help due to social distancing. Persons in prisons, in migrant detention centers, or mental health institutions could face a higher risk of contracting the virus due to the confined nature of the premises. It seems that the risk for the disease is more in the densely populated urban areas and slums, unable to self-isolate.

Political leadership

There is a need for leadership with solidarity, transparency, trust, and cooperation. This is not the time for self-interest, censorship, or politicization. While temporary border closures, travel bans or limits on the sale of critical supplies may be warranted in the short-term, such national-level measures must not impede a global coming together.

Students and children

As per the UN report, more than 1.5 billion young people, or 87 percent the world's student population, are kept away from school and universities in more than 165 countries due to the COVID-19 crisis, and there will be serious economic crisis and unemployment. Around 700 million people are in extreme poverty; the 1.3 billion without access to basic needs, or not receiving their fair share.

UN Sustainable Development Goals

It is vital that during the crisis, countries should keep in mind the sustainable development goals and climate commitments. It is true that due to the current coronavirus crisis, there is lower carbon emissions and environmental pollution, but it is equally true that deforestation, pollution, biodiversity losses are all contributory factors to the spread of the virus. Countries should remove obstacles and allow free and immediate access to research results and ensure that vaccines and medicines are accessible to all.

Spirit of solidarity

The COVID-19 has brought the spirit of solidarity, a new unity of purpose within countries and communities, and across the world. The post-COVID world should take that spirit and energy ahead. It is the only way we can stay together in this world – safe, free, healthy, prosperous, and in harmony with nature.

70. Global Voices

Global Voices: Engaging Youth in the ‘decade of action’

In seeking to develop a decade of action to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purpose of this submission is to stress the need for the inclusion of youth in decision-making processes and advocate for formal pathways to meaningfully participating in the various multilateral forums.

Global Voices is a youth-led not-for-profit organisation that identifies the next generation of Australian leaders by providing practical experience in foreign policy, diplomacy, and international relations. Everyday our team engages with young people across Australia and the world, who work on pressing issues from indigenous reconciliation and entrepreneurship in migrant communities to universal health coverage and reducing agricultural emissions. These young people’s passion and innovative solutions are a testament to the need for multilateral organisations to engage youth in the decision-making processes surround the sustainable development goals.

ECOSOC has, in recent years, made encouraging steps to support the role of young people through various dialogues such as the ECOSOC Youth Forum. Yet in light of the COVID-19 crisis, it is easy to see this constructive dialogue being forgotten in favour of quick and decisive policy action. ECOSOC High-Level Segment is encouraged to recognise that young people continue to be the focus of many of the sustainable development goals from quality education and zero hunger to climate action and decent work and economic growth and have been disproportionate impacted by the pandemic, often bearing the brunt of Covid-19 policies from an education, employment and mental health standpoint. As such, in order to respond effectively to this crisis and to achieving the broader sustainable development goals, it is essential that youth perspectives are both recognised and actively engaged with.

With a decade to go to bring about historic change and achieve the sustainable development goals, Global Voices continues to advocate for opportunities for youth-led organisations to participate in the HLS in some capacity. There are a range of options for how this participation and engagement may take place including hosting forum sessions focused on youth perspectives, inviting youth-led organisations to participate in the forum and including impact on youth as a metric for reviewing national policies. Such actions would bring about more effective solutions to the key issues the HLS seeks to address and ensure those most impacted by the state of the world in 2030 have a hand in its direction.

71. **Habitat International Coalition**

A Call for Integrity across the System

Accelerated action and transformative pathways for SDG achievement must align with the Secretary-General's call to human rights action as a unitary approach. That convergence would fulfil the promise that "comprehensive and interlinked agendas, cutting across the peace, development and human rights pillars of the United Nations, provide a clear road map for Members States and the United Nations alike." Such synergy would mean also "reconciling humanitarian assistance with longer-term development objectives, within the framework of human rights," having both preventive and remedial functions. This approach is becoming standard policy across the system but remains largely theoretical.

Corresponding actions to "anticipate risks" would serve prudent also to avoid complex crises such as this COVID-19 pandemic and advancing climate change. Noticeably, "violations of human rights are often our best early warning signs of trouble," and "prevention...needs to be an integral part of the activities of the United Nations development system." Current reality reinforces these lessons and urgent needs for renewed multilateralism with greater "coordination, accountability, pooling expertise and assets across the Organisation." However, current UN processes and State behaviour do not meet this requisite and fall short of what is required to "resolve the data gap, while assets are scattered across the System."

The HLPF exposes these fault lines, coincident with efforts at undermining the UN's human rights pillar and corresponding treaty obligations in favour of uneven, technically oriented "voluntary" expositions. Even the SDG performance indicators omit relevant data already collected to meet SDG-relevant human rights treaty-reporting obligations. Instead, agreed-upon SDG indicators remain mostly static, lacking process indicators indispensable to "transforming our world."

The treaties should ground an international system that seeks peace and security, development and human rights. Many of the requisite tools are already detailed in the UN Human Rights Treaty System, but the HLPF, SDGs and indicators overlook these assets. While 2020's General Assembly seeks "strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the treaty body system," that foundation is currently on financially shaky ground, while political attention and other resources abound to review voluntary commitments, as if they were to supersede binding obligations.

We share the complex challenge of reduced resources amid increased need for human rights work, challenges to human rights culture and the urgency of states' meeting their human rights obligations. These times require HLPF to pursue needed policy coherence that prioritizes obligations of States, rather than accelerate their retreat from them.

From this perspective, “Strengthening the high-level political forum” aligns with “Strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions” and “Solving challenges through international cooperation and enhancing the global partnership,” as well as “Investing in data and statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals.” These cross-cutting areas where corresponding actions could have a positive impact on the SDGs across the board, in turn, require prioritizing the Human Rights Treaties and their Treaty Bodies to their required centrality in the United Nations System.

72. Haitelmex Foundation A.C.

As a civil society support organization, through our studies, we work with young people under the age of 14 to 35 in the states of Florida, Maryland, San Diego, and Boston via our administrator programs and our Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) program in the context of mental health during the transition and after COVID-19. We think many young people and others could innocently fall victim to a justice problem, due to mental health, as we have noticed 30% of people with families in the affected areas of the northern United States, in particular the closest families, in addition 35% of our young people have started to lose their lucidity and to start using all kinds of drugs to spend time and 35% think that they have nothing in life yet, we think that this could push a negative effect over the next year!

Due to the complement of our 2020, 2022 annual program, which includes three guidelines down, we plan to increase the various activity guidelines in these locations indicated to help this group prevent this serious situation as we can find more recently, that's why as a complement to our program, we can work on a justice and mental health support program that can support our young people. A judicial prevention program adapted to the reality of people struggling with a mental health problem and facing justice, and other activities within the social framework of our green jobs program for a green economy.

With the situation of the COVID-19 crisis, which has caused several thousand deaths worldwide, more precisely in the United States, the majority of Americans are traumatized either by the loss of a mother, a woman, a husband, a child and sometimes an entire family. We will supervise and support more than 400 people and organizations affected by the COVID-19 crisis through our job creation and training program on green jobs for a green economy. For this, we will work with doctors and lawyers psychologists, who will provide training every week through our 4 intervention sites for a period of more than 24 to 48 months depending on our funding means, through this program we wish to directly supervise 1600 people and more than 250,000 people indirectly.

This program has a budget and the plan of activities to be carried out in the national or international part depends on the conditions of the donors.

73. HaritaDhara Research Development and Education Foundation

Reimaging Education for Sustainable Future Living

AISES, NCERT, ASER report 2019 shows India's learning crisis that one in three students in Class III cannot read small text. 2018 report states that 28 % of Class V students could solve a division problem. Analysis conducted by Uttarakhand School Education department also shows several gaps within the state such as reading, writing skills, knowledge of subject topics, mathematical ability. As systemic changes required continuous working and time for visible performance. Change, transformation will come through working gradually taking a step-by-step approach.

As per data from various studies, quality education and 21st century skills are ignored in mainstream education. To bridge this gap, HRDEF provide quality skilful education, problem solving, creativity, communication, design and computing. Building capacity for citizenship, values and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among school students and youth so that they will be able to tackle future challenges. HRDEF is using games, projects, and hands-on approaches for interactive learning. HRDEF took alternative education as a drive for betterment, and counselled low-income mothers to provide education to their children especially daughters for better life under our GOAL program. Held sessions for mothers, daughters in the slum areas about digital literacy as new avenues for the future. To empower girls trained in our GOAL program, we started learning centers in under-served communities, where they teach kids from class 1 to 8 to earn livelihood.

HRDEF conducts teachers and student's development programs for capacity building on ICT, SDGs, climate change, disasters, STEAM, and works towards Sustainability, SDGs, Green, Swachh, and Sustainable Living. We are addressing issues of quality learning and sustainable development through ICT, hands-on activities in a curriculum-based way supported by research inputs and driven by a new learning paradigm based on cognitive science, neuroscience, AI, makers approach. Through GOAL program, our students and youth become motivated, equipped with self-confidence to excel in life and will be able to create sustainable future. We visit communities of low-income groups and schools and spread messages through workshops and talks.

A way forward

In light of COVID-19, the need for online education backed by good technological practices is required by everyone for sustainable healthy future. HRDEF imparts computer training to underserved women and children to empower them with technology so that they understand present system and be part of it. It acquaints stakeholders about their rights; informs them about SDGs and techniques to improve their understanding of local issues It asks business to actively address environmental risks and opportunities, and have efforts underway with business in the areas of

climate, water and food; focus on social dimension of corporate sustainability mainly women's empowerment, children, indigenous peoples, people with special needs through education and in implementing the SDGs. Quality education with student's engagement is lacking in the current situation, thus we need a mix of digital, online education module with the traditional approach. Besides this, hands-on, real-life learning objects motivate both girls, boys for quality learning, SDGs, and solving world problems.

74. Hellenic Association of Political Scientists

“Towards a Decade of Accelerated and Transformative Action”

The Hellenic Association of Political Scientists submits the present statement on transformative action against persisting global challenges, addressing the 2020 Economic and Social Council High Level Segment.

With human well-being constituting the core of the 2030 Agenda, attention should be initially drawn to ongoing human suffering around the world. The Hellenic Association of Political Scientists stresses the need for this decade to be informed by fruitful conflict resolution and reconciliation processes. Inclusive negotiations should be encouraged by mediators and third parties as the first step towards the dual goal of restoring balance of power and ensuring durable peace in conflict zones. Inclusion from a more gender-oriented perspective is also required. Purposeful inclusion should go beyond sensitive gender language in the agreements to allow for active female engagement in transitioning societies.

Moving to another area, the environment keeps being exposed to a series of persisting threats. What causes even greater apprehension is the gradually growing academic research on the positive correlation between climate change and war onsets. Adherence to collective action is essential for progress. The financial benefits arising from sustainable economic growth should not be dismissed. Environmental protection itself contributes to economic growth by, for instance, promoting trade of air pollution control technologies. The Hellenic Association of Political Scientists sees ongoing investment in research strategy for environmental technology as a crucial step in moving towards more sustainable lifestyles. Leading international actors in the area of environmental protection could develop a carrot and stick approach through a sustainable development investment program, in order to advocate investment in economies that support sustainable development in practice, while discouraging reward of those markets with little commitment.

Gender equality also follows a path of slower progress. Discrimination of women and girls are still among the greatest contemporary human rights challenges. The issue is systemic requiring a deeper change, a transformation of power structures. Civil society organizations have developed innovative practices for encouraging gender equality, and they have invested resources in collecting data on the issue. Given states have become gender equality pioneers ensuring full political rights for women and working on the constant improvement of their welfare systems to strengthen societal gender equality. With these dynamics at place, cooperative governance can foster the objectives of the fifth goal for sustainable development, providing more holistic opportunities for power redistribution in contemporary societies.

Finally, the Hellenic Association of Political Scientists believes that science has a distinctive role to play in this last decade of transformative action. Scientific research results in knowledge production relevant to sustainable development and has policy implications, which are often useful in finding new patterns of success. Therefore, political action should be guided by scientific networks aiming at as effective as possible implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Hellenic Association of Political Scientists is grateful for having had the opportunity to express its views on the topic of the 2020 High-Level Political Forum.

75. Human Appeal International [UK]

HAUK is a humanitarian organisation, delivering disaster relief and development programmes around the world for nearly 30 years. We are a faith-based organisation, inspired by the Islamic values of; excellence, accountability and transparency, compassion, justice, empowerment, trust and respect. These values are core humanitarian values, and they guide us in serving the people we help.

The themes of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) run through all of our work. One of our cross-cutting themes is climate change and the environment (SDG13), which we believe is a necessity given the increasing need for everyone to play their part in creating a more sustainable world. We also strive to focus on the unique problems faced by women and girls in poverty and conflict (SDG5), as well as the inclusion of vulnerable people and the protection of children, because no community or society can be truly sustainable when the most marginalised people are left behind (SDG10).

A project that demonstrates our experience in sustainable development is our Resilient Communities programme in Pakistan, 2018. During this project, we promoted sustainability firstly by mobilising villages to establish community organisations in order to come up with development plans. We also arranged for training to impart skills such as community management, decision-making and bookkeeping, which could all be passed on to other villages and future generations.

We worked with the local Agriculture Extension department to train local farmers in kitchen gardening methods, promoting the community growing its own food and water-efficient crops. We ensured that long-term links were established between communities and relevant government departments.

We also upgraded solar water pumps in the area and were able to reach out further and install deep water wells close to villages.

Finally, we directly helped the poorest people via the provision of goats, including livestock training and vaccinations, to 120 families.

In total, this project benefited over 14,800 people at the time, but its impact will continue to be felt by people who pick up these sustainable development techniques from the communities we initially targeted.

Recommendations

To conclude, we make the following three recommendations to the international community, which we believe will boost sustainable development over the next decade and well into the future:

- Involve communities – We can all have big ideas for projects and people’s needs when it comes to sustainable development, but it is absolutely necessary to have communities on board as they will be key to ensuring long-term success.
- Ensure that Governments play their part – This may sound obvious, however from our experience it is much easier to promote sustainable development when Governments work closely with communities, to make sure that they adapt to the sustainable development measures put in place.
- Promote enterprise – When working on our sustainable development projects, it is clear that the power of small businesses to provide a livelihood for owners and the people they serve is key to sustainable development.

76. IBON. International Foundation Inc.

Uphold people's rights to deliver genuine sustainable development

The COVID19 pandemic has further exposed the unsustainability and unjustness of the current development paradigm. As thousands suffer and die from the disease and healthcare systems are pushed beyond their capacities, millions more working people, women, the urban poor, and rural communities are negatively affected by quarantine measures and lockdowns as job losses and hunger increase. The pandemic has plunged the already troubled global economy into a recession which can derail efforts towards sustainable development. These impacts show precisely why accelerated actions and transformative pathways towards genuine sustainable development, led by and for the people, are essential.

While increased immediate humanitarian responses are needed, acceleration towards sustainable development will require doing away with “business as usual” during, and more so, after the pandemic. Maintaining the neoliberal and monopoly capitalist structures, would only serve as fuel for already broken engines. Conditions of debt dependence, corporate tax evasion, and regressive tax regimes that encouraged austerity and drains on public coffers, while placing the burden on the people, must be reversed. International economic and finance policy tools must be shifted to serve people's needs. Stimulus packages should not bail out corporations but instead, should directly benefit the poor.

Bloated military budgets and debt servicing should be realigned towards spending for sustainable development such as building stronger public healthcare systems, quality education for all, adequate social protection, sustainable local food systems, and environmental protection. Any initiative on sustainable consumption and production, such as energy and other infrastructure projects, should move beyond the efficiency approach by ensuring ecological balance and people's rights are respected. Likewise, harmful trade agreements should be rescinded. The current unequal and undemocratic global trade regime must be replaced with one that fosters complementarity and solidarity within and among nations, and that upholds peoples' right to development.

Transformation towards sustainable development will only happen if democratic governance and the people's right to actively participate in development are upheld and protected from authoritarianism and militarism. Massive state surveillance and worsening repression must not be tolerated during and after the pandemic.

Governments must support people-led solutions that are already being practiced by communities on the ground such as agroecology, collective farming and community-supported agriculture, and cooperatives. Finally, support for community initiatives must be complemented by protection from corporate take-over and resource grabs, and accountability mechanisms that will hold duty bearers to account. All in all,

implementing the measures stated above, will help ensure an equitable, healthier, and sustainable future.

77. Imamia Medics International

Imamia Medics International welcomes the opportunity provided by the 2020 ECOSOC High Level Segment to address approaches and policies that can accelerate progress towards the realization of the 2030 Agenda and bring the most transformative changes in development pathways. Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages must remain a priority to maximize impact across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), recognizing that health is both a precondition indicator and an outcome of successful sustainable development. Better health is essential to achieving all three pillars of sustainable development-economic, social and environmental. As such, universal health coverage, public health promotion, and tackling the growing epidemic of non-communicable disease must remain global priorities.

With at least half of the global population still not fully covered for even essential health services, pathways to universal health coverage (UHC) present a significant opportunity to enhance cost-effective, quality assured health services including preventative care. Among other things, UHC models can strengthen health responses by increasing health systems' capacity, addressing inequalities in the global disease burdens to ensure vulnerable populations are covered, and alleviating the economic burden of poor health.

In addition to UHC, there must be an integration of health solutions to improve access and efficiency for care, reduce costs and achieve better outcomes. Community-level clinics should be amplified to provide patients simple, low-cost methods for preventative care, as well as the diagnosis and treatment of diseases including non-communicable diseases.

Despite political recognition of the epidemic of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the response by the global community has been slow in addressing this #1 cause of death and disability worldwide, allowing the epidemic to grow and hampering progress on sustainable development. NCDs, estimated to cause cumulative global economic losses of \$47 trillion USD by 2030, hamper economic growth by adversely affecting productivity and diverting resources from global productivity to treating disease. In addition, people of lower education and economic status are disproportionately affected by NCDs by being increasingly exposed to NCD risks. Addressing the social determinants of NCDs and health will enhance progress towards poverty eradication and accelerating sustainable development. Finally, the natural environment has a significant impact on human health. Unsustainable environmental systems aggravate NCD risks and directly add to the growing NCD burden. NCDs are a significant threat to achieving the SDGs and NCD prevention and control must be integrated into sustainable development policies and programs.

Finally, to ensure significant strides are being made and include the most vulnerable, health equity monitoring is essential in public health. Countries must be able to

describe and monitor their population's health and well-being needs to understand and address them. We must invest in comprehensive health information systems, particularly in lower-income countries, to monitor progress towards health equity. Countries must also ensure populations that live in extremely vulnerable circumstances within their borders, including refugees and people displaced by conflict and humanitarian crisis, are included within the health information systems as well as receiving health services and education.

78. Institut International pour les Droits et le Développement

Sustainable Water Management for Humans and Nature

We, as the heads of ministries, local authorities, international organizations, corporations, academia, civil society, and high-level representatives in the water community, having met at the KIWW WLRT 2019 in Daegu, Republic of Korea on September 4th, 2019;

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016, which proclaimed 2018 to 2028 as the International Decade for Action,

Reaffirming the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,”

Emphasizing continued concern over the remaining gaps between the ambitions to deliver internationally agreed upon post-2015 water-related goals included in the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development, and the increasing threats to water security, such as climate change, natural disasters, and increased rates of urbanization and population growth;

Continuing the recognition of the need to move from solutions to implementation with balanced, sound and well-functioning accountability mechanisms of local and water management;

Hereby declare that countries should take the follow actions:

Universal and equitable access to safe drinking water

- Assign high priority to water and sanitation in national agendas and allocate proper resources to the water and sanitation sector;
- Commit to reducing inequalities in access to water and sanitation and ensure affordability of safe drinking water and sanitation services and avoid any kind of discrimination or inequality in terms of access to water and sanitation.

Nature-based solutions for water management

- Promote sustainable lifecycle for water resource management, while considering basic human rights of safe drinking water, preservation of ecosystems and urban, industrial and agriculture water uses.

Economic, social, and ecological resilience

- Enhance the process of incorporating integrated water resources planning and management within the framework of national and regional (basins) and socio-economic development planning processes.

Smart water management for sustainable communities and natural habitat

- Increase access to technology, enhance capacity development and knowledge sharing to promote various uses of water and reduce adverse impacts from water-related risks;
- Strengthen the interface between science, technology and policy, and provide inter-sectoral bridge between water-energy-food-land-health, etc.

Financing the implementation of solutions to water challenges towards SDGs

- Invest in long-term financing maintenances and necessary measures for climate change adaptation as well as soft measures, including governance and management capacities ;
- Promote the adoption of circular economy as a tool for sustainable water management.

Water partnership and cooperation at all levels ensuring good governance

- Catalyze partnerships at all levels among different stakeholders, with the engagement of women, youth, and local and indigenous communities.

KWF and IRDG with the 30 water leaders gathered at the Korea International Water Week, agree to the above-mentioned targets and pledges to make every effort towards achieving ‘Sustainable Water Management for Humans and Nature’. We support our collective voice and shared vision discussed during the Water Leaders’ Round Table this year in the Korea International Water Week 2019 and encourage the global water community to join our efforts to realize our vision with implementation

79. Institute for NGO Research

COVID-19 Pandemic Must Not Excuse Abuse of Humanitarian Aid

The abuse of humanitarian aid organizations in conflict zones is a constant global concern, particularly during times of crisis. For example, it was found that prominent international NGOs were involved in a “sex for food” scandal in Haiti and the World Food Programme has alerted the UN to the diversion of its resources to terror groups in Yemen.

The same concerns about misappropriation, diversion, and misallocation of aid exist in the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic, where UN-OCHA, in coordination with the WHO and other international actors, is seeking \$2 billion in funding for its “COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan.”

In Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza, the COVID-19 Response Plan is seeking \$34 million in funding to, in its own words, “respond to the public health needs and immediate humanitarian consequences of the pandemic in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip” (emphasis added).

NGO Monitor, a project of the Institute for NGO Research, notes that a number of the NGO implementing partners that are carrying out this plan have ties to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) terror group -- designated as such by the US, EU, Canada, and Israel. The PFLP is involved in suicide bombings, shootings, and assassinations, among other terrorist activities targeting civilians, and was the first Palestinian organization to hijack airplanes in the 1960s and 1970s.

At least five of OCHA’s identified partners have numerous officials tied to the PFLP terror groups, as has been documented by NGO Monitor. Demonstrating the severity of the UN, WHO, and government donors distributing funds to these groups is the fact that in August 2019, a number of NGO officials from these groups were, according to their indictments, involved in the murder of a 17-year-old Israeli girl and severely injuring her father and brother. These individuals are currently standing trial.

The United Nations must immediately cease this financial support of terror-tied organizations in order to eliminate risk in its provision of COVID-19 related humanitarian aid.

80. Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social Solidarity Economy

RIPESS, the Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy affirms that transformative pathways for the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development already exist. The United Nations Inter-Agency Taskforce on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE) demonstrated in its 2014 Position Paper Social and Solidarity Economy and the Challenge of Sustainable Development that the potential of SSE is to achieve the Goals set out in Agenda 2030 is essential «The international development community recognizes the need to rethink development. Business-as-usual has not prevented financial and food crises, climate change, persistent poverty and rising inequality». As an official observer, we contributed to this paper.

There is a broad consensus on the following definition of SSE adopted by the UNTFSSSE: SSE refers to the production of goods and services by a broad range of organizations and enterprises that have explicit social and often environmental objectives. They are guided by principles and practices of cooperation, solidarity, ethics and democratic self-management. SSE includes cooperatives and other forms of social enterprise, self-help groups, community-based organizations, associations of informal economy workers, service-provisioning NGOs, solidarity finance schemes, among others.

Our organisation actively participated in CSO consultations of the General Assembly Open Workgroup process in 2013 and 2014. Along with other CSOs, we insisted on the importance of a people centered development. We were disappointed that Agenda 2030 had not adopted significant transformative pathways. We agree with the motto “Leave no-one behind”. That motto remains wishful thinking unless the world radically changes its approach. In the last five years we have observed how multinational corporations and global finance have captured a significant part of the agenda finance that was earmarked to achieve the Agenda goals. We are not surprised by the poor results. In fact, we can consider that not only have we failed to make significant progress on most SDGs, inequality has risen between and within countries, with the 1% capturing even more of the world’s wealth. For similar reasons, the world failed to achieve the Paris Agreement on climate change. In most areas, we are regressing rather than progressing. We even affirm that more people are left behind!

We therefore propose that the United Nations fully include Social Solidarity Economy as one of the key elements of “accelerated action and transformative pathways”, extending this proposal to all Member States and the International organisations of the United Nations System.

Our members at the grassroots, in over 70 countries in all continents, work daily to ensure livelihoods for their community. They do this through delocalizing a just transition in agroecology, housing, job creation in cooperatives and many other similar types of collective enterprises, community health centers, supporting people to transition from the informal to formal economy, improve social protection, produce goods and services for the local economy. This approach is also essential for the implementation of the SDGs.

With the multiple crises deepened and accelerated by COVID-19, it has become even more imperative to adopt a people-centred ecosystem approach, in which SSE is a key component.

81. International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness

The improvement of vision for everyone will have significant and immediate benefits to global prosperity. Vision makes an important contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); in particular Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms), Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being), Goal 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education), Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality), Goal 8 (Productivity and decent work for all), Goal 10 (reduced inequalities) and Goal 17 (Partnerships for goals).

Accelerating action on vision is a simple and highly cost-effective means of unlocking human potential; enabling children to gain an education, working age adults to get and keep a job; and improving equality for women and girls, who are more likely to suffer poor vision and less likely to get treatment. It has been shown that a year of wearing glasses is equivalent to up to an additional half a year of schooling and providing glasses can improve work productivity by 22%. Vision is also critical to reducing road traffic deaths and injuries, with studies suggesting impaired vision causing up to 60% of road traffic accidents.

Today, over 2.2 billion people have a vision impairment and of these, at least 1 billion have a vision impairment that could have been prevented or is yet to be addressed because they do not have access to the eye care services they need. This poses a considerable financial and societal burden; costing the global economy over US\$3.6 trillion every year in health and social care costs, and potentially much more in decreased productivity, quality of life, and independence among those affected. This burden and loss of potential is not borne equally, and those left behind tend to be the poorest and most socially marginalised members of society.

Without concerted action, by 2050 three times as many people will be blind as now, and half the world will be living with short sightedness.

On behalf of the global eye care sector, we call upon member states and the international community, including United Nations agencies and the private sector, to support the improvement of vision for everyone and to ensure that addressing vision loss is incorporated in the decade of action and delivery on the SDGs, including progressively achieving universal health coverage.

82. International Association of University Professors and Lecturers

[English]

Higher Education is an integral part of Sustainable Development Goal 4 Education: "ensuring access to quality education for all". In this context, UNESCO would like to promote academic mobility through the "Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education", a new United Nations instrument adopted by UNESCO in November 2019.

The International Association of University Professors and Lecturers (IAUPL) finds it necessary to question the role and responsibilities of academics in the recognition of qualifications considered by this new Convention. It is academics who design training programs and ensure their qualities to the principles that govern their missions, most importantly, the respect for academic freedoms, which constitute an integral part of their profession educational freedom, scientific freedom and freedom of expression. It would therefore be advisable to encourage academics to establish and conduct training, as well as recognize qualifications linked to academic responsibilities and freedoms. The Convention refers in its preamble on the "...need to uphold and protect the principles of academic freedom and of the autonomy of higher-education institutions". These principles are repeatedly referred to in the articles of the Convention with reference to "competent authorities". Whatever the legal or political reasons and the significance of such a concept of recognition, these articles seem at first to have been conceived with regard to administrative authorities.

We hope that academics and associations of academics from various countries will be called upon to express their opinion on the recognition and development of the new framework for mobility education, in particular on 'digital mobility/education', by collecting and presenting their views. It could be similar, and more rightly so, for the concept of "academic freedom" under the specific statutory conditions for the recognition of PhD-doctoral qualifications according to the principle of independent university collegiality.

- The acceleration action and the successful implementation of the Convention may evolve in line with not only legally binding instruments, but also, depending on the circumstances of its application and development, by 'non-binding' recommendations which will be offered by independent status academics.
- The transformative pathways: making a university actor active in the recognition of qualifications.

Here the Convention will be linked to the responsibilities of academics in this area, in the same way as Professor René Cassin, a founding member of IAUPL, linked the concept of academic freedom with international declarations and pacts on Human Rights.

The IAUPL plays a role in helping to accelerate the strategies and implement transformation paths for a “decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” with a key message of “promotion throughout the world of the Convention and Academic Freedoms”.

[French]

L'enseignement supérieur est présenté comme partie intégrante de l'Objectif du développement durable 4 : Éducation « assurer l'accès de tous à une éducation de qualité ». Dans ce cadre, l'UNESCO souhaiterait promouvoir la mobilité universitaire par le biais de la "Convention mondiale sur la reconnaissance des qualifications relatives à l'enseignement supérieur", un nouvel instrument des Nations Unies qui a été adopté par l'UNESCO en novembre 2019.

Pour l'Association Internationale des Professeurs et Maîtres de Conférences des Universités (IAUPL), il convient de se questionner sur le rôle et les responsabilités des universitaires en matière de reconnaissance des qualifications considérées par cette nouvelle Convention. Il est connu que ce sont les universitaires qui conçoivent les programmes de formation et assurent leurs qualités, dans le cadre des principes qui régissent leurs missions, et d'abord le respect des libertés universitaires consubstantielles de leur métier : la liberté pédagogique, la liberté scientifique et la liberté d'expression. Il conviendrait donc d'inciter les universitaires dans la mise en place, le déroulement des formations et la reconnaissance des qualifications en lien avec les responsabilités/libertés académiques. La Convention s'appuie dans son préambule sur la "...nécessité d'asseoir et de protéger les principes de liberté académique et d'autonomie des établissements d'enseignement supérieur...", ces principes sont régulièrement rappelés dans les articles de la Convention en référence aux "autorités compétentes". Quelque soient les raisons juridiques ou politiques et la hauteur d'une telle conception de la reconnaissance, ces articles semblent d'abord conçus à l'égard de l'instance administrative.

On pourrait souhaiter que les universitaires et associations d'universitaires de divers pays soient appelés à se prononcer sur la reconnaissance et l'évolution du nouveau cadre de la mobilité-formation, notamment vers 'mobilité/enseignement numérique', en recueillant et en présentant sur ce sujet leur propre opinion. Il pourrait en être de même, et à plus juste titre encore, pour le concept de 'liberté académique' dans les conditions statutaires spécifiques de la reconnaissance de qualifications Doctorales selon le principe d'une collégialité universitaire indépendante.

- L'action d'accélération et la mise en place réussie de la Convention peuvent évoluer en fonction, non seulement des instruments juridiquement contraignants, mais aussi en fonction des circonstances de son application et son perfectionnement par des recommandations 'non contraignantes' qui seront proposées par les universitaires du statut libre.
- La voie de transformation : rendre l'universitaire acteur actif de la reconnaissance des qualifications.

83. International Committee For Peace And Reconciliation

Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

A very important issue is facing United Nations which is “Refugees in Camps and Their Resettlement” and its impact on the implementation of SDGs and the goal of “No One Left Behind”.

The world is witnessing the highest levels of displacement on record. An unprecedented 70.8 million people around the world have been forced from home by conflict and persecution at the end of 2018. Among them are nearly 30 million refugees, people protected by international law fleeing conflict or persecution, over half of whom are under the age of 18. There are also millions of stateless people, who have been denied a nationality and access to basic rights such as education, healthcare, employment, and freedom of movement. The refugee crisis is complex which is forever changing the lives of millions of people around the globe.

Today, there are more refugees and internally displaced people than at any point since World War II. Driven from their homes by conflict, persecution, environmental calamity, or dire economic straits, these refugees have been deprived of their statehood, material possessions, and in many cases, their loved ones. They seek solace in purpose-built refugee camps and unplanned settlements, where they wait out their displacement or attempt to begin life anew.

Refugee camps are monuments to human suffering, and the sheer size of these settlements testifies to the severity of forced displacement around the world . Yet, the settlements are also spaces of hope and optimism; for many inhabitants, these camps represent a stepping-stone on the path to safety and prosperity.

Most citizens of the world are deeply disturbed by the human plight of institutionalized injustice in countries ravaged by war and the hostile conditions are forcing people (Rohingyas of Myanmar and the refugees from Syria in the Middle-East and Somalians in Kenya, just to name a few) to refugee camps where they are destined to live for years and raise their families in very difficult conditions. These citizens also feel a strong commitment to help relieve these refugee’s suffering. UN needs to assist people in these desperate straits in resettling to countries where the rule of law prevails. Exploration of the Constitutions and the laws governing immigration in the host countries will also help.

Our NGO – The International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation (ICFPAR) is offering to volunteer in the Dadaab refugee camp in Kenya and we are exploring opportunities with the RCK – Refugee Consortium of Kenya.

84. International Council Supporting Fair Trial and Human Rights

Le coronavirus vient accroître les souffrances de la région arabe. Une vision provisoire de ce changement peut être obtenue en posant quelques questions: Quelles sont les conséquences d'un ralentissement économique mondial? En quoi l'impact d'une pandémie différera-t-il d'un pays à l'autre ou d'une communauté à l'autre? Comment cet impact se reflétera-t-il dans la région arabe en particulier? Qu'en est-il des pays qui traversaient déjà une crise économique comme le Liban? Qu'en est-il des millions de réfugiés qui vivent dans des camps dans plusieurs pays arabes? Comment l'isolement affecte-t-il les travailleurs journaliers? Comment la propagation du virus affecte-t-elle la sécurité du travail dans la région arabe avec les taux de chômage des jeunes les plus élevés au monde? Quel est l'impact de la ségrégation sur les femmes et les enfants victimes de violence domestique? Et les sans-abri? Qu'en est-il des groupes qui n'ont pas de soins de santé gratuits, en particulier dans les pays où le secteur de la santé a été privatisé et où les compagnies d'assurance ont remplacé le système de santé? Quel est le sort de ceux qui vivent sous occupation, comme en Palestine? Ou qui vivent dans des zones de guerre comme la République arabe syrienne, la Libye et le Yémen? Comment l'épidémie affecte-t-elle les systèmes éducatifs et quelles sont les conséquences de la transformation soudaine de l'enseignement à distance? Comment tout ce qui précède affecte-t-il les inégalités dans les sociétés? Les œuvres de bienfaisance ou les dons des riches atténuent-ils l'inégalité? Comment l'épidémie affecte-t-elle la compréhension de la signification du travail (en particulier des activités principales), de la production et de la consommation dans nos sociétés? Quel est l'impact négatif des sanctions unilatérales sur le peuple syrien?

ICSFT regrette les attitudes des États-Unis d'Amérique contre l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS), les déclarations racistes et les accusations sans preuves contre la Chine.

Recommandations

- Mettre l'accent sur la solidarité de la communauté internationale pour maintenir l'ordre mondial et adhérer aux principes de la Charte des Nations Unies et respecter les règles du droit international et les résolutions des Nations Unies.
- Évitez tous les discours racistes et les accusations aléatoires.
- Éliminer le phénomène des inégalités économiques dans la région arabe après COVID- 19.
- Reconsidérer les politiques publiques et la gestion de la crise par l'État (marché du travail, système de santé, logement, éducation).
- Reconsidérer les principes de citoyenneté et de droits de l'homme en relation avec les groupes marginalisés (femmes, réfugiés, personnes ayant des besoins spéciaux et apatrides).

- Renforcer la coopération internationale pour réduire les pertes humanitaires, économiques et sociales conformément aux directives des Nations Unies.
- Coordonner les réponses mondiales aux niveaux humanitaire, social et économique.
- Mettre en place un mécanisme de suivi pour garantir la transparence de la réalisation des objectifs de développement durable loin du pillage des richesses des populations, de la propagation de la corruption et de la saisie de biens et d'équipements publics.

85. International Federation for Family Development

Former UN Secretary General in 2016 stated that “Families are on the frontlines of our global efforts to realize the bold and inclusive 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. Given these realities, understanding how families contribute to social progress is key to finding the most effective route to achieving the SDGs. When the journey to define the ‘2030 Sustainable Development Agenda’ began in 2012, most members of the High-Level Panel of advisers appointed by the UN Secretary General agreed that, much more than devoting one of the goals to the family, the reality was that development is very much linked to the way families fulfil their social role, especially regarding poverty, health, education, equality and peace.

Despite this, global data on families is lacking, prompting the UN Secretary General in 2014 to call on governments and relevant stakeholders to “support data collection and research on family issues and the impact of public policy on families and invest in family-oriented policy and programme design, implementation and evaluation.”

SDGs and Families

This is why the International Federation for Family Development promoted, together with UNICEF and several experts from all over the world, a project to analyze how family policies can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The aim was to reflect pragmatic processes and procedures to assess:

- how family policies work to affect different social progress goals (as defined in the SDGs) in different parts of the world;
- how the actions of non-government actors working in support of families contribute to the issue;
- and how family attributes at household or national level impact on the effectiveness of the previously identified family interventions.

The need for such a research met with the lack of global data on family issues. However, many conclusions could be drawn from it. The available evidence shows indeed that family environments can be the cause of and the solution to several negative social outcomes, sometimes even both. In a report on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes, the UN Secretary General explained that “families are active stakeholders in and beneficiaries of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. [...] Meeting the needs of families and empowering them to fulfil their numerous functions are key to the achievement of many Sustainable Development Goals” (A/75/61–E/2020/4).

Families, for instance, are where most victims of violence usually find support. However, violence also often originates in intimate places (SDG 16). Intimate-partner violence is one of the most common forms of violence against women and 60-90% of children experience violent discipline in most of the countries where data are available

(UNICEF 2018). Violence has been proven to largely be fostered by poverty. Some family types are more likely to experience poverty or extreme poverty (SDG 1); female-headed households or migrant families are usually among the poorest in developing countries as are single-parent families or families in which parents are low educated in developed countries, to name only a few types of them.

Both violence and poverty highlight the cross-cutting quality of some of the SDGs. There is no fighting against gender inequalities for instance, while domestic violence is still being perpetrated; gender inequality in the public sphere is both the cause and the result of the inequality in the private sphere. Many SDGs are actually intertwined, and families feature as their common thread.

Poor guidance of families also explains the problems the households are facing. Education for example is not bound to schools; it actually starts in the family. “Families are a key point for promoting school attendance and learning” (UNICEF, 2018). On the same level, the lifestyle choices a family makes will have impacts on health outcomes; their diet and physical activities will have consequences on their need to access health infrastructures.

SDGs and families are hence linked to each other; this calls for a deeper awareness of the importance to implement family-focused policies.

The need for family-focused policies

National public policies reflect the importance of the family. As stated in the above-mentioned UN Secretary General’s Report, fostering and supporting stable families is a priority for many countries. Investments in family-oriented policies and programmes contribute to poverty reduction and investment in human capital. Families are also widely regarded as enablers of social protection; ensuring intergenerational solidarity and investing in families as the natural environment for children is therefore often seen as the best social protection strategy.

Many of these policies have a positive impact on families. Well-designed family-focused policies can positively impact SDGs, albeit context might influence the degree of efficiency of family-focused policies. This underpins the necessity of recollecting further evidence on scalability and transfer of those policies.

The analysis from the UNICEF 2018 report shows that public policies targeted to address the problems families face usually have the positive desired effects. For instance, the implementation of and access to social protection mechanisms, allowances and cash transfers actually reduce poverty rates in poor populations (SDG 1). Similarly, policies aiming at helping parents find a paid job showed to, apart from enhancing the whole family’s economic wellbeing, positively affect young peoples’ attitudes, behaviours and outcomes in the labour market (SDGs 8 and 16).

A well-functioning family is key to various problems that might be encountered outside the household. Gender equality is typically one of them. Gender equality issues often take root in broader and different situations; “gender equality in the public sphere can never be achieved unless unpaid domestic work and care work is shared more equally in the private sphere” (UNICEF 2018). Parental leaves can be quite a powerful leverage to implement gender equality policies. It has been observed that while longer parental leaves granted to mothers tended to delay their return to work, and thus jeopardize long-term advancement of their career, paternity leave, as non-transferable to mothers, showed promising results to enhance gender equality (SDG 5).

Public policies need to foster a well-suited environment for the stable development of families, not only by offering a positive help but also by setting an efficient prevention system. Two SDGs have been found to most benefit from this kind of policies. SDG 3 aims at ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being. Programs implementing family-focused sessions and therapies showed to have positive health outcomes through developing healthy lifestyle patterns and raising awareness to at-risk behaviours. Family interventions for cardiovascular disease tend to increase patients and their families’ knowledge about the disease, including its symptoms, treatment and factors contributing to its evolution.

SDG 16 focuses on ending violence. Although the report calls for a better measurement of interpersonal violence, investigations have pointed out the necessity to focus on preconditions that facilitate interpersonal violence, as a prevention tool to reduce violent behaviours, before they even develop.

From a more local or regional perspective, not only global or national policies are needed. Families need resilient environments to flourish. Most of the families live in communities within large urban settings. We have seen a rapid growth of cities areas and it is well known that urbanization brings challenges for all family members such as children, parents, youth, persons with disabilities and older persons. Innovative solutions are needed if SDG 11 has to be achieved.

Our Federation has been actively trying to contribute to that mission. It promoted and prepared the Venice declaration to build a network of inclusive cities as the result of the ‘Inclusive Cities for Sustainable Families’ project, contributing to SDG 11 and including families by being responsive to their needs. It is therefore clear that SDGs are best addressed through well-designed family-focused policies and move forward in the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

Cross-cutting effects of family-focused policies meeting the SDGs

Many of the studied policies around the world, across the SDGs, have found to have spill over effects, due to the fact that the problems addressed by the SDGs take root

from different contexts and environments. This means that when policies are addressing a specific situation, other situations are likely to be impacted. When the policy is poorly designed, it might have undesired effects. For instance, efforts to address employment outcomes for women will be sub-optimal whilst gender inequality in leave entitlements continue to exist. However, those cross-cutting repercussions are usually positively evaluated, when the policies have been designed for a specific purpose in the first place.

For instance, cash benefits consistently reduce poverty, and decrease deprivation, and both conditional and sometimes unconditional versions of these benefits can encourage children's access to schools, healthcare, and improve both social (through increment of social housing programs) and health outcomes. In turn, family-focused health policies proved to have a positive impact on healthy eating patterns, which is in keeping with SDG2; family-focused information programs are usually the way to implement this kind of policy.

In fact, family-focused education interventions have the broadest spillover effects among all family-focused policies. For instance, it is long known that high educated children are less likely to feature among poor populations (SDG 1). Well-designed education-focused policies also have positive impacts on child development and on health outcomes in general (SDG 3). Integrated family support helps externalize behaviours which have positive consequences on social behaviours (SDG 16). While addressing specifically this goal, family home visits have proven to be most effective, enabling more children to access health checks and improving child development activities.

As a rule, fostering family stability has numerous positive consequences, among which reduction of poverty risks (SDG 1) and child development (SDG3), which in turn contributes to young girls' empowerment (SDG 5). One study in Austria even linked longer parental leave to increased fertility rates (SDG 3). Spillover effects are indeed various and call for greater attention from policy makers, in order to achieve SDGs through family-focused interventions.

Conclusion

The importance of families and family policies in meeting the SDGs has to be emphasized, in considering both their social role for development and their need to be helped for it. State public policies must foster well-suited environments for families to be able to fully develop their potential. The multiplicity of positive spillover effects of family-focused policies bolsters the ability of families to meet the SDGs. It also underpins the need to optimize efforts in implementing these policies and to consider the order of their intervention. The lack of global data on these issues calls for further studies on family-focused policy issues and for greater collaboration of both national and international organizations.

86. International Federation on Ageing

Accelerated action and transformative pathways: Realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

COVID-19 has made visible in the starkest possible ways the importance of protecting and respecting the rights of older people, which are fundamental human rights. Aligned with the Decade of Healthy Ageing (2020-2030), the International Federation on Ageing calls for accelerated action and transformative pathways to ensure the rights of older people, who continue to contribute to society in immeasurable ways, are protected and respected -- especially in light of COVID-19.

The multi-faceted impact of COVID-19 on older people

Ageism (the stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice based on age) has in many ways been heightened due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Older people face age discrimination in many countries, through policies for example enforcing physical distancing that do not account for the needs or circumstances of older persons. These regulations can lead to increased levels of social isolation, and also food insecurity for those who cannot afford to stock up on food due to the need for transportation assistance or inadequate income. In addition, no country currently includes specific measures for cushioning the social and financial consequences of older persons during and after COVID-19.

Secondly, due to insufficient resources in many countries, triage approaches have been introduced in order to manage the increasing healthcare needs. The approaches may exclude or place older people at a lower priority for care due to discrimination often based on healthy life years remaining.

Thirdly, countless older persons in long-term care homes in both developing and developed countries have been exposed to COVID-19 due to a lack of oversight, regulations, and funding to these institutions. Supply shortages, underpaid staff, inadequate infection control, and lack of transparency are completely unacceptable issues that need to be addressed.

Fourthly, older health workers are often at the frontline of the pandemic with the poorest remuneration. In many settings, there is a lack of decent working conditions and a reverse discrimination in some governments calling for retired health workers to return to work, despite their higher risk to the virus.

Lastly, general unemployment for older persons as a result of COVID-19 is much more likely to result in long-term joblessness considering existing labour market conditions will be more severe for older than younger persons when returning to work, due to ageist hiring practices that prioritize younger workers.

Recommendations

COVID-19 has highlighted the extent and magnitude of human rights issues that older people face. The International Federation on Ageing calls for accelerated action and transformative pathways on the following actions to ensure the rights of older people are protected and respected:

- Ensure income security for older persons by income support, ensuring old age pensions, withdrawing forced retirement ages, and globally agreed labour standards for older workers;
- Address the needs of older persons during periods of fiscal consolidation after the pandemic, through investment in age friendly health systems, community services and environments;
- Improve living conditions and ensure adequate, integrated health care of older persons during and after the pandemic; and
- Invest in the collection and utilization of disaggregated data, which is essential to ensuring no one is left behind. This should include increased engagement of national statistics offices in the adoption of outputs of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing to ensure older women and men are included in data collection to ensure Sustainable Development Goals are attained.

The International Federation on Ageing is honoured to have the opportunity to work alongside Member States to advocate for the rights of older persons. The rights of older persons are human rights.

87. International Human Rights Commission Relief Fund Trust

Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

While the effect of COVID-19 on all the SDGs has been and is being documented and examined across the world, the International Human Rights Commission Relief Fund Trust, draws attention to the importance of SDG 16 – anchored on the principle of the rule of law – in these times.

It is crucial that the rule of law, accountability, transparency, and access to information are maintained in this period. It is only when these principles are observed that a people-centred approach, responsive to the most vulnerable, will be able to ensure that “no one is left behind”.

Emergency measures must conform with the principles of legality, necessity, proportionality, precaution and non-discrimination. These measures should be reviewed continuously and reasons for their imposition provided.

It is now more important than ever that oversight is ensured through the judiciary, the legislature and independent human rights institutions. Human rights defenders must not be prevented from doing their work. Reinforcing human rights monitoring during this period will create conditions that would enhance the realisation of all the SDGs. The public should be given access to information that underlies government’s decisions about steps it takes to contain COVID-19. Full and accurate information dispels myths and misconceptions. The press should be allowed to operate freely.

Although COVID-19 necessitates unprecedented measures, there is no existing, ongoing, global negotiating mechanism to ensure a continuing, co-ordinated, cohesive inter-governmental response to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The WHO is tirelessly supporting Member States in their responses to COVID-19. There must be binding on the member states to follow the guidelines of the WHO experts for dealing the pandemic situation on national level. There must be coordinated international response towards any pandemic in future to secure the life of people.

88. International Paediatric Association

The International Paediatric Association, an organization of 169 National, Regional and Specialty Societies, believes that every child should be accorded the right to the highest attainable standard of health, and the opportunity to grow, develop, and fulfil their potential.

The pandemic of COVID-19 disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus, and the risks it poses to families, communities and nations threatens global goals and action for sustainable development.

To realize the goal of action and delivery, enhanced efforts to promote and support child and adolescent health and health care are needed from all sectors and all member states.

We note and applaud the Secretary General's report of 4 April 2020 recognizing the need for urgent action to support the world's children, the extensive and excellent technical guidance available and maintained by the World Health Organization, and UNICEF's actions to support and protect children and families.

Social distancing and quarantine strategies threaten access to routine care and preventive services. Our national societies are committed to evidence-based care and to helping children and families get the care they need. We urge member states to act now to partner with our national societies to ensure accurate information is available to the public and essential services are available and accessible to all.

Prevention and Treatment of COVID-19 should include:

- Strategies to minimize the risk and protect children from infection, and to provide those that are severely affected with appropriate care. Specific efforts are needed to protect infants below 1 year of age, follow infection control recommendations, allocate and use appropriate protective equipment, and ensure safe breastfeeding;
- Efforts to ensure provision of essential newborn care and universal primary care are maintained;
- Attention to the risks of delayed and interrupted vaccination and plans to maintain and support vaccination and vaccine preventable disease surveillance, in anticipation of future vaccines and therapies for COVID-19, which should be made available for people of all ages;
- Efforts to reach special populations at increased risk, address disparities in access across national and regional populations;

- Partnerships between professional associations of health care professionals and health ministries to help health care professionals and the general public avoid sham therapies and false reports.
- Guidance for families on supporting children and parent's stress and mental health during the crisis, with efforts to ensure families have needed resources, adequate food, and that children's social development and education are able to continue during the pandemic.

- 89. International Planned Parenthood Federation, Western Hemisphere Region, Catholics for Choice, Centro de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, Commonwealth Medical Trust, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Marie Stopes International, Mother's Union, National Board of Catholic Women of England and Wales, Northern Ireland Women's European Platform, Pathfinder International, Rutgers, Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland, Union Women's Center**

Negotiating sustainable development in a COVID-19 environment

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides the roadmap for sustainable development: COVID-19 has shown how agreed policies and programmes can be rapidly blown off-track and demonstrates that interdependence is crucial in a global public health response.

United Nations entities, led by the World Health Organization (WHO), are tirelessly supporting Member States in their responses to COVID-19. While initially having to be public health-oriented, these responses must address the Sustainable Development Goals, including for economic and social development and women's empowerment and gender equality. National level implementation, moreover, should be based on WHO expert advice.

Evidence already shows that COVID-19 will not go away soon: Member States, UN entities, civil society organizations and other stakeholders must become 'pandemic-ready' in the 'new normal', requiring co-ordinated national and global responses, often at short notice, and new ways of working. Universal Health Coverage (including social care), supported by a Universal Basic Income, in all countries must be made a reality through national public health systems, given the high risk of future pandemics, and taking account of future climate change effects.

Meetings, including the World Health Assembly, Gender Equality Forum, and Commission on Population and Development, have been postponed or held virtually, and we are concerned that such procedures may limit civil society participation, with long-lasting impacts on their future effectiveness.

Although COVID-19 necessitates unprecedented measures, there is no existing, ongoing, global negotiating mechanism to ensure a continuing, co-ordinated, cohesive inter-governmental response to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

We support the appointment by the President of the General Assembly of co-coordinators to work with Member States on COVID-19-related initiatives and wholeheartedly welcome the adoption of General Assembly Resolution on Access to

Medicines, Vaccines and Medical Equipment to Face COVID-19 (A/74/L.56) in protecting global health.

We therefore urge the establishment of an ongoing, meaningful, transparent and inclusive inter-governmental mechanism through ECOSOC, to meet as required between sessions of the High-level Political Forum, for developing inter-governmental agreements. It could be constituted based on regional representation, or along the lines of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, supported by a high-level panel(s), but must be sufficiently flexible to be ‘fit for purpose’ for the current situation and in future pandemics, involving the range of scientists, public health and development experts, and economic and policy experts, as well as other stakeholders in a very different (post) COVID-19 environment.

90. International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance

Rainwater Harvesting: A Cross-Cutting Strategy to Accelerate Sustainable Development Goal Delivery by Scaling Up, Out and Deep

The International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance promotes rainwater harvesting as a practice that advances 7 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The present statement emphasizes the value of an integrated approach to rainwater management that accelerates SDG delivery by scaling deep (impacting cultural roots), scaling out (impacting greater numbers) and scaling up (impacting law and policy; McConnell Foundation, 2015).

Overview

Rainwater is the primary source of all drinking water and a vital natural resource for life on land. Consequently, good management of rainwater resources accelerates cross-cutting actions, advancing the SDGs. Good rainwater management contributes to delivering on SDG targets: 1.5, 2.3, 2.4, 5.a, 6.1, 6.4, 6.6, 11.5, 11.7, 11.a, 11.b, 11.c, 13.3.13.b, 15.1, 15.2, 15.3 & 15.5.

Rainwater management, using environmental engineering techniques, favors local rainfall and rainwater retention. Increasing these two parameters assists communities in arid regions, whose incomes are dependent on agricultural production (Target 2.3). This is of particular relevance to the OAS (Organisation of American States), AU (African Union) and SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation).

6 - 8 % of the world's population use rainwater as a drinking water source (Heijnen, 2020). Harvesting rain provides potable water for many rural schools' Water, Sanitation and Hygiene resources. This infrastructure remains much-needed, however. Globally, only 53 % of schools have basic hygiene provision amidst the COVID-19 pandemic (UNICEF, 2016; Target 6.1).

Our experience of scaling out to accelerate SDG 6 taught us the importance of scaling deep. Over 18 years, equipping rural communities with rainwater-fed Water, Sanitation and Hygiene facilities, we discovered the importance of channelling communities' environmental values to ensure facilities are well-maintained.

Today, our rainwater-fed agro-forestry and Integrated Water Resource Management projects use participatory mapping as a transformative pathway to link project participants' values and beliefs to actions that accelerate SDGs 2, 5, 11, 13 and 15.

A way forward

‘Scaling up’ rainwater harvesting through effective national and regional policy frameworks optimizes its role in delivering on the SDGs, giving focus to its transversal function in:

- buffering climate-related variations in water supply
- food security and food sovereignty
- terrestrial and freshwater ecosystem restoration
- urban green space creation
- afforestation
- halting biodiversity loss
- combating desertification
- decentralized WASH facilities
- reducing the risk of flood- and drought-related disasters.

91. International Real Estate Federation

The International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI) believes that the Real Estate sector can take accelerated measures to implement the decade of actions on the SDGs. An innovative action we propose is the evaluation of the impact on urban sustainability of private and/or public projects, based on indicators and a methodology developed by UN-Habitat. Such projects could benefit from special financial attention from governments.

UN-Habitat is recognized as a focal point of the entire UN System for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

"The Decade of Action to SDGs" and the outcomes of the World Urban Forum 10 (WUF10), held in Abu Dhabi from 7 to 13 February 2020, give worldwide guidelines for monitoring the development of urban sustainability in:

- the final declaration of WUF10, attached. Point 11 refers to the UN-Habitat methodology, called City Prosperity Initiative (CPI), to monitor urban development worldwide.
- a specific UN-Habitat document, named "Flagship Program 5- Cities SDGs", attached, reports as the first target of the first initiative, on page 2, to "Establish baselines and city specific SDG targets, using the SDG Cities monitoring tool", This tool "is built on the UN-Habitat City Prosperity Index which will be subject to a peer review by the United Nations to provide a monitoring framework for the entire United Nations."

The active involvement of our organization in cooperation with the UN to promote the urban sustainable development has a long background. We are engaged now in supporting the recovery from Covid19 crisis, using the Real Estate as a driving force.

During Habitat III, on 2016, our organization proposed to UN-Habitat to integrate the City Prosperity Initiative (CPI), based on data, with the evaluation of the same indicators and with the same UN-Habitat methodology based on perception of the people (CPI - Perception Index), using an online platform.

In 2017 UN-Habitat entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI), attached, to do so. An example of this fruitful cooperation is the CPI-Perception Index Report of the city of Cyberjaya, of the Great Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia.

The UN-Habitat-FIABCI MoU, using UN-Habitat CPI-PI methodology is currently being revised and implemented, as requested by UN-Habitat, with:

- profiling, a particularly useful tool for urban regeneration, presented at UN-Habitat Urban Thinkers Campus in Rome on February 4, 2020

- with the evaluation of the impact of public and/or private projects on urban sustainability.

Sustainable financing provided by governments and/or banks would enable the Real Estate sector to be a driving force in implementing the SDGs, making cities more sustainable and recovering from the COVID-19 Crisis.

92. International Trademark Association

The International Trademark Association (INTA) is dedicated to the support and advancement of trademarks and related intellectual property rights as elements of fair and effective national and international commerce. To achieve this goal, INTA's four-year Strategic Plan of 2018-2021 is to: 1) Promote the value of Trademarks and Brands, 2) Reinforce Consumer Trust, and 3) Embrace Innovation and Change.

It is with these strategic directions that we appreciate the importance of this year's theme "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". The theme underscores the importance of sustainable economic development in stepping up progress towards the SDGs. Indeed, the interplay between innovation and economic and social progress is well established and is expressly recognized in SDG 9. In this regard, a balanced intellectual property landscape will contribute to achieve the goal stated by SDG 9.

Brands in virtually every sector of the economy are protected through the trademarks they are represented by. Trademarks are more widely used than any other form of intellectual property, particularly by small and medium sized enterprises. The value of trademarks has been demonstrated through various brand rankings and in recent studies. For instance, we just released "Brand Value Special Task Force Report." This Report explores brand value, brand equity, brand valuation, and brand evaluation—concepts that are especially significant during times of economic uncertainty and changing consumer behaviour. In the same vein, INTA and the InterAmerican Association of Intellectual Property completed a study "Trademarks in Latin America: A study of their economic impact in 10 countries in the region (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, and Peru)" which showed the importance of trademark-intensive sectors on the economic activity, employment, and international trade of these countries.

"Brands for a Better Society Committee investigates how brands are contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and hence the creation of a more sustainable economy. Furthermore, it delves into brands' commitment to CSR policies and initiatives. Responding to the call of the UN Secretary-General António Guterres for an urgent and coordinated response that focuses on the health emergency, we launched INTA Community Cares: COVID-19 Donation Campaign to fund the purchase and distribution of masks and other personal protective equipment to public hospitals or non-profit organizations.

The outbreak of COVID-19 has caused counterfeiters to take advantage of innocent consumers by producing counterfeit essential items. In this connection, INTA has offered its support through information sharing and brand trainings to international authorities such as the World Customs Organization, INTERPOL, the United States Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center, as well as local law enforcement

globally. On the youth side, the Association's Unreal Campaign is ramping up our online presence and helping to educate young consumers on the dangers of counterfeit products particularly by using relevant examples related to counterfeit PPE.

Ensuring that trademarks and other related rights are properly promoted and enforced will undoubtedly fast-track the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

93. Iran Autism Association

Health and Safety in Sustainable Development

Iran Autism Association expresses concern about the current social and economic situation of the world and believes that international forums, countries, governments and all members of the international community need to have a rethink about sustainable development goals so that we can coexist with Covid-19. Recently, the phrase of Sustainable Development has been changed to True Sustainable Development and this change indicates that there may have been issues ignored in these goals and coexistence with Covid-19 indicates that the unconsidered issues are important. We believe that health and safety are the most important issues for managing the world in corona period and the world after corona. Health is a complex issue and depends on many components. Safety is one of the components of health, which requires special attention in achieving the goals of sustainable development in the field of community health.

Despite the agreement of all countries in 2015, on the principle of Leave-No-One-Behind and their commitment to achieve 17 goals of sustainable development in General Assembly's Resolution A / RES/70/1, we see that the relevant institutions and organizations do not pay enough attention to the goals of sustainable development.

There are some points which should be considered as we move on in corona period. The first point is that consumer culture should be changed in post-corona world. The next point that should be addressed is the change of social behaviours, which can eventually facilitate the achievement of sustainable development goals. The third point is change of lifestyles. In post -corona world much emphasis must be placed on the role of education and raising the awareness of people on new lifestyles. Another important issue in the post-corona world is highlighting the role and position of women and mothers in promoting health, fostering families and maintaining social health. Perhaps in the new strategy of sustainable development, the role of women and mothers will be given more attention.

People with disabilities, who have faced social challenges due to lack of awareness in society, need special attention in this crisis, and the current situation should not isolate person with disabilities more than before. Therefore, in order to provide better conditions for people with disabilities and their families, we need to educate people and promote community awareness in the current situation of the world.

94. Islamic Research and Information Artistic & Cultural Institute

On behalf of the Islamic Research and Information Artistic and Cultural Institute (IRIC), we would like to express our deep concern over the widespread challenges facing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Despite the efforts of different international forums and civil society organizations, a significant portion of the world's population continues to suffer from poverty and inequality, with serious threats to human health. Human beings are faced with the recent uncontrollable threats which are spreading, while as result of such epidemic, gender discrimination and unemployment are on the rise. Natural disasters, environmental degradation and climate change are among the biggest challenges of the current century. Terrorism, extremism, the refugee crisis, immigration and asylum seekers are on the rise. Meanwhile, the growing trend of some governments to resort to unilateralism hampers the realization of the goals of sustainable development.

Islam is a way of life. Islam is a comprehensive religion that combines the physical and spiritual dimensions of human existence. It also considers and provides a specific plan and agenda for all human needs. Therefore, on the issue of justice and sustainable development and ethics also, Islamic teachings provide practical instructions and explanations of basic concepts.

Looking at sustainable development indicators, it can be seen that sustainable development includes all the environmental, social, cultural, economic, political, educational and health aspects of life. From an Islamic point of view, justice will be established when poverty is eradicated, and distributive justice is established from the life of all human beings. In addition, protection of natural resources and the environment will bring justice for all generations. On the other hand, the movement of society in this path requires it to follow the Islamic moral principles.

That is why God identifies the indicators of proper human development and criticizes the indicators of development that do not consider this goal. According to the Qur'an, any economic development and growth does not provide prosperity, dignity and comfort to all human beings is rejected and considered unbalanced development

According to the Qur'an, any development and engagement that leads to the destruction of the environment and the destruction and corruption of the earth is an effort contrary to the goals and wisdom of creation. Islamic Research and Information Cultural and Artistic Institute (IRIC), believes that sustainable development is wholly supported as one of the teachings of the Islam which ultimately prevents man from wasting renewable resources and thus provides a balanced and justified approach to the problems and challenges facing our planet.

95. Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact

Our focus and concerns

The world is in need of global scale measures to combat climate change. There has been an increase in both local and global damages, most of which are believed to be caused by climate change. In order to prevent further damage by climate change, reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions along with adaptation are urgently needed. It is also essential to address poverty and unemployment issues at the same time.

Our Recommendations

- To strengthen transparency on climate change related data in each country is important. There are still many countries lacking the collection of valid and reliable data. Not only does it make it harder for governments to track their progress such as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, but also for them to predict damages from natural disasters. Needless to say, these lead to confusion in prioritizing and reinforcing effective measures to combat climate change. To monitor the global progress and devote resources to each measure more effectively, we must improve the current statistical systems of each country and provide support for developing countries to build their capacities. We must also guarantee that collected data is accessible and beneficial for all.
- To accelerate mitigation measures globally, we need to tackle all types and sources of greenhouse gases. In fact, reducing energy-related CO₂ emissions has been the most focused target. However, we should not forget other types and sources of emissions since one-third of all greenhouse gas emissions are composed of CO₂ from Forestry and Other Land Use, fluorocarbons, methane, and so on.
- To ensure “no one will be left behind”, we need to extend the support to strengthen adaptation measures for the vulnerable and the poor domestically and internationally. Those who are most likely to be affected by climate change are the vulnerable and the poor. We should mainstream “no one will be left behind” into adaptation policies and measures. For this, the UN financial mechanism and technology mechanisms will be useful, in addition to bilateral and private sector efforts, for spreading adaptation measures throughout vulnerable communities.

96. Jubilee Campaign

As this year's theme marks, "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development," and coincides with the Voluntary National Review of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), we would like to base our statement on our recent report on the implementation by the government of DPRK of Sustainable Development Goal 5 - specifically regarding violence against women, with a focus on the Beijing Declaration for Action, but also Sustainable Development Goal 2.

Trafficking in women and girls

The Korean Future Initiative report reveals that a large portion of North Korean women who are sold into sex work or forced marriages in the Democratic Republic of China and other nations are often approached and recruited in their home country, while the DPRK categorically denies that trafficking takes place today. In addition, survivors of trafficking who are forcibly repatriated risk torture and certain detention.

Violence and mistreatment of repatriated North Korean women

The Committee for Human Rights in North Korea published a comprehensive report, which drew from first-hand testimonies, it reported a disproportionate number of women who face repression, especially those who cross the border irregularly and are forcibly repatriated. At one detention center, repatriated women represented 80% of the population and all faced some level of torture.

Malnutrition and hunger among women and children

At the same time hunger is a real issue in the DPR Korea which causes many of the women and children to flee. UNICEF recently reported malnutrition among children and women a nationwide problem, "Young children and pregnant or lactating women suffer from chronic malnutrition." They found over 30% of children aged 6-23 months do not receive the minimum acceptable diet.

While we welcome the engagement of the DPR Korea in joining the Voluntary National Review, it is essential that DPRK acknowledges and genuinely addresses the above mentioned and ongoing challenges, without it the process of review is meaningless.

We therefore urge the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, in order to accelerate action and ensure the development of its countries and citizens, to:

- Allow UN bodies into the country to monitor the situation and grant them unrestricted access.

- Allow for freedom of expression and religion, and media freedoms. An open society allows for greater transparency which results in greater accountability, and in turn, accelerated action.

We urge the international community to:

- Realize the role of fundamental freedoms in tackling and realizing the Sustainable Development Goals and to encourage Member States to include civil society in the solution.

97. Karlen Communications

COVID-19 has revealed the vast extent of inequity for those of us with disabilities in accessing digital content in general and in online education specifically. While access to broadband and inexpensive data plans affect everyone living in areas lacking this infrastructure, those with disabilities, often living at or below the poverty level, are also severely impacted by the lack of accessible learning material in online learning ecosystems. Although we, as a global community have known about this inequity and have held conferences on inclusive education, we were not prepared for a pandemic to provide the immediate revelation of just how much digital ecosystems and content is not accessible to students, parents and teachers with disabilities. There has been no leadership or mandate toward digital accessibility in the global community.

For the past 20 years, Karlen Communications has worked to consult, train and advocate for digital accessibility in education, employment, social, religious and civic participation. We continue to advocate for inclusive design of all digital content and environments, however, with the prospect of COVID-19, or another pandemic on the horizon forcing us to only have access to online learning, we need to accelerate goal 4.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals through the following recommendations:

First, we, as a global community need to clearly define what we mean by inclusive education. While “accommodation for” those with disabilities will always be a part of any learning ecosystem, it should not be the only solution for those with disabilities in primary, secondary, or tertiary education. Within digital learning environments we have control over how inclusive the learning experience is. We need to codify this into a global inclusive education standard based on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Secondly, any funding for any education or learning project must include either/both an accessible digital content mandate and/or the immersive inclusion of students and teachers with disabilities. We, as a global community providing leadership in achieving goal 4.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals must ensure that any learning environment is optimally accessible for those with disabilities.

Thirdly, we must create the supports in terms of training and accessible resources to ensure that learning material is accessible to students, parents, and teachers with disabilities. Students who first put hands on a computer/digital device should create inherently accessible environments and content.

Fourthly, the United Nations as a whole, as the creator and guardian of the CRPD must provide a leadership role in digital accessibility. Any publication produced by any United Nations department, Non-Governmental Organization, Disabled Persons Organization or partner organization must begin hiring staff with experience in accessible document design, training existing staff on accessible document design and

working with remediation services to prioritize digital content that to date has not been accessible to those with disabilities.

Education is the building block for making significant progress toward the first 5 goals of the Sustainable Development Goals. We, as those who have chosen a global leadership role must make the right real.

98. Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust

Solutions in this submission are seen through the eyes of Kaurareg first nation peoples. They are alternatives for accelerated actions and transformative pathways to deliver development in these testing times of SARS-CoV-2 global pandemic. Overwhelmed by viral-load pressures, Nation States are reinforcing economies and protecting borders; international systems and institutions upholding globalization are collapsing as structural deficiencies are exposed; recycled liberal-democratic models offered as solutions to meet developmental needs continue to recycle failures; and international aid agencies continue displacing national and local aid agencies while global South populations most in need of developmental-aid continue to be overlooked.

It is time to consider radical solutions as real alternatives for survival in this emerging new world.

In Kaurareg's view, if statecraft-practices of integration manoeuvre first nation peoples to engage accordingly, effectively distracting them from exercising their inalienable right to self-determine the legitimate form of self-government they aspire to, such statecraft-practices will inevitably fail. In Kaurareg's case, if we cannot legitimately choose free association overseen by United Nations specialized agencies, then based on past statecraft-practice we can reasonably conclude Australia will continue recycling its integration programs to manoeuvre Kaurareg into no-through-pathways. Kaurareg is no longer confident that Australia has the capacity and the political will to legitimately decolonize its colonized and dependent peoples.

For millennia before the immoral Doctrine of Discovery was approved to claim distant lands, native peoples lived in tribal territories recognized and respected by neighbouring tribes. In those times, everyday practice of cultural diplomacy, rule-of-lore, customs and traditions, governed strategic sharing of tribal resources. In Kaurareg's case, we were renowned traders, directing trade-traffic through our territory between Australia, Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia, and South-East Asia. Kaurareg's trade routes, its exchanges and activities, thrived in marketplaces throughout these regions. Despite those everyday practices, today they are arrested developments.

Supporting Kaurareg's belief for radical solutions, the benefits of Industry 3.0 and 4.0 technologies consistently bypass global South populations because self-determination infrastructure is absent. Instead, the global South experience sees developmental aid offered by the right-hand while tribal lands and seas with valuable resources are taken by the left hand, leaving recompense exchange rates measured by tribal-conflict and hazardous waste-land legacies. In this light, since 2015 Kaurareg has searched for developmental pathways mutually beneficial to all parties but has consistently encountered diversions and roadblocks. These obstructions are violations of our inalienable right to self-determine our future.

If sustainable development goals are to succeed, tribal peoples must direct the flow of skills-transfer to tribal nations; native trade routes activities and exchanges must be modernized; legitimate tribal self-government having sustainable elements of constitutional lore-and-law must be embedded within Nation State's constitutional systems; and native peoples must be free to exercise tribal diplomacy with comparable equivalence to statecraft-practice. If the objectives of accelerated action and transformative pathways for development in this decade are to be realized, Nation State legislatures, administrations, and judiciaries, must uphold the inalienable rights of their colonized and dependent populations to self-determination, and native trade must be formalized into national and international marketplaces.

99. Keystone Human Services International

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) call for a more inclusive world. By specifically asserting the need to include people with disabilities, the SDGs require the international community's approach to development to be linked directly to disability rights. We cannot meet the Goals successfully without fully embracing and operationalizing the idea of 'no one left behind'.

Nevertheless, some deeply marginalized groups continue to be left out of efforts to fully implement the SDGs. Keystone Human Services is an INGO that works in Moldova, India, and the United States. Our work is focused on the goal of dismantling institutions and building inclusive communities with and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and people who have lived experience of mental ill health. Through this work, we see time and again that there are groups of people being systematically ignored in the struggle for voice, space, and place in society. The Goals cannot be met without directly addressing this issue. Inclusion must become more than an ideal, it must be a course of action.

Despite the widespread ratification of the CRPD which calls for individual rights and the end of large congregate settings, institutions continue to exist throughout the world. Residents are subjected to neglect, inhumane conditions, and abuse, with little respect for their dignity and rights. This is just one example of how devaluation is compounded by segregation.

Over the last several months, the pandemic has brought to light some of the true costs of this type of systemic discrimination. People living in institutions and nursing homes represent a disproportionate number of fatalities from COVID-19. Support staff have not been able or available to care for residents, hygiene protocol was not communicated in accessible ways, testing was lacking, and medical care was not available/accessible. In emergencies, people are also at risk of being institutionalized as rates of poverty increase, family members become ill, and schools close.

As we have seen in our work, establishing sustainable, inclusive community-based services, including community homes, mainstreaming disability in policy frameworks, and creating platforms for self-advocacy, can lead to the successful inclusion of people with disabilities. It is these types of transformations, from isolation and marginalization to inclusion and self-determination, that are at the very foundation of the SDGs. These are examples of ideals being actualized, the types of transformative pathways that will make meeting the SDGs possible. Only when everyone has the opportunity to reach their full potential does our society have the chance to function at its best.

As long as systems exist to isolate and exclude, the people within those systems will be vulnerable not only on a day to day basis, but increasingly so in the face of emergencies and crisis situations. If not addressed, the current situation will continue to

repeat itself, not only in future pandemics, but also in natural disasters. This moment poses a major lesson to the world; social inclusion matters. Deliberately transforming our societies and systems to be inclusive of everyone is inseparable from actualizing the SDGs.

100. Knowledge for Development Without Borders (KFDWB)

Putting skills and knowledge for development at the core of the implementation of UN SDGs & Agenda 2030 worldwide

Knowledge For Development Without Borders (KFDWB) is a young non-governmental organization based in Vienna, Austria. Our vision is to empower local citizens to know, understand, secure and enforce their roles, responsibilities, and engagements in the success of the SDGs in order to reach a better world – a world of economic and social justice.

Besides KFDWBs primary objective of promoting the implementation of the SDGs, KFDWB acts also as a platform that provides people with the relevant knowledge and (business) skills to alleviate global challenges at the local level. KFDWB motivates, empowers, and engages people to become part of the implementation of the SDGs process worldwide and to assume active roles in shaping their communities and societies, thus literally becoming development agents in their own local environments.

We are focusing on a proactive and inclusive approach to develop digital competences that could help to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs. We think that if the digitalization is used correctly and by making its resources available to all users, it can be transformed into a multiplier of the good and an enabling factor for the creation of global justice and a more sustainable world. This means including everyone in the process – from children to elderly people, independently of their cultural background. We have seen that some solutions are already available in part, but many people are not informed and struggle to insert them into an overall picture and towards a goal to sustainably change their worlds. In this sense, we believe in the enormous power of connecting people and providing them with the right tools.

The 2030 Agenda is universal, applying to all countries and actors. That is why our Pro-jek2020 Team, which is based on our common values volunteerism und teamwork, focuses on “Nachhaltige Entwicklung – Agenda 2030 / SDGs mit Schwerpunkt Digitalisierung und Jobs Skills in Österreich” and is convinced of the necessity of making its objectives palpable for all strata of society and to involve all stakeholders.

Conclusion

KFDWB recommends the promotion and encouragement of a proactive and inclusive approach: skills and knowledge for development at the core of the implementation of UN SDGs & Agenda 2030 to accelerate the achievement of the Goals worldwide.

101. Korean Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD)

Under the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire realm is facing a massive transformation. The ‘Globalization’, which has developed in 30 years, has been regressing and sustainable economic system is also in recession. In particular, approximately 100 million jobs have encountered a crisis due to the unprecedented transition of the industrial circles.

If people could not conduct the basic economic activities, the speed of the implementation of SDGs will be confronted with great challenges. Therefore, after the COVID-19 situation, it is crucial to discover best practices to lead the industrial world and develop these models to be the concrete actions for accelerating the SDGs.

In addition, Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD), which is in special consultative status with ECOSOC has produced masks for preventing infectious diseases with Ildong Pharmaceutical, a global pharmaceutical company in Korea. The masks which have been produced since 2019 are created to cope with the fine dust issue in the Northeast Asia, which has the critical air quality pollution in the world. Moreover, 70,000 people die annually due to the air pollution around the world and more than 80 percent of these occur in Northeast Asia.

Furthermore, people faced difficulties in purchasing existing masks due to the high-priced masks. However, ASD strived to produce high-quality masks, explained the masks as campaign products for implementation the SDGs¹ to people and also encouraged people to obtain the masks at an affordable price.

Ildong Pharmaceutical Group is developing sustainable medicine, medical supplies and quarantine products in the worth with \$44.26 million to assist people’s life. The main medical supply which is named ‘Aronamin’ was also introduced in the exhibition during the 2019 HLPF at the UN Headquarters.

The masks that were manufactured by ASD and Ildong Pharmaceutical could rescue people’ life by providing to 400,000 people under the COVID-19 crisis. Additionally, job opportunities could be provided to many people in the area of mask production which requires manual processing.

Above all people will have greater awareness regarding ‘Well-being’ and ‘Eco-friendly’ actions after dealing with COVID-19. We are attempting continuously to accelerate the implementation of SDGs with sustainable enterprises such as the Ildong Pharmaceutical Group and the cooperation model which is created with ASD could also play the vital role in promoting industrial circles of the world to attain the SDGs.

The roles of the government, civil society and the National Assembly are significant for the attainment of SDGs. Yet, the participation rate of private enterprises could have

more crucial influence. Various companies are playing a leading role in innovation, job opportunity and economic development in each section. The activities related to the SDGs of the Ildong Pharmaceutical Group is an exemplary case that can be implemented through participation in the SDGs field by other companies.

102. Kosar Mashiz (Hazrat Zahra) Charity

Education is one of the most transformative and sustainable long-term solutions for establishing economic growth, increasing shared prosperity, accelerating peace and social cohesion, plus preventing social harm and building resilience. Accordingly Obtaining quality education is the foundation to creating sustainable development.

To accelerate progress across the 2030 Agenda, educating childrens' needs to be placed at the core of sustainable development, driven by greater political commitment, scaled-up solutions, more resources, and societal mobilization.

Kosar Mashiz Charity suggests a few key points and pathways to accelerate the 2030 agenda:

- Prioritizing inclusion and equity in education; highlighting the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children plus promoting a culture of inclusion in and throughout education systems, to reach all learners from the early years.
- Ensuring that education policies highlights gender equality, removes all barriers to girls' completion of 12 years of free, publicly funded, compulsory quality compulsory education, and encourage their participation in all fields
- Expanding investment in early childhood care and education to counter disadvantages and set the foundations for successful learning in school.
- Acknowledging talents of individuals (especially vulnerable children) plus providing opportunities to grow their skills and talents.
- Scale up investment in teachers through better training, professional development and decent working conditions, improved social and health care support, as well as the development of teacher communities.

Kosar Mashiz Charity foresees that these major pathways would be efficient and effective in accelerating the process; we must push ourselves to strategically, intelligently and efficiently balance at global level and in universal justice the synchronization with all the people of the world and their activities and representations, so that relative peace and equity could flourish.

103. Krityanand UNESCO Club Jamshedpur

The Krityanand UNESCO Club, Jamshedpur has been dedicated for the past 10 years to the promotion of the work of sustainable development. We urge the international community not to forget the concept of sustainable development functions. Centrality of the question that is key to bringing needs more actions for achieving the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. There is visibly a lack of energy, inspiration and political will as well as the communities, industries ignorance. While further in-depth reforms are necessary, they would be difficult to realise in the current political context. Improvements to working methods and practices, however, are within the realm of the possible.

We would like to draw your attention that more accelerated action and transformative pathways are needed. The 2015 Report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) confirmed that they contributed to reducing poverty, empowering women and girls and improving health and well-being. However, in many countries economic growth was not sufficiently inclusive or equitable to reach the poorest. Conflicts, environmental threats remain the biggest threat to human development.

Therefore, in view of the time pressures, good preparatory and follow-up processes are essential. The 2030 Agenda already provides for the sensible use of existing review procedures. This needs to be addressed in order for sustainable development to be realised and to help these communities escape deprivation and poverty.

We need to determine and mobilize the means required to implement this agenda through a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular, on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people. The inter linkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals are of crucial importance in ensuring that the purpose of the new agenda is realised. If we realize our ambitions across the full extent of the agenda, the lives of all will be profoundly improved and our world will be transformed for the better.

104. Kuentai-USA, Kuentai Non-Profit Organization

Recovery of the bodies from the World War II and return them to their home

Kuentai-NPO, based in Japan, and Kuentai-USA, based in USA, are two sister organizations which search and repatriate the remains of the Japanese and American war dead who perished in the Second World War (WWII) in the Pacific Theatres. By working closely together, we are collaboratively searching for the remains of war dead from both countries that are still left behind in the same battlefields.

Overview of the issue

One of the largest wars in the human history which caused numerous deaths all over the world is probably the WWII. Although there has been over 70 years since the end of war, it is sad to say that many countries have not completed to clean-up their mess, which is the recovery of the remains of their own warriors and unarmed civilians and give them the proper final burial.

In the Pacific islands today, although there are governmental agencies that are responsible for searching and collecting the remains of their servicemen and civilians, it is estimated that about 1,200,000 Japanese and 48,000 American servicemen and have not been returned home yet. We think that leaving the war dead behind will not create ultimate peace in the world and believe that the war dead should have a right to be repatriated with a highest respect.

It might sound that our claim does not really relate to the agenda of the “2020 ECOSOC High Level Segment”. However, we think that it is very relevant, and this issue must be solved in order for human beings to achieve the sustainable development.

Sustainable development requires people to have a sound mind to think, judge and act right. Who would think that it is right to leave behind those who paid the ultimate sacrifice at the war and to forget about their missing bodies dumped like garbage in the caves? We strongly believe that if their future warriors and unarmed nationals know that their government will not search for them even if they sacrifice their lives for their country, people would not let the government to mobilize the armed force.

A way forward

If this idea spreads from the Pacific to other parts of the world, and citizens bear the responsibility to watch their government, we believe that the war will no longer be a way of solving issues between countries in the politics. Then the people could finally start to discuss how to achieve sustainable development. So, through this mission, we aim to advocate creation of a law at the international level to ban the countries from

entering of new conflict before cleaning up the mess, which is the dead bodies and remains of the national heroes.

105. Lasses Education & Healthcare Initiative

Lasses Education and Healthcare Initiative (LEHI) wishes to suggest the following on SDG implementation:

- Online communication platforms should be encouraged and made effective;
- Online fundraising events should be considered and pursued;
- Partnership with the IT sector and professionals should be encouraged;
- Appeals should be made to corporations in nations to increase the impact of their CSR to alleviate the post COVID-19 plight of disadvantaged people;
- Appeals should be made to Governments and Government agencies to reduce taxes and other charges till economy is stabilized.

106. Law Council of Australia

The Law Council of Australia strongly supports ECOSOC's work in leading global solutions which advance sustainable development across multiple economic, social and environmental dimensions under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Goal 16 is of fundamental importance to the Law Council, particularly 16.3 concerning the promotion of the rule of law and equal access to justice. While the Organisation for Economic Co-operation has affirmed that there are intrinsic links between access to justice, poverty reduction and inclusive growth, this issue commonly attracts little global or domestic policy attention.

In 2020, the Law Council is building on its Justice Project, regarding the access to justice barriers experienced by diverse vulnerable groups, with detailed policy work on how the legal profession can better serve the justice needs of the 'missing middle', or ordinary people who cannot afford legal help. We are concerned that many rural, regional and remote individuals continue to miss out on vital services, as increasing challenges such as droughts, bushfires and COVID-19 undermine their livelihoods. A further gap involves the failure to appropriately resource institutions which maintain the rule of law, such as judicial systems in Australia.

Recognising that addressing access to justice inequalities is a globally shared challenge, the Law Council hopes that the findings and recommendations contained in its above work could be useful for other countries in realising Goal 16.3 and guide similar research internationally.

In 2019, the Law Council released its Sustainable Development Policy, which articulates nine key sustainable development principles to inform government, corporate and civil society decision-making on significant matters of law and policy, particularly regarding environmental impacts. The Policy has recently underpinned the Law Council's response to Australia's review of its flagship environmental legislation. The Policy draws on the SDGs and is highly relevant to their realisation, including Goals 6, 11, 13, 14 and 15 regarding water, sustainable communities and cities, health, life on land and climate action.

For the SDGs' benefits to be realised equitably, legal frameworks must be in place which uphold individuals' ability to uphold their rights in practice, including the economic, social and cultural rights underpinning the SDG framework. In 2020, the Law Council is renewing its calls for a federal charter of human rights, which remains a major gap in Australia's statutory framework and in light of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and broader long-term threats to sustainable development, is needed more than ever.

107. Lazarus Union

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) - Which Future Do We Want?

The new coronavirus sets the world on alert. The number of infections is rising exponentially in many countries. The isolating, sealing off measures of many countries have massive effects on almost all economic and social areas. They are accompanied by a growing feeling of insecurity among the population. The hardly manageable effects of the pandemic dominate the discussion. However, the (COVID-19) crisis should also be seen as an opportunity.

Impact on the United Nations

In the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the international community has also explicitly committed itself to combating infectious diseases such as AIDS and malaria. However, the goal of eliminating these by 2030 seems a long way off. In recent years, 770,000 of the 38 million people infected with HIV died each year (2018). Of 219 million people infected with malaria (2017), 435,000 died, mostly in Africa. The corresponding figures for the new coronavirus, on the other hand, do not seem very dramatic at first.

The fact that the pandemic is nevertheless attracting unprecedented attention is due to the particular social and political perception of the threat: COVID-19 is new to humans, transmission from person to person is very rapid, the spread and course of the disease is difficult to predict, it is unfolding in an out-break-like manner in Europe as well and is overstretching even our health systems. In contrast to known, more predictable infectious diseases, which develop over long periods of time and at great geographical distances, the discourse on the Corona virus therefore also touches on national security in this country. It is precisely this form of social processing that can now be a catalyst for necessary reforms.

In the past, health crises with enormous pressure to act have been accelerators of innovation and structural change, as the examples of Pest (trigger of the first international cooperation in the health sector) or SARS (reform of infectious disease control) show. In times of nationalistic tendencies, the course must now be set in favour of stable structures for international cooperation. The Lazarus Union values the United Nation's SDGs as a good framework, which should be at the top of the long-term political, social and economic agenda. Dealing with COVID-19 can also speed up efforts to tackle some of these long-term problems. The Lazarus Union recognizes a particular impact on five UN targets in particular.

SDG # 3: Health and Well-Being

Before the pandemic crisis came, the health care system in many countries was already operating at almost full capacity, both in terms of infrastructure and personnel.

However, broad access to health care has never been more important than it is today. Public and private spending must help to rebuild capacity and adapt it to current demographic conditions. This could support companies operating in the health sector, such as manufacturers of medical equipment, diagnostics, health insurance companies and others.

SDG #. 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Today more than ever, the Lazarus Union is aware of the importance of social safety nets and emergency liquidity measures for companies. By supporting them, we protect future economic growth.

SDG #. 9: Industrial Innovation and Infrastructure

The last few weeks have changed the way many of us work, shop and communicate. The role of technology and infrastructure has been crucial in how we have dealt with the virus. The ability to communicate and coordinate policies, the ability to work from home and provide vital goods and services, and the ability to shift economic activity from disused areas to those that need additional resources - all these are areas that we probably could not have handled in the same way ten years ago.

These developments are a sign of very rapid change. It will boost Internet use and the need for fast and efficient networks (such as 5G).

SDG #. 15: Living in the Countryside

At present, there is no certainty about how exactly COVID-19 is transmitted from animals to humans. However, the destruction of natural ecosystems and the associated challenges for bio-logical diversity may have played an important role. Maintaining the delicate balance between humans and nature will continue to play a key role in protecting society from further pandemics in the coming years. The Lazarus Union expects that public and private institutions will step up their efforts in this area.

SDG # 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The current situation also reminds us of the important role of institutions in our society. From caring for our health to facilitating economic recovery. While the recent rise of populism has called into question the role of our institutions, the levels of intervention, coordination and cooperation required today remind us of their importance. It will also be interesting to see what impact this historic moment will have on the European Union. Will Europe grow even closer together in the face of such a major test or will the COVID-19 mark the end of the Union?

Increased volatility naturally leads us to think in the short term. Yet there is scope for the assumption that some of the challenges we face today may well trigger a shift towards longer-term objectives. From a Lazarus Unions perspective, current

developments provide a framework for identifying future investment opportunities while making our society and economy more resilient.

Global Challenges: The World after COVID-19

One thing is already certain: even after corona, there will be winners and losers. Once the pandemic is over, inequality will have increased in most countries because of the economic consequences. Employees in poorly paid service jobs and the self-employed will be particularly hard hit. Even if all countries now provide dizzyingly high sums of money, in many places it will not be enough to absorb all these people. Jobs will be lost. Moreover, many countries already have high levels of debt in relation to their economic performance; their scope for action is not infinite. The COVID-19 crisis raises awareness of the fragility of our world and society.

Many questions of value are likely to be asked anew: Which industries are vital? Which values are being revalued and how? It is often said and heard that nothing will be the same after the crisis. However, such far-reaching theses have mostly turned out to be wrong in the past.

For the Lazarus Union the main question is: which future do we want? As difficult as it is to establish a basis for discussion in such a situation, the Lazarus Union encourages consideration of the following issues:

The true performers

These days there is a lot of talk about systemically important professions and critical infrastructure. These include not only doctors and nurses, garbage collectors and postal workers, but also bus drivers, cashiers and social and nursing workers - in other words, mainly professions that are carried out by women. There is little to be heard - and little to be expected - from those who are commonly referred to as "top performers", in other words CEOs and managers. For the Lazarus Union the question remains as to why the latter, of all people, earn a dozen times more income than the former. In addition, it is precisely the lower income groups that are most affected by the pandemic.

The perplexity of the populists

COVID-19 is the nightmare of many populist demagogues. Complex problems that cannot be solved with supposedly simple solutions reveal how little constructive contributions such actors make to public life. A virus cannot be stopped by pointing the finger at others. A virus can-not be stopped by a wall.

The question of necessity

For the first time since the end of the Second World War, the focus is not on the question of possibility, but on necessity. Despite numerous positive examples that show

how a society can move closer together in such a crisis, we are obviously finding this difficult in our individualised society. After all, it has become a way of life to constantly demand more and to claim to get what is de-manded. Every restriction is an imposition. This can be seen from reports of people who steal face masks, rip disinfectant from dispensers, or buy eight packs of toilet paper as a precaution. To stand together as a society, to act in solidarity, the common good as the norm - all this does not fit into a society in which its members see themselves primarily as individuals and are educated from childhood to strive for the best, i.e. the most for themselves.

The fragility of our prosperity

The experience of standing in front of empty supermarket shelves is a deeply disturbing one because hardly any of us have ever had this experience. Shelves filled to overflowing with eight different types of pasta - each of them organic, vegan, fair trade, gluten-free and locally produced - are actually a matter of course. Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 crisis, we have become aware that our prosperity is based on global value chains - and that what we find on the shelves every day just like that is also produced somewhere, by someone, in very specific places, by very specific people.

The consequences of globalisation

It is not only the direct consequences of globalisation - in the form of pollutant emissions - that are affecting our environment. The massive extinction of species over the past decades, destroyed ecosystems, monocultures, industrial meat production and the overexploitation of nature are all factors that massively promote the spread of a virus. This is also the reason why such pandemics have been increasing recently. The Lazarus Union encourages to ask ourselves to what extent the positive effects of globalisation actually outweigh the negative ones.

The things you can do when you have to

Always the same argument when people are in need, when schools, hospitals, roads, pension and social systems suffer from chronic underfunding of public services, or when it is a matter of dealing with the ecological crisis: more spending would put too much strain on "the economy" or "the markets". The so-called debt brake or the EU budget rules stipulate in law that a state should not spend more than it earns. But there is apparently another way: within a very short space of time, the EU and its member states not only put together loan packages worth billions, but nationalizations are even being discussed at present.

The Crisis as an opportunity

The COVID-19 crisis is the most massive disruption of public life in recent decades. Despite all the challenges that the pandemic brings with it, it also offers an opportunity: to reflect on whether the way we currently live together is really the best of all conceivable ways. Whether people really get the income they deserve. Whether an always-more is really the key to happiness. Whether the well-being of the markets really does weigh more than that of individual people. And whether we are all really better off when each and every one of us looks only to himself. If we recognize how important each of us is in his or her own place and we maintain this great appreciation for our counterpart, then we have really learned something new. When appreciation and respect are more strongly introduced into our society again, then many hate preachers in the net or wherever his foundations are taken away. Discrimination, exclusion and racism will then perhaps no longer find any resonance. We now have the chance to perceive again what is really important for our living together.

The Lazarus Union encourages that we do not emerge traumatised from this crisis, but with changed values and an appreciation of the essential foundations of a functioning society.

108. Leadership Initiative for Transformation & Empowerment

Creating a safe space for peace and development: a panacea for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria

Ordinarily, the Niger Delta with its rich endowments of oil and gas resources should be a gigantic economic reservoir of national and international importance but that is never the case. In reality, the Niger Delta is suffering from administrative neglect, crumbling social infrastructure and services, high unemployment, social deprivation, abject poverty, filth and squalor, and endemic conflict. (UNDP Niger Delta Human Development Report 2006)

The objective of this statement is to bring to light issues working against the achievement of the sustainable development goals in the Niger Delta region and make recommendations towards ameliorating the issues. This will go a long way in contributing to the achievement of the theme of the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level Segment which is “Accelerated Action and transformative pathways: realising the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”

Overview of the issue as it relates to the work of the NGO

The organisation has built strong ties with communities in the Niger Delta through the implementation of various programmes that contribute to accelerated action in the realisation of various sustainable development goals;

- Livelihood programmes geared towards ending poverty, hunger, promote well-being for all at all ages;
- Adult education, research and assessment report publications geared towards ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all; the organisation have published Citizen Report Cards funded by EU-Inside in 2010, Oxfam Novib in 2012;
- Gender mainstreaming in all our programmes;
- Implementation of water, sanitation and hygiene projects;
- Promotion of peaceful coexistence in the society by organising pieces of training on conflict management and advocacy engagement;
- Engagement with the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights initiative through awareness creation on the rights of all persons, training of security personnel on the need to respect the fundamental rights of all persons in the course of their duty;

Recommendations

- Implementation should be all-inclusive (leave no one behind)
- Promote peace as the foundation for the development
- Ensure sustainable reliable funding for implementation of the SDGs even in crisis situation
- Design local governance in compliance with the SDGs
- Promote environmental sustainability to preserve the means of people's sustainable livelihoods.
- Build sustainable partnerships for the advancement of human development.

109. Legion of Good Will

We, from the Legião da Boa Vontade / Legion of Good Will, submit our recommendations to the 2020 ECOSOC High-Level Segment, under the theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.” These proposals are based on the extensive work we have undertaken in the areas of education and social assistance for 70 years by means of a network that operates 95 units in seven countries. In 2020 alone, we provided 15,6 million services and benefits to people living in poverty in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States, and Uruguay.

Our recommendations will be presented in two main topics: immediate humanitarian response to Covid-19 and the strengthening of the 2030 Agenda after the pandemic.

1- Expand humanitarian aid networks for underprivileged communities during social distancing

In order to assist struggling communities during these challenging times due to the new coronavirus outbreak, we have mobilized our network of supporters to distribute non-perishable food baskets and hygiene/cleaning supplies in all countries where we are located.

Following the public authorities’ guidelines to contain the spread of Covid-19, millions of families were forced out of their jobs and daily activities to comply with social distancing. Without work and school, many of these families lost their income, and therefore, struggle to buy food.

In all of our 95 units, we observed that the need for our emergency and humanitarian services grew rapidly, which prompted us to activate our SOS Disaster Relief campaign on an international scale to support thousands of the most vulnerable families in this phase of seclusion, including homeless people and residents in slums, tenements, and settlements.

In order to be able to expand our support capacity, it was necessary to increase health safety measures and training staff and volunteers; expand our network of supporters, including individuals and corporations; and strengthen our logistics operation, transportation, and distribution of goods.

One of the highlights was the engagement of digital influencers, including music, TV, and sports celebrities, who used their online platforms to strengthen our campaigns.

Until the closing of this statement (April 27th, 2020), more than 115 tons of food had been distributed to families in situations of extreme social vulnerability.

In view of the growing need for emergency relief, the LGW recommends that governments, international agencies, and the private sector expand their platforms of multi-stakeholder cooperation with civil society. With unity, innovation, and solidarity, we become stronger and more effective in alleviating the suffering of human lives in this alarming world scenario.

2- Strengthen the 2030 Agenda for post-pandemic world

The second topic of our recommendations is the strengthening of the 2030 Agenda after the unprecedented crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to the immediate access to basic services, we believe that education plays a prominent role in helping our communities adapt to a new global scenario. The Pedagogy of Affection (for children up to 10 years old) and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy (for those who are 11 and over) provide our educators with the tools needed to empower students in such a way that they can face the challenging current reality.

This educational proposal was devised by educator José dePaiva Netto, President of the Organization. It promotes the complete development of individuals, combining “Brain and Heart;” in other words, guaranteeing that learning not only considers reasoning, but also takes into account the feelings and emotions of the students, by integrating cognitive aspects and values of Ecumenical Spirituality. People need to understand and manage their emotions, especially during times of crisis. That is why resilience, which is essential to deal with pressure, is developed in our schools, shelters for the elderly, and social service centers.

The book *A esperança não morre nunca* [Hope Never Dies] (2020), written by José de Paiva Netto, contains excerpts from impromptu speeches delivered by him since the 1980s, which express the principles of our educational proposal and social actions. Among them, we highlight one that addresses the incentive to seek solutions to the world’s challenges.

“Do Not Fear the Crisis. It Will Pass, but You Will Remain.”

“In the current days, we are always facing insurmountable difficulties that challenge us along the way. Let us look at this example: when a financial crisis arises, attention is given to its consequences. Politicians, economists, businesspeople, analysts, and workers, whether against or in favor, express their opinions on the measures needed to reduce or boost consumption, or any other issue, thereby avoiding, as they expect, greater social upheaval in countries. But despite all the concern, let us learn how to use this moment to achieve balance, without which it will be difficult for us to triumph.

“What is a crisis if not an opportunity disguised as misfortune? As I have been saying for decades, obstacles are prizes to our intelligence given to us by God, serving as an encouragement for all of those who do not give up on the accomplishments that have been justifying their existences and giving purpose to their lives. It is when one can best develop their talents. Every difficulty bears within itself a solution, as taught by the ancient and experienced Eastern culture. Complaining builds nothing. We must fight against discouragement without deceiving the masses. If desolate, people and nations either fall as easy prey or rise in insurrection.

“I usually say that it is in times of crisis that great characters are forged and the most powerful nations arise.”

The Wisdom of Confucius

Dreaming is necessary, fighting for a more decent world is needed. *Pari passu*, it is also required to keep both feet on the ground, that is, to be aware that the desired changes do not occur without real efforts.

Let us meditate on the words of wisdom by Confucius (551-479 B.C.), from *The Doctrine of the Mean*: ‘Success depends upon previous preparation, and without such preparation there is sure to be failure. . . . If we know our duties beforehand, it will be easy for us to fulfil them. . . . If we determine our standard of conduct in this life sufficiently in advance, at no time will our spirit be assailed by restlessness.’

This is pure planning and effective action. As a matter of fact, the philosophy of the respected Chinese master is considered one of the foundations of the notable impulse that gave rise to the ‘Asian Tigers,’ also shaken by this global tension. When notable world economies meet—naturally driven by the survival instinct—in search of beneficial mechanisms to face the crisis, it is essential that reason be permeated by the spirit of solidarity (still rare among international relations). The heart is more willing to listen when Fraternity is the basis of dialogue. The nations shall understand someday that without Fraternal Love, or whichever name given by a technical language, they shall have to go through the greatest afflictions prophesied by Jesus in chapter 24 of His Gospel according to Matthew, especially in verse 21: ‘For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now, and never to be equalled again.’

Furthermore, Life is about being constantly accountable to the court of conscience, from which no one can ever escape, even if he or she does not reveal it. It needs to be stressed that, along with God’s Love, there is also Heavenly Justice. Supreme redemption demands corresponding attitudes from those creatures who are reinvigorated by Divine Love. Otherwise, impunity would be glorified.

Willingness

Strong willingness is the appropriate answer to any crisis. . . . Let us not forget that—when we remain in God—even adversity presents itself as the most propitious moment to create.

Some people spend years expecting the worst to happen. That alone is a good reason to fall sick. Why not hope for the best and work to make it happen? Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) calls our attention to a most exuberant truth: 'How much pain they have cost us, the evils which have never happened!' And there is still that Russian proverb that advises: 'Pray to God but continue to row to the shore.'

We express our solidarity and appreciation to everyone—governments, international agencies, private sector, civil society organizations, universities, and individuals—who diligently work to get us through this crisis, through resilience and perseverance. We will certainly come out stronger and more productive to work for a just, solidary, and sustainable world for all.

110. Majlis Kanser Nasional

Towards Bridging the Gap of Cancer Disparities and Inequalities in Malaysia

As the world adopted the ambitious, people-and-planet centered 2030 agenda, reducing inequalities across social, economic and environmental realms has become an overarching theme of the SDGs. While doing so, NCDs have become one of the main challenges to sustainable development. Indeed, at least 20% of global deaths are caused by cancer, with 70% thereof being registered in developing countries. However, cancer disparities within the latter are very prominent, as people with lower socio-economic status have higher cancer death rates.

Indeed, cancer affects all social groups in Malaysia, which is home to our organization Majlis Kanser Nasional-MAKNA. Nevertheless, certain groups live through the burden of cancer more than others. These groups, known as the Bottom 40%(or B40), comprise the most socio-economically challenged portion of the population. These disparities are mainly triggered by poverty and inequalities in access to prevention, early detection and treatment facilities between different social groups.

The aforementioned still prevailing issues are the reason our organization came to exist in 1994. We, at MAKNA firmly believe that healthcare and treatment are fundamental human rights. With our work, we strive to bridge inequality gaps in access to cancer prevention, detection and treatment for the B40.

In fact, as substantial body of evidence demonstrates a greater risk for advanced stage breast cancer, subsequently worse survival rates within the poorest communities in Malaysia (with about 43% of newly diagnosed cases are in stages 3&4), we developed the first Digital Mobile Mammogram Unit (DMMU) in South East Asia in 2011, which is replicated by peers in the region and beyond. DMMU delivers nationwide campaigns for breast cancer screening in urban-rural and also remote areas. Our medical staff further ensures that everyone can have equal, equitable and free access to screening.

Furthermore, through our main service, the Bursary Program, we ensure uninterrupted supply of financial and medical assistance to B40-patients suffering from all cancer types, to protect them against aggravated poverty risks, which is also one of the pillars of the UHC. Indeed, donations received from the general public make real impact in the lives of the vulnerable and support our overall mission in providing all possible accessibility to necessary assistance. This is also because we believe that everyone that needs help shall be helped.

As we look forward to the decade of action, especially following the Covid-19 crisis, we recognize that people affected with cancer are among the most vulnerable, and it is our duty to reach out more to them. The spread of the virus reminded us that our commitment to help the poor, reduce inequalities, and leave no one behind is now the strongest and most crucial. While doing so, we keep on putting efforts to achieving SDGs 1,3,10 and 17, with the support of our donors, staff, volunteers, as well as local and international partners, in the hope that the global SDG community, from all sectors would give more support and attention to the cancer cause.

111. Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences

KISS and Corona Governance – a blueprint for SDGs in times of Covid-19

Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences is an enabler and accelerator for SDGs. As suggested by the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on SDGs, KISS emphasizes on approaches and policies at the necessary scale and speed to accelerate progress towards the realization of 2030 Agenda and bring the most transformative changes in development pathways.

KISS is actively involved in realizing the 2030 Agenda during this time of crisis in the following ways :

- Leaving No one Behind–KISS is providing relief material and other necessities to homeless, stranded migrants, slum dwellers, daily wagers, transgenders, beggars, and animals on street, front line workers and other vulnerable people. It is putting forth to the Government needs of the poor and indigenous communities.
- Mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing– Reaching out to Good Samaritans, corporate houses, national and international organizations, KISS has diversified its work and mobilised financial and human resources for relief to the needy, distribution of hygiene products to women and girls, IEC material for wider dissemination (including in local and tribal languages) and setting up quarantine facilities and dedicated COVID-19 hospitals by utilizing the existing infrastructure facilities. In partnership with Government, needs and requirements of people is being identified and feedback loop to government for action has been established.
- Strengthening institutions for integrated solutions and effective implementation - KISS is working with the state Government and local self-government institutions (urban and rural) to find solutions for the present crisis. Apart from enabling the state government to utilize our existing infrastructure, KISS has bolstered local action by utilizing its staff and students as a volunteer force across Odisha. In this process, strong communication packages are being implemented to reach the most vulnerable and marginalized.
- Harnessing science, technology and innovation for achieving sustainable development–The science and technology hub is devising innovative and sustainable solutions and influencing government strategies. Our research partnerships with Universities of Cambridge and East Anglia are now focused on food futures– by using volunteers and IVRS platform for benefit of indigenous communities.

The way forward is to a) deepen and broaden work in all above areas with greater emphasis on public-private-community partnerships; b) collaborate more to raise

resources and awareness, c) adopt new technologies to understand the needs of people and communities and produce solutions to Build Back Better!

112. Marmara Group Strategic and Social Research Foundation

Integrating of protection from Covid-19 outbreaks into sustainable development program action plans for the next 10 years

Purpose: Reconsideration and transformation of Sustainable development agenda, information, and action plans of the next decade in the direction of the Covid-19 outbreak.

Marmara Group Foundation will prioritize the efforts it will carry out in the field of environment, economy, and social, which are included in the accelerated sustainable development program action plan, to reconsider and transform the reality of Covid-19 and epidemic protection algorithms. The Covid-19 fact will lead to changes in theory and practices in the planned works of the future. From this perspective, existing work programs need to be reconsidered.

The world we live in was caught unprepared for the Covid-19 outbreak. Since there is no preventive vaccine with scientific results yet, we will try to transform our action plans to focus on digital applications instead of real applications. We have already started working to establish the necessary technological infrastructure for real meetings and informative sessions online.

Urgent action plans will be needed in all master plans and programs since the dimensions of globalization and sustainability and the economy will change after the epidemic. Therefore, new methods will be needed to make a healthy and quality life sustainable.

It is necessary to address the efforts to combat climate change together with economic and social development issues.

It is needed to determine a new road map in order to end hunger with new conditions to combat poverty and for a healthy life, with decent work, sustainable economic growth, and full and productive employment policies. Because the imbalances occurring in the economies of the countries due to the epidemic will lead to economic instability and will require the handling of trade and industry with new dimensions. New decisions and new prescriptions are needed to focus on economic growth, technological development, employment, and environmental issues, to achieve both sustainable and permanent solutions.

Within the framework of the Covid-19 outbreak in sustainable action plans, the active participation of non-governmental organizations in the decisions taken by the local and central administrations becomes more important.

Suggestion

After the Covid-19 outbreak, since nothing will be the same as before, an accelerated 10-year action plan, needs to be reconsidered once again seeing the conditions of the day. Therefore, planning tomorrow as of today is a must. We believe that it would be appropriate to make this planning in an environment that also includes civil think tanks.

113. **Mayama, Asociación Civil**

“People are the greatest asset in the fight for sustainability. Furthering human well-being and protecting the earth’s resources require expanding human capabilities so that people are empowered and equipped to bring about change” (The future is now, Sustainable Report 2019) So how can we bring change, ensure well-being of people living in poverty while expanding human capabilities to accelerate transformation processes and achieve SDGs?

Mayama is a non-profit organization based in Jalisco, Mexico and has focused its work on ensuring children and their families suffering from violence, poverty and exclusion, develop capabilities to become agents of transformative social, economic and cultural change. Our organization has aligned its work with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to contribute to its achievement and outreach at the local level. Mayama is an accredited non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council, and other national collations working in favor for children’s human rights.

Mayama urges the international community to integrate the following specific recommendations in the discussions of the HLPF 2020 Session to accelerate actions and transformative pathways on how to enhance human capabilities to deliver sustainable development goals and leave no one behind:

- Poverty eradication continues to be the greatest challenge for sustainable development. As such, the international community should be able to take action not only in terms of income, but as a systemic solution-based approach. These efforts should strongly focus around parenting capabilities to ensure children’s rights.
- Non-formal education systems provide flexible structures and empowerment to leave no one behind. Governments should provide flexible education opportunities for people in marginalized conditions. This is an excellent choice to acquire life capabilities, allowing them to achieve their own personal and professional goals in a sustainable way and to bring children back to school.
- Reframing Education Models is key to bring solutions to the 2030 Agenda in accelerated pathways and to include children and youth in this new paradigm. Ensure technology access, peace development, and new ways to learn with innovation methodologies such as Design Thinking and emotional literacy is strongly recommended.
- Furthermore, alliances with committed private sector companies that introduce circle economies in their models and non-profits become part of their value chain, are key to eradicate child labor and achieve SDGs in local based solutions.

We reaffirm our commitment to work hand in hand with the Commission for Social Development to achieve a more equal and sustainable world for children. The success will highly depend on collective partnerships and Mayama is fully committed to these purposes and objectives.

114. Migrant Offshore Aid Station Foundation (MOAS)

The Rohingya are a minority Muslim population from Rakhine State, Myanmar. Since 1982, a discriminatory citizenship law failed to recognise the Rohingya's right to citizenship making the population in Myanmar stateless. Following a brutal crackdown in Myanmar in 2017 more than 742,000 Rohingya fled their homes to Bangladesh amidst widespread reports of killings, rape, torture and horrendous abuse. The United Nations has described the situation as a 'textbook example of ethnic cleansing'. Women make up to 60% of the entire refugee community, second only to children who represent the largest percentage. Rohingya women and girls have been victims of violence, rape and trafficking and continue to suffer discrimination. Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

From 2017, when Migrant Offshore Aid Station Foundation opened two primary health centres in Bangladesh, offering emergency medical care, life-saving reproductive, maternal, neonatal and paediatric support to over 90,000 people, we understood the need to implement projects for gender equality and women's empowerment. In 2019, responding to a call from the Inter Sector Coordination Group, in recognition of the dangers related to flooding and monsoon storms in the region, we began delivering Flood and Water Safety Training. In 2019, we trained a total of 1,402 safety volunteers including female Rohingya volunteers. After fleeing violence in Myanmar many women and girls are now struggling to cope with subsequent trauma.

By participating in the training these women not only increase their skills and employability, but also become more engaged members of the humanitarian response to the situation affecting their community. In response to COVID-19 we repurposed our workshop for the production of masks. In the overcrowded Cox's Bazar district, the use of masks is imperative and we have engaged a team of women and men working both in the production hub and from home

Women's participation in society starts with equal access to education. Thousands of Rohingya children and youth are being denied access to education in the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar. In January 2020 Bangladesh confirmed it will lift restrictions on education for young Rohingya refugees aged 11-13, however it is also necessary that girls over 14 are included in these government initiatives, as an education will allow these women to gain future employment and will help reduce inequality.

115. National Association of Professional Social Workers in India

The National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) which works for societal wellbeing, reckon that the theme of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) could not have been more appropriate for the time. We already know that more than 70% of the deadly viruses since 1940s have had zoometric origin. Climate change has the potential of bringing several such scourges back to our living systems. In 2014, some scientists in lab revived a virus frozen for more than 30,000 years in Siberian permafrost and found that to be potent. By referring to this experiment, NAPSWI just want to underline the urgency to prevent run away climate change, which is the biggest impediment in achieving sustainable development. COVID-19 pandemic has given us a sense of how an emergency of global scale could look like. Not paying heed to unmistakable reports from the cutting-edge science, we cannot keep these pandemics farther. 2019 was the second warmest year on record in last 140 years. The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) tells us that given the trends, the warmest year on record, 2016 could be topped soon.

With regard to the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the progress towards achieving the goals are awfully inadequate and huge regional variations; we are also regressing on several goals important among them SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, and all SDGs related to climate change (SDG 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16). It is extremely disappointing that even developed economies which could have inspired meaningful action by providing leadership, finance and technology to emerging economies and developing countries (EMDEs) are performing equally poorly. There is no certain trend on SDG 16, which anchors human rights in the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. We earnestly request the United Nations to request developed economies to step in to address this urgent demand lest our gains on Agenda 2030 is neutralised and reverse.

We are also cognizant of the Global Sustainable Development Report 2019. While we welcome the report and appreciate critical insights to galvanize synergies and interdependence across goals, we suggest concrete action on the following:

- The United Nations urgently needs to restore global society's confidence in multilateralism, which has dangerously dwindled during this pandemic by helping developing countries.
- There is an urgent need to strengthen social protection floors, universal basic income, food security, and temporary work programmes for the poor, in the short and medium term.
- Ease customs barrier for free flow of essential goods, services and drugs, at regional levels.
- Put on hold geopolitical ambitions of the countries and invest more in human capital, enhance public health systems and access to quality health care.

- Create strong and dynamic partnership with civil society organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders, many of whom have responded to the social and national calls during this pandemic.

We, as professional social workers, believe that life will not be same ever again. We request the United Nations Secretary General to call a Global Conference to create consensus on how we move ahead on Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development post COVID-19.

116. Neighbourhood Community Network

Exploiting the neighbourhood-consciousness emerging during the COVID-19 crisis to build people-empowering structures at the base everywhere for the accelerated realization of SDGs.

In Chennai, Tamilnadu, India, a teacher won media attention amidst COVID-19 threat. She prepared an herbal concoction, based on India's ancient Siddha system of medicine, and distributed it to people. The concoction, Kapa Sura Kudineer, is an immunity-booster now approved by the government as effective against COVID-19. When asked what motivated her, she said, she was the health minister in one of the street-parliaments of about thirty families each in that area.

Having an accessible and easy-to-interact small-sized forum like this, street-parliament or neighbourhood parliament, to come together, to discuss problems and challenges, to identify solutions and make the required interventions, empowers people and entuses them to participate and make their contribution. Having a specific role of accountability as, for example, a health minister becomes an additional motivation. Being small sized they could ensure that everybody got adequate attention and scope to involve and articulate one's position.

The pandemic has made such small-sized neighbourhood-based structures almost a felt-need. People felt diffident and clueless in the absence of such forums. People wanted to help the neediest but didn't know how to identify them and locate them since everybody remained indoors due to lockdown.

The State of Kerala, India, handled this effectively. It already had 300,000 small-sized neighbourhood units that remained federated as a three-tier structure at the local governance level. These structures could ensure proper reach of not only relief and other materials, but also effective communication and surveillance.

We could also see all over the world spontaneous emergence of neighbourhood-based action groups under names like COVID-19 Mutual Aid groups.

Such neighbourhood-based units are going to be needed in post-COVID-19 phase too. The economic recession to follow will require that things, services and income-generation means are as close to one's residence as possible to cut costs involved in transportation and the like.

Our organization, Neighbourhood Community Network, promotes such neighbourhood parliaments of about thirty families and their multi-tier federations. Similarly, we have

Inclusive Neighbourhood Parliaments of Children. and their federations. Each such unit has 17 ministers to represent the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Encouraging the formation of such territorially inclusive neighbourhood-participation forums as base units of the local governance structure everywhere will ensure an effective, sustained and wide-based bottom-up acceleration towards the achievement of the SDGs.

117. New Era Educational and Charitable Support Initiative

Supporting Peacebuilding to Regional Trade Initiatives

The New Era Educational and Charitable Support Foundation (NEEDCSI) fosters leadership development that promotes pluralism and rejects corruption. The organization builds cross-cultural teams of young women and men with skills to emerge from dysfunctional families and challenging situations to become peer-leaders and agents of peace, capable of helping themselves, of shaping a positive and sustainable society that rejects violence, and who insist on communication excellence and unbridled compassion for all. Located in Jos-Nigeria, over the years NEEDCSI's area of focus has been on education and poverty-reduction through peacebuilding and livelihoods training, and the organization has been successful in helping women generate income for their families through sewing.

Typically, during violent conflicts, the response from security and humanitarian entities is either emergency assistance which is immediate, or development aid which takes a significantly longer time to realize. Too often services that are needed in between the two response options do not exist. Programming bridges are needed to sustain and promote the empowerment of the individual and community as they move from emergency crisis to long-term sustainability. NEEDCSI's Project SCARLIT, a social inclusion training designed for local CSO staff, inclusive of community-based organizations (CBOs) and local faith-based organizations (FBOs), as well its livelihoods training and support program, help to build communities in the space between emergency and development.

In addition, with the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA), it is critical that we continue to strive for policies and resources that will strengthen inclusive access to supply chains and other possible opportunities that the trade area will present for people and communities impacted by recent violence. Although the AfCFTA is not under the auspices of the United Nations, it is critical that government and inter-governmental strategies are not implemented independent of each other.

NEEDCSI's peacebuilding and livelihoods training in Plateau State has the objective of fostering sustainable development. There needs to be an effort to make a range of resources available for local NGOs throughout northern Nigeria to support peacebuilding, as well as livelihoods training and development, with the intention of creating pathways to sustainable economic development and regional trade.

118. New South Wales council for Civil Liberties

The New South Wales Council for Civil Liberties (NSWCCL) recognises that the human rights and civil liberties of all people cannot be fully realised unless, and until, the global community meets the targets set by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, we recognise that development, particularly economic, need not necessarily take place in a way that is human rights based.

In times of accelerated progress towards any goal, it is clear that states can sometimes all too quickly pursue acceleration at the expense of human rights and equality. This is not to say that acceleration is itself problematic. In line with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, acceleration of sustainable development in relation to climate change (SDGs 7, 11- 15) is vital to prevent the most catastrophic climactic changes. Climate change will only entrench vulnerability and marginalisation. We strongly endorse rapid acceleration of the response to climate change, particularly within Australia.

We emphasise the importance of attaining progress towards meeting the SDG targets in a way that centres human rights obligations at the core of development. The United Nations Human Rights Council has resolved that attainment of the SDGs and implementation of human rights obligations by states should be ‘mutually reinforcing’, and a state should implement the SDGs consistently with their pre-existing human rights obligations (A/HRC/RES/37/24). This is also recognised in SDG 10 and SDG 16.

Turning to an example from Australia, the longstanding inequality between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Australians is a deplorable stain on Australia’s history. The 2020 Closing the Gap report identifies that the child mortality rate for Indigenous Australians is slightly over double the child mortality rate for Non-Indigenous Australians. Numeracy and literacy rates for Indigenous school students are well below national standards. Whilst we acknowledge that some progress is being made, such progress is slow and does not comply with the spirit of the SDGs and should be accelerated alongside economic development.

To ensure that the crucial acceleration of progress responding to the SDG targets takes place in a way that advances human rights we call upon states to:

- Ensure that justice, integrity and accountability bodies within states are strengthened and properly resourced.
- Adopt domestic legislation which enshrines fundamental human rights and affords citizens with personal remedies to protect their rights.
- Ensure that the rights of marginalised and minority groups are given equal, if not greater, importance than the rights of others within society to remedy past injustices.

119. Observatório Nacional de Segurança Viária e Veicular

With the closure of the Decade of Action for Road Safety in 2020 and the publication of the Stockholm Declaration, the result of the 3rd Ministerial Meeting on Road Safety, promoted by the United Nations together with the World Health Organization (WHO) recently held in Sweden, where world authorities have defined that road safety should be included in the SDGs within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development it is clear to all of us that knowing the local reality of the mobility of its citizens is urgent. Only then, assertive public policies can bring more safety to all those who transit, whether for work or leisure.

Encouraging research in all aspects of mobility is urgent. Diagnostics are essential for efficient actions to apply with methodology and focus on what really matters. Among the main anxieties of public officials in large and small cities in Brazil, is the scarcity of public resources. Deciding where to apply what exists, is lonely and rarely based on diagnoses or qualified analyses.

We don't have a vast bibliography on mobility in the country or centuries-old theories. It's for this reason that the work of knowledge in this area is fundamental for the results of the adopted policies to be successful. Therefore, encouraging research and studies is one of our solutions to improve road safety.

Another convergent point in the Observatory's work is to make the business community understand that we all have responsibilities in the search for safer roads. For this reason, the Yellow May Movement was born seven years ago and today mobilizes not only in Brazil, but in more than 30 countries in awareness actions, throughout the month of May.

So that the work carried out in May does not end in its 31 days, the Yellow Ribbon Program proposes a continuous alliance on the theme in the other months of the year. For that, companies and government agencies are called to participate in the awareness work throughout the year, receiving monthly educational material to disseminate the importance of safe behaviour in traffic on all channels, such as websites and social networks.

All 12 global performance targets for road safety has already worked on in Brazil. The Observatory is dedicated to expanding their knowledge and disseminating them so that every country can do its part in search of a vision zero in traffic accidents. Only then will we achieve a 50% reduction in accidents in the next decade.

120. Organisation internationale des sciences chimiques pour le développement

Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development: Solidarity, Preparedness and Listening to the Science are Vital in the ‘Critical Decade’.

The Organisation internationale des sciences chimiques pour le développement (IOCD) urges the United Nations and member countries to draw strength from the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic and to apply the learning to the many challenges to sustainable development that the world faces.

Recommendations

- International solidarity is the key to achieving the interconnected Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and longer-term global challenges to sustainability. Both during and in the aftermath of COVID-19, Member States must provide increased political and financial support to the United Nations and its specialised agencies and make greater efforts to put global concerns ahead of national interests to ensure effective, collective action to meet these challenges. Each of these organizations need to be given the flexibility and authority to act in the collective best interests of people globally and not be hobbled by self-interests of a minority of powerful members. The build-up and maintenance of these solidarity and cooperation mechanisms must be sustained when the immediate crisis has passed, so that the world is better prepared for the next challenge, in whatever sector it originates.
- Preparedness is the best vaccine to avert disasters that are avoidable and minimise the impact of those that are not. COVID-19 has taught that, to preserve life and avoid the collapse of health systems, ‘flattening the curve’ of the pandemic is essential. It is vital that this lesson is applied to all other areas, including climate change, poverty, hunger, and shortage of clean water, to avert other looming emergencies. Advance preparation – including of policies, systems, materials and skills – is required and necessitates political commitment, financial support and positive communication to ensure societal buy-in.
- It is essential to listen to, and be led by, the science. Vital conditions for effective, science-based responses include (1) ensuring a continuously well-supported, broad base of science, technology and innovation at country level, so that expertise and capacity are on hand when emergencies arise; and (2) developing a culture of respecting and using science advice, so that both policy-makers and scientists have a habit of productive interactions and a platform of trust on which to base their engagements in both regular and emergency settings.

121. Organization for Defending Victims of Violence, Abshar Atefeha Charity Institute, Ertegha Keyfiat Zendegi Iranian Charitable Institute, Family Health Association of Iran, Humanitarian Ambassadors, Iranian Thalassemia Society, Jameh Ehyagaran Teb Sonnati Va Salamat Iranian, Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute, Network of Women's Non-governmental Organizations in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Peivande Gole Narges Organization, Society of Iranian Women Advocating Sustainable Development of Environment

NGOs Joint Statement Condemning Unilateral Coercive Measures as Serious Obstacles of Achieving Sustainable Development Goals

The undersigned NGOs of this statement while expressing their deep concern on the challenges in the way of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), declare that in spite of the efforts made by international organizations and civil society institutions, still a notable part of the world's population is suffering from poverty and inequality. Serious daily threats are increasing against the health of people in new and uncontrollable forms. Gender inequality and unemployment are increasing on a daily basis. Natural disasters, destruction of the environment, and climate change are the biggest challenges of the current century. Terrorism, extremism, refugee crisis and migration are sharply on the increase.

In addition to all the challenges, the rise in the unilateral behaviour of some governments has created obstacles in the way of the sustainable development goals more than ever. Unilateral coercive measures, violate the Charter of the United Nations, prevent the efforts of some countries towards development and blatantly show the lack of commitment of unilateral policies to international obligations. In spite of the agreement of all countries in 2005 on the "leave no one behind" principle and their commitments to the 17 SDGs of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/70/1, we are witnessing the use of unilateral coercive measures. These sanctions which recently have been increased and become more comprehensive in a form of economic war and economic blockade, threaten all fundamental human rights, and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly eradication of poverty, protection of the right to health and the right to education. Unilateral coercive measures have put serious restrictions on the development of countries and reduce targeted countries' share of international development.

The undersigned NGOs of this statement believe that governments and the civil societies can speed up the achievement of SDGs through cooperation. Also, if the policies and development plans of countries are drafted towards global achievement of SDGs, this global process will pick up more speed; although the continuation of the current unilateral sanctions seriously prevent some countries from achieving the SDGs by 2030, deliberately making them fall behind and lead to a huge failure in the realization of global SDGs for the international community.

While stressing on the need to respect the independent governance of countries and non-intervention of other countries in the development process, the NGOs recommend that in order for the international community to achieve SDGs, the first step is condemning unilateralism, restrictive policies and unilateral coercive measures while insisting on multilateralism.

122. Osservatorio per la Comunicazione Culturale e l'Audiovisivo nel Mediterraneo e nel Mondo

Towards a Digital Inspired by SDGs

“A new Digital Society inspired by human rights and built upon sustainable development goals (SDGs) can be achieved through deeper involvement and strong stimulus of collective creativity using the most advanced information and communications technology (ICT) solutions.

The powerful driving force created by the Digital Revolution, transferring knowledge through adequate technologies, could effectively fight poverty guaranteeing transparency and sustainability in order to improve the well-being of the vulnerable population. ICTs and the new technologies should be used for these purposes building a new basic welfare to all through e-services and preserving the cultural identities of each country in the light of the human rights.

Since its foundation, the Osservatorio per la Comunicazione Culturale e l'Audiovisivo nel Mediterraneo e nel Mondo (OCCAM) has pursued all these principles launching in 2000 the Infopoverty Programme aimed at developing the disadvantaged communities through the creation of ICT Villages: in Honduras, Peru, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Tunisia, Ghana, Lebanon, Navajo Nation (United States of America) and Madagascar.

To share the results achieved, in 2001 OCCAM launched the Infopoverty World Conference, held annually at the United Nations Headquarter where the United Nations system, government delegates and public and private eminent institutions discussed about the value of the ICT best practices in order to disseminate in the spirit of the millennium development goals (MDGs) and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

The WSIS 2003 ICT Village of Borji Ettuil in Tunisia and the Sambaina Village in Madagascar, proclaimed “UN Millennium Village” in 2006, were particularly appreciated for the results achieved by the population in terms of improvement of health conditions, education and agricultural skills for food production.

Thanks to the great contribution of the stakeholders participating to the conference, it was possible to seize all the opportunities provided by the digital revolution throughout the last twenty years and to establish a wide network of experts for implementing solutions to empower the fight against poverty.

The Final Declarations of the conferences well enlighten the results achieved: in particular, the last edition of 2019 on Smart Cities states that “no city can be declared smart if it doesn’t take charge of the elimination of slums, the eradication of poverty and the promotion of rural communities”.

We are pleased to invite you all to the next edition of the Infopoverty World Conference (IWC20), entitled “Toward the digital society inspired by SDGs: e-welfare for all, clean energy, circular economy” to be held on 4th of December 2020 at the United Nations Headquarter in New York, where the most advanced technologies and applications will be presented. The discussion will be focused on how the COVID-19 has changed the behaviour of all humanity and has exponentially increased the use of ICT in such a rapid way that the entelechia of the Digital Society is closer than ever.

It is our responsibility to ensure the advent of a better new society, inspired by SDGs, avoiding any risk of decadence and poverty.”

123. PRO Leadership Global Inc.

Achieving sustainable development as per the timeline of United Nations may not be feasible in some parts of the world such as in Africa unless we raise competent leaders. Though Economists suggest six factors that contribute toward economic development such as natural resources, infrastructure, labor, human capital, technology, and law, human potential development has been neglected or given less priority in Africa. Yes, discovering some natural resources; building factories, roads, and other infrastructure; having excessive labor force availability; advancement in technology; and having the right law and institutions in place enable a community to enjoy quick economic development. But, without well-developed human capital, the other factors remain useless and stay untapped to the fullest, and in turn delay sustainable development.

After identifying this gap a few years ago, PRO Leadership launched an Initiative called 'Bridging the Leadership Gaps in Africa' in the United States on May 29, 2019, and in Addis Ababa on July 17, 2019, in partnership with the largest university in Ethiopia- Addis Ababa University (AAU). The Initiative aims at raising 1 million New Breed Leaders of Africa who will shoulder the responsibilities to transform Africa in one generation. We have already signed Memorandum of Understandings (MOU) with key strategic partners in Ethiopia where we plan to start the project and expand it to the rest of Africa. We have already begun implementing the Initiative both in the diaspora and on the soil of Africa.

We have agreed with AAU to train 5000 students every year. We began the program one cohort at a time by engaging local volunteers and some diaspora learning professionals. We strongly believe that this Initiative adds value- directly or indirectly, toward some of the sustainable development goals of the United Nations such as No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Quality Education, and Gender Equality as we raise competent leaders who play their fair share in transforming first their own life, career, community, and in turn Africa.

The Initiative targets youth and women by engaging the diaspora. Our programs focus on three major leadership areas: mind set, skill set, and character set. Africa needs new generation leaders who have 'I can attitude'. Leaders who invest in themselves to grow and ultimately take responsibility to play their fair share in serving their respective community selflessly and ethically. We will soon publish a book that shares the research results and how this Initiative could bring sustainable development in Africa in one generation by raising competent leaders who spearhead change and reform in their respective community.

Below are some of our recommendations:

- African governments and relevant international institutions to give prime attention to human capital development, more specifically raising competent youth and women leaders.
- Universities and colleges to incorporate in their curricula soft skills and leadership non-credit courses.
- Learning organizations like ours should create synergy and partner with global organizations such as the United Nations and its sister organizations, national, and local strategic partners to produce competent leaders.

124. Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand)

“Accelerating action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.

- The 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW64) in 2020 was to include Beijing + 25 Years. The eighteen delegates began flight and accommodation plans in late 2019. Due to the late cancellation in March many of the delegation lost money as insurance companies would not cover COVID-19 related claims.
- A CSW64 Side Event on 10 March titled ‘Gender and Economic Equality for Women in New Zealand: Progress and Challenges’ was cancelled. The panel reconvened 10 March hosted by HRC, chaired by Helen Clark in Auckland (NZ) and live streamed.
- A Parallel Event by American Society of Criminology invited Prue Kapua as a panel presenter.
- MP Louisa Wall sent a petition to Women Deliver: Join Our Call – Tell Leaders to Apply a Gender Lens to COVID-19. New Zealand statistics: 80 per cent of hospital workers are women. Residential carers and cleaners are women working in jobs historically undervalued, underpaid and underappreciated - SDG 8.
- Signed the Living Wage Movement petition to Auckland Council Mayor Phil Goff. Auckland Council adopted the principles, goals and objectives of CEDAW Cities in 2019 following Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand) (PWWNZ) advocacy (SDG 8 and SDG 11).
- Oral submission on 4.11.19 to Māori Affairs Committee Inquiry into Health Inequalities for Māori (SDG 3 and SDG 10).
- Representation for disabled women. Dr Huhana Hickey (LLB) is responding to ‘My Tale Too 2020’.
- Shakti had to delay a series of events related to the Christchurch mosque attack in 2019 (SDG 17).
- Indigenous Māori women are suffering an exponential rise in domestic violence which the New Zealand Herald described as ‘the silent epidemic amid lockdown’. Two weeks after lockdown 595 call outs were reported.
- The MWWL and New Zealand Police signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 19 March 2020 (SDG 12).
- Met Leilani Farha the UN Special Rapporteur on Housing 10 February 2020. New Zealand must adopt a human rights-based housing strategy with a focus on creating ‘safe places’ for all women (SDG 11).
- Prime Minister Jacinda Adern decided the country was going to Kia Kaha ‘go hard’ with the stated aim of ‘elimination’ as opposed to ‘flattening the

curve'. New Zealand went into Level four lockdown for four weeks. Dr Ashley Bloomfield (Director General of Health) has been instrumental in directing the COVID-19 response. The State must contribute significant funds to alleviate COVID-19 induced poverty (SDG 1, SDG 2).

In summary, the acceleration of NGO global actions requires collaboration between the five regions of the United Nations. Matched with resourcing and swift mobilisation, the Sustainable Development Goals blueprint must be Beijing Declaration envisioned twenty-five years ago.

125. Peace Worldwide

Quality education is something everyone deserves but unfortunately there are many groups that don't have access to quality education for example, girls in some countries like Pakistan, Afghanistan, girls in some countries in Africa and sometimes girls in some countries in South America, where girls are considered homemakers and the main focus is on their homemaking. Some prefer girls not to have an education as they will go to another house and it will be considered a waste of money if the girls go to school. One of the vulnerable groups are children in poverty who besides wanting to have education are unable to get it because they must earn for the family. Children working as mechanics and in brick kilns in Pakistan are the example of this tyranny. Another vulnerable group are refugees. Refugees are not acceptable in most of the countries. Refugee children/youth deserve the same quality education as others because it's not their fault that they had to leave their country in such dire situations.

An acceleration strategy must be that all governments ensure that youth and children get an education and not only the basic education, but on a higher level too, because it has been observed that there are countries that are providing education to vulnerable groups like refugees, girls, children from poor background, but the education level is not up to the standards as normal children and youth are getting. Some of the countries are providing education to refugees also, but the level of education is until 5th grade, and after that the children have to attend the same class/standard/level for years and once children/youth are fed up to go to the same class for two or three years, they stop going to school and start going to work as the colleges/universities are expensive and they prefer going to work instead of repeating the same education level for years.

Quality education must be available for all and no one should wait for any kind of sponsor to help them complete their higher education. The governments/NGOs/INGOs should take responsibility to feed the families so that the children/youth and their families don't have to worry about feeding the family so they can give more priority to education than to earn money.

There is a dire need to educate all, for example, the teachers, parents and children not to discriminate and insult these youth and learn to accept all and in this way they all will be helping these children/youth to gain education.

All gadgets that are important in studies e.g. laptops, tabs and smart phones should be available, and every youth should have access to these gadgets so that they all can have access to the kind of knowledge everyone deserves.

There is a need to accept and respect every culture, diversities, languages and dresses to promote solidarity, human rights and peace. All teachers must be equipped with the knowledge of countries, their situations and circumstances, cultures and history of the countries to accept, help and support.

126. Perfect Union

The Project Management Excellence (MAPEX)

Innovative Methodology

For a project to qualify as an excellence it must fit into a policy of excellence and imperatively include common sense and values, including peace and respect for human rights respect for the environment, sustainable prosperity, greater social inclusion for all.

The MAPEX (project management excellence) includes the design, monitoring and evaluation of the project. It contains all the basics needed to anchor its efforts in the field of excellence. It may be aimed at beginners to professionals, with its clear structure, concise sentences and numerous concrete examples that allow data assimilation. It stands out from other books by its aim for excellence. Indeed, we will have a beautiful method where values and common sense prevail. The project logic is then part of a process of active consciousness and thoughtful putting values at the heart of decision making. Also, you should make it a tool to help build a better world we want to live in and put the legacy we want to leave to future generations.

Leadership

The MAPEX method is a project template accessible to anyone who wants to register their approach in a sustainable centre of excellence: policy makers, service instructors, project engineers, project managers, project managers, responsible for evaluating projects to anyone dream whatever field they are (private or public organizations, government, associations, organizations, companies, individuals). It is addressed to all those who have a heart and exceptional values. Far from being self-centred, the project of excellence must have an open mind to think of others and to assess the consequences of the acts. The project excellence is particularly interested in direct and indirect consequences of that act.

Transferable Objectives

Also, you should make an unprecedented tool that would help build the better world we want to live IN and at the same time lay the foundation of the legacy we want to leave to future generations. Therefore, the logic of the project is part of a process of active and reflective consciousness that puts the values at the heart of decision making. Today, this method reveals the secrets of projects included in a sustainable reality step by step for those who want their project to fall in a process of sustainable excellence with values of unity, peace, justice of fairness and sharing.

Breakout Activity

One example of project of excellence MAPEX climate action - fight against poverty - aims to fight poverty and the conditions that engenders it, like climate change. Climate concerns us all. It affects our lives and can have very negative effects in our economy. The price to be paid gets very high. Do we need a homeopathic solution or a revolution?

Climate change is the result of an increased concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Indeed, in recent years we have seen an exponential increase in greenhouse gas emissions because of the irrational activities of humans.

These include:

- Global warming
- Glaciers melting
- Ecosystems destroyed
- Species made extinct
- Droughts
- Respiratory and infectious diseases
- Hurricanes, cyclones and typhoons
- Fewer sources of drinkable water
- Populations affected by this scourge migrating to other areas

It is together that we must act. Our current climate is becoming more and more unstable and the consequences for the environment are becoming more serious, for present and future generations alike. Today, more than ever, we must accelerate our actions. Nowadays, there are more than 805 million people suffering from starvation. So, if we do not reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, we would have to add an extra 600 million people suffering from starvation by 2080.

127. Permanent Assembly for Human Rights

The Permanent Assembly for Human Rights has the honour to submit this written statement within the framework of the 2020 session of the ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

First, we cannot ignore the complex situation that the world is facing. It is hard to know what the background at the moment of the HLS meeting will be, but clearly humanity will still be going through one of the most dramatic disasters ever: the COVID-19 pandemic.

The arising of a humanitarian catastrophe as a result of the new coronavirus pandemic is just a symptom of a larger disease that the world has been suffering from, for a long time: the prevailing system is unsustainable. The non-compliance with the sustainable development goals (SDGs) explain in part the consequences of this pandemic in the international community. Poverty and inequality are the causes of the health systems crisis. Unemployment and unregistered employment affect families from all over the world. The only issue that is getting better with this situation is climate change, although it is sadly happening involuntarily. However, we cannot relate the success only to the reduction of gas emissions. We must strengthen responsible consumption and foster the use of renewable energies.

Developing countries find it impossible to comply with SDGs, and its success would be, paradoxically, the solution to the issues they must face nowadays. We consider that external debt is the cause of the many problems that prevent countries from achieving sustainable development.

Countries like Argentina have resorted to Organizations like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), whose instructions and guidelines imply a huge social deterioration. The commitment undertaken by the country that received the credit includes making certain sacrifices that consequently result in an increase in poverty, destitution, hunger, and weak health and education systems. Resorting to external credit implies a death-trap for the countries.

We must also combat funds diversion and money laundering at the international level, as this prevents society from having access to their essential rights.

The other main goal of the international community is to achieve gender equality. Even though some new policies in Argentina have been positive and efficient, gender inequality and violence are still present in our country. Femicides increase daily, and the women from our country and from all over the world are still demanding 'Ni Una Menos'.

We believe that the compliance with the SDGs is vital, and we share the efforts and concerns with different platforms that monitor the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the country, among which we can highlight Pampa 2030. This Permanent Assembly will closely monitor, as usual, the performance of the Government of Argentina related to its duties and obligations.

Today we need to take a path of compliance with the SDGs. Perhaps, the international community was not aware of the challenges that the coming years would bring when setting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. However, we must take this challenge as a motivation to understand that the creation of an international community which is sustainable and equal is essential to overcome this and any other obstacle.

128. Pirate Parties International Headquarters

Pirate Parties International (PPI) is a multinational collaboration that aims to spur development through transparency, ingenuity, and technological solutions. To enable sustainable progress, PPI recognize the need to change our economic, social and political structures towards more open, participative models. We believe all sustainable development goals (SDGs) can accelerate their activities by implementing evidence-based reforms that aim to include a wider segment of society through online forums and digital applications. We call upon stakeholders to consider the following policy priorities during the transition of sustainable development activities to online and digital technologies in the post COVID-19 world. We must make a successful transition to a safe and efficient internet society in order to enable sustainable development under circumstances of global instability.

- The transition should be data driven and participatory. Strong participation is required from all stakeholders, representing a variety of sectors, who understand their roles in the process.
- Stakeholders should attempt to use the full capabilities of already available technology. The current global pandemic serves as wake-up call for those who were avoiding the transition to digital activities, even when such tasks could be completed more efficiently.
- Stakeholders should consider transferring to open source technologies, as well as loosening intellectual property rights, and thus effectively speeding up critical research and innovative developments.
- States should serve as both direct investors and regulators, using market forces to advance a sustainability agenda. Tools such as emission trading systems, permits for natural resources exploitation, and agricultural subsidies should be used more efficiently to create strong incentives to modernize.
- Online voting must be embraced with easy accessibility and transparency to ensure that leadership is not authoritarian, and everyone can be represented. Horizontal decision-making should also be promoted within smaller organizations who also have constituents.
- States should apply solutions which are supported by empirical evidence, while also investing into research and trials of new technologies. Yet, we should refrain from scaling-up newly emerging ideas just for their novel promise without independent scientific review. Decentralisation and sharing of information are our way forward.

We believe solutions to environmental problems, human rights, political crises, and health crises will be found with innovative technological solutions. Sustainable development through an online, digital transition of services must ensure we develop into a more fair, open and connected world. The current pandemic exposed how many

sectors of society resisted innovation and now recognize the necessities of certain tools. It is essential to have care for the elderly and food supply chains that are not entirely reliant on physical meetings. Now more than ever we must harness innovative attitudes and ideas. PPI welcomes the incredible multinational cooperation happening in this ECOSOC High-Level Segment. We support countries working together to achieve sustainable development. We express our solidarity with our fellow NGOs working to create sustainable development in all the SDGs, and we look forward to discussing further online and digital methods to make sustainable development more efficient and just.

129. Plataforma Mulheres em Acção

An unemployment rate of 65.9% among women aged 15-64 and 53.4% among their male counterparts. An estimated 80% of unemployed women are part of the informal sector is a sustenance refuge for more than 80% of women, yet the government implemented Operation COVID-19 which included reducing sell of goods in undesignated places. The impact of COVID-19 that resulted in domestic violence shows that low-income families are the most affected considering the financial restrictions and the type of economic activity they carry out.

130. Poka Healthcare Foundation

The Poka Health Care Foundation is a Nigerian non-governmental organization (NGO) operating in the Niger Delta since 2010. Our vision is “a world in which the principles of democracy and human rights guide the actions of governance in peace and development”, while our Mission is to facilitate sustainable development, promote good governance and inclusiveness, collaboration in Nigeria and in the global arena.

Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways: Realizing the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development

As the world enters the last decade of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in all facets of our existence, it is glaring that we are far from attaining the goals. Therefore, there is a need for an accelerated action and transformative pathway to the attainment of the goals before the end of this decade.

Nigeria is a country plagued with poverty, insecurity, inflation and a host of other crises. Due to exploration activities of multinationals oil companies, the South has experienced a lot of health-related hazard that has jeopardize the well-being of the indigenes which is far from the SDGs.

2030 is just around the corner, hence the need for accelerated actions to achieve the SDGs. African countries have weak health care systems, inadequate surveillance and laboratory capacity, scarcity of public health, human resources and limit financial means. With no visible solution, and recently, the drastic fall of the price of crude oil, the objectives are to:

- Strengthen a universal aim and aspiration to attain a peaceful, safer and healthier world.
- Attain the SDGs through quick, inclusive, equitable, transformative and innovative actions.

Global Revitalize Aim towards a More Attainable Action Plan

- A strengthen global effort to attain the SDGs.
- To adopt a far reaching and people centred set of universal and transformative goals and targets.
- Scale up of investment in the health sector. With very little infrastructure in place an outbreak could be devastating because of the multiple health challenges the county already faces due to rapid population.

Governmental Policies

- Governmental policies, programs and workable objectives need to be formulated and put in place.
- Strengthen institutions for more integrated solutions, bolstering local actions to accelerate implementation.

Strengthen Partnership

- Strengthen the High-Level Political Forum for cooperation and global partnership to harness scientific, technological and innovative expertise.
- Strengthen international cooperation and enhance global partnerships with a greater focus on transformation for sustainable development.
- Develop processes and institutions to drive radical change in urban areas geared towards a more sustainable future.

Moving forward, we must continue to work together, we must continue in our efforts, but of course we cannot do it on our own. Bringing about change is not easy, but it is more attainable if we are committed to the sustainable development of our communities.

131. Restoration World Outreach Ministries

Restoration World Outreach Ministries Incorporated (RWOMI), is an organization dedicated to the economic and social development of all, particularly the most vulnerable and the poor among us.

As we gather in the context of this 2020 High-Level Political Forum to prepare for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, Goal #3 on good health and well-being is foremost in our minds given the immense suffering for people across the globe arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. The result is a crisis affecting all nations, with distressing projections for health care systems. The global health crisis has triggered economic and financial shocks, exposed fragilities in global health systems and their response mechanisms, exacerbated existing vulnerabilities and inequalities – all causing devastating and multi-dimensional impact. Yet we cannot allow these realities to push us too far off track and negate the gains that had previously been made.

In considering accelerated action and transformative pathways for the next decade, we must remind ourselves of the interlinkages and interconnectivity between and among the 17 SDGs. We must also remind ourselves that the transformational vision collectively agreed by the global community in 2015 is predicated on “a world free from poverty, hunger, disease and want, where all life can thrive.” In the post-COVID-19 era, these noble tenets will remain as relevant as ever. Let us collectively seize opportunities to reset our economies, health systems, social protection mechanisms, and environmental conservation machineries on a sustainable footing so that no one will be left behind, and government action is critical in this process.

Governments must recognize that the SDGs involve trade off choices, and difficult choices must be made, especially in the short term. The inability to make these choices is a major governance weakness that affects accelerated action. Governments must have the capacity to interpret and use high-quality data for appropriate decisions regarding the implementation of the SDGs to fulfil the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. National data and statistical systems must be financed accordingly.

David Beasley, UN World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Director, in a virtual session of the United Nations Security Council stated, “... At the same time while dealing with a COVID-19 pandemic, we are also on the brink of a hunger pandemic.” Based on what we are seeing at the grassroots level, we encourage all stakeholders, to place great emphasis on several key areas without delay. Farming and Livestock, necessary for survival during the famine which has been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Stockpiling/Storage of seeds for future use. Removing tax from all farming and health equipment. Releasing land for the poor to use as farmlands and other

sustainable development activities. Identifying and maintaining of clean water sources. Adding/Opening more labs to facilitate the testing of our natural resources for alternative solutions and possible cures for health issues that may arise in the future. We also encourage greater attention be paid to recycling processes for plastic in an effort to prevent the rise of new diseases.

132. Rural Mother & Child Health Care Society

Integrated action Against sustainable crisis for ensure the sustainability of effective development.

Our aims and objectives are to seek good leadership in best practices with good political will which inspire action and change in policies; to motivate to transparency, ensuring the protection of transparency; to create political reality and save social erosion; to ensure safer public spaces for residents and diversity so people can enjoy modern facility and technologies; to protect lives from differentials crisis (e.g. man-made and natural) where peoples and environment are safe; capacity building for mitigation and for reducing disaster risk; infrastructure safety and cyber security.

The program “Talent Search for Global Peace and Sustainable Development” aims to to broaden action on sustainable development goals (SDGs) at every corner across the globe. Through this program we are connecting the global peoples in the implementation of the SDGs by following “Leaving No One Behind”. In our program, we use research-based ideas and technology which can easily connect and transform people, individuals, community, academia, institutes, schools, colleges, madrasha, mosque, university, business companies, industries, political leaders and other stakeholders.

This program is going to come out shortly as a world’s largest SDGs implementing program around the globe in the sense of highest achievement of SDGs and the highest number of participants selected as “Global Peace Talent” who are closely active, and who make concrete commitments for the rest of their lives to implement the SDGs and to reach out to the largest quantity of people around the globe.

The United Nations Staff and subsidiary bodies representatives will be invited to see in practically what we are doing and how. We are preparing to join in on the next Summit in 2021 (if approved) as a large scale of global youth participants want to connect with the United Nations and Global Leaders in order for their strong “Voices and Speeches” to be heard and to share concrete commitments, thoughts, innovative ideas and technology for implementing SDGs around the globe.

We discover the talent from the grass root levels and provide capacity building so the talents become star in society, state and the globe according to their choice of professional development (e.g best cricketer, best singer, best footballer etc). A star acquires the soft power, which means a silent power for making peace and having strong influences in society, state and the globe according to his/her personality and social responsibility, which he/she has created in the past according to his/her performances as a star.

We mobilize talented youth and people as stars to take action. We train them on storytelling, skill development, capacity building and visualization, and we connect them to the global peoples and leaders. They learn how to use their creativity as a campaigner for social change (including the implementation of SDGs through the use of soft power), how to honour people's choices, and cultural and cross-cultural entertainment activities in the sense of to make it easier and enjoyable to participate and engagement as a sustainable mode for peoples to spread strong voices to the country, partner, stakeholder and the globe to accelerate progress and inspire transformation for sustainable development & global peace.

133. Salesian Missions, Inc.

The 1st cycle of review of the status of the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) makes it abundantly clear that we are certainly not on track of achieving the SDGs by 2030. The theme of the High-Level Political Forum “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” is an acknowledgment of this reality.

The SDG Summit’s Political Declaration has “identified ten cross-cutting areas where actions could have an impact on the SDGs across the board”, and the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report has “identified areas that offer the greatest promise for achieving the transformations required for achieving the 2030 Agenda at the necessary scale and speed”. This submission highlights some of those areas that offer the best promise for transformation and those that need urgent action for meaningful impact on the SDGs.

Leaving No One Behind and Goal 10

The goal of “Leaving No One Behind” seems more distant than when the agenda was set. The starkest reminder of this is the growing inequality. The world’s richest 1% have more than twice as much wealth as 6.9 billion people. This translates itself to 821 million people – one in nine – going to bed on an empty stomach each night, 11% of the world population being undernourished, increasing numbers of the unemployed and the dehumanized. Accelerated transformative action should address the need for empowering those who are being left behind so that they will have the capacity to say, “We Will Not Be Left Behind.”

Goal 4 and Education, the Gateway to Development and Equality

Education is said to be the great “leveler”. In 2020, the levels of education are higher than what it was in 2015. And yet inequality is growing. One reason for growing inequality is that enough attention has not been given to SDG 4 target 7. Urgent actions need to be taken to ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote human rights, gender equality, global citizenship.

Goal 16 and Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity Panel

While appreciating this landmark initiative of setting up the Financial Accountability, Transparency and Integrity Panel to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice for all and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, it is important to note that Integrity should go beyond the compass of legitimate business and profit making to include the moral and ethical compass, and Financial Accountability should include accountability to those who toil to make profits.

134. Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled is a national award-winning organization, created 22 years ago and incorporated under the Indian public trust act 1882 on February 26, 1997, at Bengaluru, Karnataka, India.

The organization has been making a systematic, conscious, and sincere attempt to achieve the 2030 Development Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Goals 1 and 2: We strongly believe in the concept of employment is empowerment. We have introduced a new and innovative concept which is known as Livelihood Resource Centre (LRC), a one-stop shop for all the livelihood needs of youth with and without disabilities from most excluded, poorest of the poor and deprived sections of the society with chronic poverty and hunger. This has helped 12000 overcome poverty and hunger and 60000 family members to overcome chronic poverty and hunger. The innovative aspects include the extensive application of technology and assistive technology, smart classes, computer lab, use of smartphones, demand-driven training by employers and focus on business ventures.

Goal 3: Every day over 7000 meals have been cooked and served to children who go to a government school so they can benefit from a nutritious diet. Primary screening camps have been conducted on a regular basis in order to identify the risk factor in children so that secondary complications can be prevented. They are facilitated to access primary, secondary, and tertiary health care in partnership with government and CSR corporates.

Goal 4: We believe education is empowerment. We have been promoting primary, secondary, tertiary, higher, vocational, professional, and technical education in order to prepare youth for the labour market. Over 10000 youth with and without disabilities have accessed education at different levels and innovative solutions include digital literacy, virtual classes, smart classes, computer labs, digital labs, use of assistive and technology, application of advanced and modern technology, and science.

Goal 5: We strongly believe in the empowerment of women in difficult circumstances. Free lodging, boarding, training fee, raw material for training, legal aid, rescue, rehabilitation, reintegration of women who are in difficult circumstances; skill development; placement; shelter in working hostel; negotiating with the family for reintegration. This has impacted over 500 women to rebuild their lives till today.

Goals 6,7,13,15: We strongly believe in creating a clean, green, and pollution-free environment for all. To this end, we have been engaged in awareness on solid or dry waste management; tree plantation; rainwater harvesting; use of solar energy; saving

water and recycling the used water for reuse; minimizing carbon footprint. Innovation segregation at source, transport in sealed containers, conservation of water through recycling of used water and rainwater harvesting and saving energy using nonconventional energy.

Goal-8: Already explained in the above section. The explanation for goals 1 and 2 are also applicable to Goal 8.

135. Saudi Green Building Forum

Our role is being the honest voice of bridging the gap. The last century, economic and social progress accompanied by environmental degradation and pandemics are endangering the very systems on which our future development - indeed, our very survival - depends on!

Globally, we continue to use ever-increasing amounts of natural resources to support our economic activity decoupled with generation of waste resources that is mounting. The population in cities will rise to 66% and likewise the material consumption will double by 2050. It's alarming that 1/3 of the urban population lives in slums and informal settlements, often without or limited access to basic services. It is evident that sprawl of cities by 2% per year threatens the increase of urban land-use consumption from just below 1 million km² to over 2.5 million km² by 2050. Now, living behind our limits of the planet's resources, 8-14 hectares footprint per person in the Arab Gulf States, challenged by the unreasonable production and consumption demands by citizens of globally average 1.7 GHA per person.

No doubt resource-efficient cities reduce energy between 36-54% including GHG emissions, metals, land-use and water and increase the quality of life. Saudi Arabia registered, recorded and issued green building codes with committed 1% projects worldwide. Arab States of the Gulf Countries are ranking as the most invested in green building.

United Nations member countries have the responsibility in confronting the human crisis of in-estimable proportions, which impose its heaviest tolls on the supply chain for those marginalized and most vulnerable in cities and communities around the world.

We call for the transformation of cities and communities collaborative governance, at all levels, and long-range planning needed to transform the region's cities:

- Undertaking nationally and cross-regional urbanization planning to balance economic growth to preserve high-value agricultural land and ecosystem services.
- Developing zero-slum cities through land-use planning that prevents formation and rehabilitation: resource-efficient, disaster-resistant and multi-story buildings.
- Promoting resource efficiency and reporting at systems level through innovative and profitable exchanges of energy, water, materials "waste", infrastructure and enriching human experience.

Our suggested pathways and recommendations:

- Protecting the planet and building resilience. It's nearly impossible and substantially more expensive to keep global warming checked, without matching a bolstering local action including volunteers to accelerate the implementation. City planning 'defaults' must be changed to community-centric, from 'linear' to 'circular', monitored by city master strategic planning.
- Pursue policies investments to address disaster risk-reduction and protect the planet from degradation.
- Countries to regulate businesses' multi-industries to commit to net-zero emissions by 2050, in efforts to lower temperatures of 1.5°C in cities.
- We call on the "Future We Want" asking the higher-levels governing to support city and community innovation, methodology, and application for a green economy, net-zero and resources efficiency. Overcoming regulatory barriers, empowering youth and recognizing non-governmental organizations for collaborative governance to access funding.
- Promote pathways to achieve sustainable consumption and production report "The Weight of Cities".
- Adopt best practice methodologies / digitalization, artificial intelligence and transformation of clean energy and water, infrastructure, natural resources and unique human experience.

136. Save the Earth Cambodia

Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

The Regional Forums for Sustainable Development, convened annually by the Regional Commissions, are the regional platforms for assessing progress and exchanging knowledge, best practices and policy solutions to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in line with regional priorities and specificities.

The COVID-19 has been causing huge backward of the progress made so far and still the risks has been increasing around the world. Countries have been struggling to survive. The virus has been impacting from multi-dimensional ways – social, economy, health and elsewhere. Therefore, a vigorous assessment of the current status of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) progress should be reassessed ‘to what extent the COVID-19 recessives’ the SDGs’ progress.

What should be done

We should revisit and assess thoroughly the current status using defined scorecards by an Expert Group of each SDG and its sub-components to recognize how COVID-19 affected. It may consider as the sex-disaggregated baseline as well on (i) level of progress made before COVID-19, (ii) level of retrograde happened and current status of the SDGs to move forward. The current status or baseline shall focus on level of i) vulnerability caused by COVID-19 ii) level of vulnerability caused by other factors, iii) level of vulnerability caused by the vulnerability (vulnerability caused by the vulnerability – secondary level risks). Moreover, specify the level of additional supports needs for the institutional strengthening (subnational, sectoral and national levels), develop capacity building strategy and additional support mechanism to reach the targets set to achieve by 2030.

The Expert Group shall consult and further clearly define the scorecards, facilitate consultations at the regional and country levels and compile for the global decision-making levels.

We think, if we do not re-visit the overall situations, do not quantify and qualify the current status but make efforts to keep continuing further assuming on the progress made before COVID-19, we are afraid, it will create another challenge and it will look like constructing a multi-stored building on soft-soil.

137. Science of Spirituality, Inc.

Science of Spirituality (SOS) applauds the efforts of the United Nations on the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) High-Level Segment on Action and Transformative Pathways for Sustainable Development.

As a worldwide, multi-faith, spiritual organization, SOS is dedicated to personal transformation through meditation, under the guidance of Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj. Its basic tenets include respect for all life and the world we share.

Currently we are in the midst of a worldwide pandemic. With the terrible loss and unimaginable suffering that has impacted hundreds of thousands of souls, this crisis offers a unique and unprecedented opportunity for a transformation of consciousness on a global level. It is awakening us from the slumber of a more materialistic lifestyle to help shape societies that embrace the importance of service, sacrifice, and love for all humanity. Weekly SOS Global Meditation in Place programs are being broadcast live around the world, in which Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj offers words of wisdom, solace, and inspiration. These uplifting and enriching meditation programs underscore that caring and kindness can be a powerful unifying force across the planet.

A global organization, SOS continues to implement a dynamic, multi-faceted course of action in alignment with the United Nations' vision to make sustainable development a reality. It encourages individuals and communities to move towards a plant-based diet, placing fewer demands on our energy, agricultural, and water resources. Our annual 2-Day Veggie Fest in Chicago reinforces Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj's vision that: "A vegetarian diet supports care and love for animals and a better use of the earth's resources needed for sustaining humanity today and for posterity."

We at SOS believe that the transformative power of meditation is a proven strategy that fosters inner and outer peace. Our Darshan Education Foundation schools located throughout India and South America provide a rich academic and spiritual curriculum enabling students to see themselves as global citizens and the peacemakers of tomorrow.

Addressing crises wherever they occur is essential for sustainable development. SOS has been at the forefront of disaster relief efforts providing philanthropic and spiritual sustenance. During the COVID-19 pandemic, SOS has mobilized food kitchens, bringing warm meals and basic necessities to individuals in need. In addition to relief efforts in India, local donations of personal protective equipment (PPE) to first responders and healthcare workers, as well as donations to local food pantries, SOS is donating critically needed medical supplies through partnerships with national and international charities.

Sustainable development comes about when there is a collective determination for change that embodies the highest humanitarian values and reverence for all creation. It can be realized through education, communication, dedication, and meditation. Evolved awareness is the catalyst for compassionate action.

Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj says, "Following the vegetarian or plant-based diet can help us achieve the health and purity of the body, mind, soul, and planet... We will not only be contributing to peace for ourselves and all life, but we will also be doing our part toward making planet earth a haven of joy and peace."

138. Sense International, India

Sense International India is the first and only national NGO supporting development of comprehensive services for People with Deafblindness (PwDb) throughout India, bringing hope in the lives of more than 78,000 PwDb and their families. We work with local, regional and national organisations to develop sustainable services for children and adults with deafblindness. We are partnering with leading organisations in Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Malaysia to train educators and setup needs based services for PwDb, combining individual, corporate, institutional and government support to work with a growing network of partner organisations in the region. It is due to the active advocacy of Sense International India and its partners, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 recognizes rights of PwDb in India, hence this group must not be neglected and forgotten during this time of crisis. An estimated 500,000 persons in India experience varying degrees of deafblindness. Adding dual sensory impairment due to aging, the number would rise even further who experience a degree of deafblindness during life.

Reiterating recent observations made by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) President in her 27 March 2020 briefing on COVID-19, “our development gains are at risk of being reversed in the very year when Decade of Action and Delivery is launched to accelerate SDGs implementation. The upcoming 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) and ECOSOC with its theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” is an important opportunity to take stock of the rapidly changing situation on the ground.”

There is no doubt that while the impact of COVID-19 pandemic is being felt universally, its consequences are more severe for PwDb. In these times of turmoil, we must ensure that these people, being deaf as well as blind, are the most isolated, neglected and vulnerable to any crisis, are also equally protected according to Article 11 of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

Due to additional conditions associated with deafblindness, PwDb experience a higher risk than most others and in addition to being in the high-risk group, they struggle to cope with both accessing and processing information, as well as resolving daily tasks such as shopping for essentials like basic food and/or medicine. The crucial fact is that the combination of their dual sensory impairment strongly impacts on and increases the complexity of their situation, increasing their need for proper services to reduce risk of serious and severe health complications due to COVID-19.

In consensus with our national/ international partners, we have collated and submitted a joint statement of recommendations to the Government of India emphasizing the need for providing adequate standard of services and support to the PwDb in everyday life and during severe crises such as COVID-19 pandemic.

139. Shola Mese Foundation

A critical assessment of the developmental policies of Nigerian government towards realisation of the Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDGs) brings to fore myriads of challenges in achieving the SDGs.

For instance, the scourge of poverty has become a recurring decimal with little or no commitment by the government of the day to lift the populace out of poverty. Today, Nigeria is the “poverty capital of the world”. If it is unable to change its current trajectory, it will be home to 110 million people living in extreme poverty by the year 2030 (World Data Lab’s Global Poverty Ranking, 2019)

In the education sector, Nigeria is far from realising the SDGs. This assertion is corroborated by the fact that about 10.5 million children are not in school even though primary education is officially free and compulsory in Nigeria (UNICEF).

It is worrisome that acute malnutrition levels in Nigerian children have risen astronomically over the years, and the government has not taken urgent steps to address this prevailing menace. This is affirmed in the latest report by UNICEF, titled, “The State of the World’s Children 2019: Children, food and nutrition” which revealed that while urbanisation, climate change and poor eating choices are driving unhealthy diets across the world, no fewer than 50 per cent of children under five in Nigeria are malnourished.

In the same vein, housing deficit has been a major challenge in Nigeria for decades and the inability to nip in the bud.

Worst still, the water and sanitation sectors are not getting much attention of the government of the day. Small wonder, WHO and UNICEF's joint monitoring report, 2019, revealed that Nigeria has emerged the number one country in the world with the highest number of people (47 million) practicing open defecation. This spotlights the urgent need to improve water and sanitation infrastructure and access to good toilets in the country.

Against the backdrop of the enumerated challenges above, and concerted efforts to prevent the SDGs from going the way of the MDGs in Nigeria, there is a compelling need for a spring up of a High Level Political Forum to accelerate action and transformative pathways to achieve the SDGs.

- To inspire unbroken collaboration between government at the national and state levels, including development actors, in a sense that SDGs must be implemented as a whole, in an integrated rather than a fragmented manner,

recognising that everybody is needed on board to make desired progress in that regard.

- In order to adapt to the growing complexity of the 21st century, innovation and technology must be central to developing the next generation of thinkers, innovators and civic leaders sine qua non for achieving the SDGs in the nooks and crannies of the country.
- Enlightenment campaign and educating the populace on SDGs is crucial in inspiring partnership and collaboration.
- Creating awareness about SDGs in schools, most especially, educating the pupils about importance of basic hygiene, sanitation and the health hazard posed by poor sanitary conditions and open defecation.

140. Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society of Nursing, Inc.

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, (Sigma), has more than 135,000 members in more than 100 countries around the world. Our mission is developing nurse leaders anywhere to improve healthcare everywhere, focused on leadership, scholarship and service. We achieve our mission by connecting and empowering nurse leaders to transform global healthcare.

The leadership, strength, and commitment of all healthcare providers, and most importantly nurses, has been front and centre due to the global pandemic that has rippled across the world.

We have watched the world's fragile health infrastructure fail. Those who are particularly vulnerable are those that have been identified through the World Health Organization's social determinants of health. We call on the governments of the world to recognize and address those who are at most at risk regardless of the country in which they live: the impoverished. Failure to address this issue has grave economic impact for everyone, furthering the inability to respond and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The need for coordination, cooperation, and collaboration across country borders is even more important because of the global nature of supply chains, knowledge, and resources, including the workforce.

Transparency and the sharing of scientific findings is encouraging and needs to be further enabled to expand rapidly, as we learn more about global pandemics and the course of all diseases having the potential to affect humanity. Disease knows no border.

Supporting nursing leadership development is critically important to the achievement of the SDGs. Nurses empower others, ensuring inclusiveness and equality, if they themselves are first empowered to do so. Sigma, as the global voice for nurse leaders across the globe, is regularly engaged in educating and promoting the vital work of the global nursing community.

We welcome opportunities for engagement with the High-Level Political Forum to help achieve these goals.

141. Sister to Sister One in the Spirit Inc

To address accelerated action and transformative pathways, one must explore the challenges women face in our society. Some of those challenges are embedded in politics, the workplace, through gender inequalities, and stereotypical views. While women are making significant advances, there's not been enough done in paving the way for them to make more compelling changes. Transformation is needed for women to become self-sustaining in a society that sometimes looks upon them with disdain. In this document, I will explore where these inequalities exist and proffer an idea and that will serve to bring about effective change.

The scales of power that men and women experience are imbalanced. Unlike a man, a woman's expertise has always been placed into question. This is due primarily to stereotypes, where it's believed that women are incapable of performing the same jobs as men. Therefore, a woman's ability to excel, is often suppressed and she's unable to rise to a higher position. She finds herself competing to demonstrate her competency to perform a specific task. Furthermore, she's being addressed in demeaning ways which shows a lack of professionalism.

This lack of professionalism has spilled over into politics where women in positions of authority and influence, have been highly disrespected. One example would be a United States Senator representing Massachusetts, being called out of her name by the president of the United States, who blatantly refers to her as "Pocahontas". We have seen an increasing level of disrespect toward women in politics and it's being condoned by the silence of those who witness it. Four United States Representatives of Michigan, Minnesota, Massachusetts and New York, all women of colour, were pejoratively labelled "The Squad." Another case in point, there has been a public display of sexism toward women by the president of the United States. He demeans female reporters in a way much different than how he responds to their male counterparts. During recent press conferences, he has had heated exchanges with female journalists, accusing one to have asked a "nasty" question. Then, in a disrespectful tort with another female reporter, he responds "that's okay. I know you're not thinking. You never do." This is totally unacceptable!

As a way to move forward in a positive direction and to achieve sustainable development, it is imperative to establish policy that will govern all matters of sexual harassment, discrimination, and disenfranchisement in the neighbouring states. These policies should be established to help the corporation achieve its objectives and should not obstruct the interpretation of future generations. The policy should reflect the business component of the company. It must determine an enforceable course of action and if violated, corrective action must be implemented as a source of quick resolution. Once the type of policy has been established, everyone involved will understand expectations when it comes to behaviour and job performance.

142. **Sociedad Mexicana de Criminología Capítulo Nuevo León, Asociación Civil**

End poverty in countries of Latin-American

Based on SDG 1, People who continue to live in extreme poverty face deep, entrenched deprivation often exacerbated by violent conflicts and vulnerability to disasters. Strong social protection systems and government spending on key services often help those left behind get back on their feet and escape poverty, but these services need to be brought to scale.

Chapter I of the Charter of the United Nations at Article 1, states that the Purposes of the United Nations includes Purpose 3 “to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion”; and Purpose 4: “To be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends”.

Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations further states at Article 42 that “should the Security Council consider that measures provided for in Article 41 would be inadequate or have proved to be inadequate, it may take such action by air, sea, or land forces as may be necessary to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such action may include demonstrations, blockade, and other operations by air, sea, or land forces of Members of the United Nations”.

Countries in Latin America are suffering because the lack of intervention of their governments, destabilizes the internal politics in each country, conducting the citizens to abandoned it, causing illegal immigrations, arrest, deaths, kidnaps. We urge that the United Nations bodies take actions in Venezuela, Honduras, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala. It is not an obligation that the United States of America or Mexico, take responsibility about the immigrations.

Overview of Sociedad Mexicana de Criminología Capítulo Nuevo León, Asociación Civil (SOMECRIMNL) related with the issue:

The SOMECRIMNL works since 2013 with programs applied in local entities with young people at risk, women, older persons, conflicts mediation, drug abuse prevention, develop job and studies opportunities for women and young people, against scholar violence, among other. On the other hand, editing books and conferences for professionals, in issues of social crime prevention, specific criminal problems.

Way forward

- SDG 1, Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
- SDG 1, Target 1.B: Create sound policy frameworks at the national, regional and international levels, based on pro-poor and gender-sensitive development strategies, to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions

Charter of the United Nations

- Article 1, Principle 3: “promoting international co-operation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, and health fields, and assisting in the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.”
- Article 44 : “When the Security Council has decided to use force it shall, before calling upon a Member not represented on it to provide armed forces in fulfilment of the obligations assumed under Article 43, invite that Member, if the Member so desires, to participate in the decisions of the Security Council concerning the employment of contingents of that Member's armed forces.”

143. Society to Support Children Suffering from Cancer (MAHAK)

Our world has entered 2020 facing a crisis of monumental proportions. The COVID-19 pandemic which is wreaking havoc across the globe is resulting in extinction or fragile and ineffective survivorship of many key developmental actors such as Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Impending failures expected from this group in the Corona era, the new objective should be empowering NGOs to a point where they can play their role in realizing the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and sustain themselves in order to ride out even the worst storms.

For more than two decades, NGOs have been seen as increasingly irreplaceable players on global issues, in particular in the areas where governments either can't or won't intervene in an equitable and effective manner. To remain relevant, NGOs depend on support, resources, guidelines and roadmaps afforded to them by international organizations such as the United Nations.

It is well known that there are many different factors involved for an organization to remain sustainable during and after a crisis. MAHAK, committed to fully achieve SDG 3 which is "ensuring healthy lives and promoting the well-being for all", has maintained its sustainability by remaining fully dependent on public trust and contributions but channelled through increasingly convenient electronic and digital media. Its obsession with continuously improving organizational capacity predicated on agility in decision-making and proper planning which anticipates crises and meeting and surpassing global best practices in every area of operations as verified by achieving top rating in 2018 SGS NGO benchmarking and 2019 International Project Management Association (IPMA) gold standard accreditation has kept it afloat even in the unpredictable environment characterizing the early part of this decade.

The measures taken by MAHAK in immediate response to the COVID-19 pandemic has occurred with no measurable decline in meeting our primary *raison d'être*. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about less established NGOs not sharing comparable capacity and strength. So the key question remains: What can the global community do to ameliorate this situation? What is a 'necessary condition' to meet in order to provide a level playing field for deserving NGOs? In one word, funding. Nothing novel about the idea; however, as is often the case, it is not the 'what' but the 'how' that makes all the difference. In this case, it is not the amount of financial assistance provided to an NGO; it is how reliable the funding is for a critical period of time it takes for a stereotypical NGO to form an organization in the mold of MAHAK's of this world.

One proposal to build sufficient organizational capacity to function effectively even in times of crisis can be the formation of a 'partnership for effective funding' mechanism

composed of representatives of standardization assessment agencies, successful NGOs, developmental agencies with effective funding strategies, large independent funding agencies, and a key arbiter such as The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with the ability to independently assess and evaluate UN's NGO partners through sustainable and result-based approaches. Let's make this the decade of sustainable NGOs in order to ensure success of SDGs.

144. Soroptimist International, Associated Country Women of the World, Women for Water Partnership

Soroptimist International (SI) is a global volunteer movement of women, active for almost 100 years, with a network of over 75,000 club members in 122 countries. SI's mission is to transform the lives and status of women and girls and to accomplish this, members work at a local, national and international level to educate, empower and enable opportunities for women and girls.

A recent Soroptimist International President's Appeal project: Women, Water, Leadership (WW&L) provides women and girls with the opportunity to get the education and vocational training they need to be an equal partner to manage the most essential ingredients of life: water (water security for all), sanitation, food and energy.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommendation to wash hands frequently with soap and water highlights the lack of access to water and sanitation facilities in many countries. The restrictions on travel measures to prevent spread of the virus impacts heavily on women and girls when they need to reach farmed land, bring food to market (which leads to more food loss) or to access water for survival acting as caretakers for their families and communities. Water scarcity is also a driver for internal displacement and migration leading to female headed households as sole parent and care-taker.

The WASH in Health Care Facilities (HCF) Global Baseline Report in 2019 highlighted that one in four HCFs lacks basic water service (affecting more than 900 million people), one in five HCFs has no sanitation service (affecting about 1.5 billion people), and one in six HCFs has no hygiene service. Services should meet minimum quality standards and should be separated for infected vs. non-infected patients. There is still a long way to go to meet these standards.

The Women, Water and Leadership (W,W &L) project unites Soroptimists worldwide as a global voice for women to increase awareness of the vital role of women play as equal partners at all levels of the water sector in a programme empowering women and girls to assume leadership positions in managing the water/food/energy nexus. Women and girls have the capacity, experience and education they need to take leadership in managing water and sanitation. The ripple effect of WW&L results in the empowerment of an astonishing amount of small holder women farmers that are economically independent, are experts in their field, started businesses and provide a better life for their communities and families. Work across countries in three continents demonstrates that the project is sustainable and can be replicated in all communities to the benefit of many.

Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) is a worldwide network of 28 women organisations active in the field of gender, water and sanitation and sustainable development. WfWP strives towards a water secure world:

Equitable access to water for all, and for all uses as a key part of women's empowerment. A water secure world ensures women exercise their full potential to achieve sustainable and equitable development. WfWP positions women as active leaders and agents of change intersecting water, gender, food and vocational training. Linking day-to-day practice to national and international level and vice versa, makes WfWP a unique network and a link between the grassroots level and national and international stakeholders. WfWP uses water as an entry point to women's empowerment, due to the central part that women play in the provision, management and safeguarding of water.

Working in partnership toward SDG 6 and other water related targets to enable access to clean water and good sanitation means that women have to be included in all aspects of project development and management. They are the major players in understanding the needs of their communities and can ensure that development is practical, appropriate, affordable and sustainable.

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) is a global network of rural women's organisations, representing more than nine million women living in rural and non-urban communities. Founded in 1929, ACWW held expert-consultant status with the League of Nations' Nutrition Committee, has continued into Consultative Status with the United Nations, and contributed to the creation of targets and indicators for both the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals. For more than 40 years, ACWW has funded small-scale, women-led food security, nutrition education, and sustainable agricultural projects in 52 less developed countries.

Women and girls in many areas will be facing lack of access to food, even where they may be main producers. Travel restrictions to local markets as well as social norms which dictate men and boys eat first may impact heavily and can mean women and girls become more malnourished, less healthy and more susceptible to infection by COVID – 19. It enhances food loss and waste and leads to internal displacement.

Whilst making vital local changes by supporting and implementing local solutions and initiatives, projects of this type cannot affect the systematic, institutional advancements necessary for global food security. This responsibility must lie with States Parties but must also be informed by rural women who have experience and expertise, to achieve genuine change.

These are the actions we propose for the future:

- Each State should adopt a legal and institutional framework that assists those within its jurisdiction to provide for food security, including water rights, land rights, transportation systems, and food storage and distribution systems.
- States should sign on to and implement legal frameworks to implement the rights to water and sanitation.
- States should fully implement the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, including creating appropriate legal measures to incorporate the Convention into domestic law. This must include a functional institutional mechanism, and an understanding of Article 14 as a critical step in strengthening food security.
- States should fully implement their Paris Agreement COP21 commitments, by supporting women in mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts and thus to prevent deterioration of human rights, including the rights to food, water, and land.
- States should recognize the role women play in food production, forestry, fishery and water management and include them in discussions and decision making relating to food production and food security, and water management.
- States should provide access to vocational training, lifelong learning opportunities and capacity building that target women and girls and support their roles in improving food security and water management and empower them to be leaders, experts and agents of change.
- States should enable gender-sensitive health care and WASH provision to support women and girls not just for the period of the COVID-19 pandemic but at all times.

With increasing risk to food production and access to clean water and sanitation all actors must adjust their platforms for discussion and decision making to include women from all levels of society and ensure that the voices especially of rural women do not remain unheard. In the current times it is vital to enable the advancement of human wellbeing through their human rights to sufficient food, access to clean water and good sanitation.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognised the need to move globally to a fairer and more equitable world. A decade into achieving the SDGs the outcomes have been endangered by COVID-19, with many women and girls facing poverty, food scarcity and even starvation, as well as loss of life in families and communities. Now more than ever we have to ensure that women and girls are supported and empowered to play a leading role in the emerging future.

145. Stichting Simavi

Stichting Simavi is a global non-governmental organization working in ten countries across Africa and Asia. We strive for a world in which all women and girls are socially and economically empowered to live a healthy life, free from discrimination, coercion and violence.

We are deeply concerned about how different crises, including the current pandemic, climate change and conflicts, exacerbate the inequalities within and in between countries; worsen already bad situation for women and girls and delay the implementation of the already off-track sustainable development goals. Yet firmly believing in strength of our collective action and determination to remove the obstacles ahead, we urge Member States, the United Nations, private sector and civil society organisations to:

- Significantly increase efforts to shift from narrow, sectoral, silo approach to deliver sustainable development goals to a coordinated, holistic, cross-sectoral, and multi-stakeholder approach, ensuring required policy coherence, finance and resources to achieve these goals for all.
- Make stronger, actionable commitments to reach “the furthest behind first” through increased investment in removing the barriers experienced by those left behind and actions tackling the discriminatory norms, attitudes, policies, practices that underlies such barriers.
- Enhance public participation, in particular participation of women, disadvantage people and civil society organisations in decision making and monitoring processes related to sustainable development goals to increase transparency, accountability and sustainability.
- Adhere to the fundamental principles in the Charter of the United Nations and other commitments that ensure all women and girls, regardless of any form of status, identity, or means, have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled.

146. Stiftelsen Stockholm International Water Institute

Transformative water pathways: Water as the key to unlocking the SDGs' potential for a just, healthy, and prosperous future

As we prepare to recover from Covid-19 and make a concerted effort to build a better, hardier, and more resilient society, the global community's immediate task will be to prioritize human well-being, economic security, and planetary health. This is an enormous task that requires us to imagine a system change, one that looks at all three pillars together, holistically and deeply interlinked with one another.

In today's global pandemic, compounded by inequality, poor governance, and isolationist politics, water is an indispensable lifeline. Reliable and equitable supply and access to water and sanitation is critical for people, the environment and economies. We operate under one common system. The human environment, the natural environment, and human livelihood are all connected. COVID-19 is a costly reminder of this reality.

How can we, with less than ten years on the clock, bounce back collectively from global pandemics, respond to yet-to-come natural and man-made disasters, and still manage to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)? The systems change through transformative pathways approach tells us that we can get there when we value our resources, especially our water. By placing water at the foundation of our policy priorities, actions and solutions, we can more quickly and more efficiently set new pathways to arrive at a more sustainable and resilient future, capable of responding to risks and shocks, and even thriving as we learn to adapt and transform when needed. By recognising the value of water and sanitation for people, planet, and prosperity, we can work more efficiently toward the achievement of the entire 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Beyond times of crisis, water is more than a lifeline. Water security, and its wise management, allows families, societies, natural ecosystems, and the planet as a whole to thrive. We need water for growing food, generating and storing energy, sustaining supply chains, and transporting people. We need the fulfilment of the human right to water and sanitation to ensure dignified lives for everyone. To do this, we need wise, holistic, and sustainable water governance more than ever.

Water, by virtue of its characteristics as an essential resource required for both human and environmental livelihoods, can help chart a truly transformative pathway to sustainable development. It plays a critical role in poverty reduction, maintaining healthy ecosystems, in the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, and is indispensable for economic development. To accelerate the kind of urgent, efficient, and effective action needed to achieve the sustainable development agenda, it is crucial

to address its interconnections and recognise the central role of water as a catalyst for action and progress across all SDGs.

147. Terra-1530

On December 14, 2012, the Vorniceni Village Council, Republic of Moldova, approved a decision (nr. 8/16) concerning changing the destination of a land area for the purpose of arranging of a square, this constituting one of the objectives of the Socio-Economic Development Strategy of Vorniceni village.

The Decision of the Village Council to plant trees on the respective public plot was taken due to the mutual initiative of the local civil society and the "Terra-1530" NGO. From the very start more partners were committed to finding a solution for a community problem of global importance.

Unfortunately, Republic of Moldova has the lowest percentage of forest area in Europe - 11.4 % (374,500 ha). The capacity of Moldova's forests to absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere is about 2,230,000 tons per year. Forests substantially contribute to reducing soil erosion and landslides. The protective role of the forests is of vital importance for Moldova because of substantial alternating temperatures that occur, frequent droughts and shortage of water, lands 'propensity to slides and a decrease in soil fertility up to 40-50% due to the erosion processes. The multitude of benefits conditioned by forests is inexhaustible. A reckless attitude towards the forest's role for the ecological balance may cause irrecoverable damages with a very serious negative impact on the welfare of the modern society and, to a greater extend, on the future of the next generations. For this reason, sustainable forests and forest vegetation management became a priority for individual countries and for the global community in general; again, it becomes extremely important because it provides the protection of the environment for our descendants to inherit it.

- It is an opportunity for more than 5000 inhabitants of Vorniceni village to participate in the project implementation, particularly those working abroad that may contribute financially.
- There are more and more discussions about ecological education in Moldova today but there is a stringent lack of a real model. The respective square, arranged in Vorniceni with the participation of international experts, may become such a model. It may become a best practice for local public administration, because it is for the first time in the history of the village when all the people will have the opportunity to be involved in an activity.
- As the village high school is located in the neighbourhood of the plot it will make possible to have outdoor lessons in the square, especially biology and other outdoor activities.
- The forestation will constitute our response to the Global Warming phenomenon.

148. The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection "Manshour-e Parseh"

The emergence of the COVID-19 virus is a health catastrophe in our environment. Today, with the outbreak of COVID-19, the world has realized more than ever that the environment knows no borders.

For this reason, governments face "the right to a healthy environment" two obligations to two right holders: On the one hand, the right of its citizens to have a healthy environment and, on the other hand, the prohibition of harm to the citizens of the other states, in other words, it prohibits the harmful use of land in international law.

COVID-19 Reminded us: that fate of human beings on this planet depends on each other more than ever. The virus made border lines known to humans more quickly than ever before and it made the message clear to the people of the planet: "O human beings, you are all inhabitants of a sphere and your destiny depends on each other". Geographical latitude, skin colour, race, language, religion and faith do not outweigh each other. "You are all responsible to each other and every human being is responsible for the environment"

The message of the continuity of human destiny has already been sent to us by the environment. Unfortunately, humans did not take it seriously and they turned their attention to their borders. That result is a sense of irresponsibility in reducing greenhouse gases, ozone layer perforation, air pollution, global warming, climate change, acid rain, dams on shared rivers between countries, occurrence dust, drought, access to water, especially safe drinking water for some nations.

Pay attention that yesterday's people tried to provide peace, health, economic growth and prosperity for the people within the hypothetical boundaries created by themselves and their view of the present and future state of other nations was either hostile or indifferent.

But today, with COVID-19, rich and developed countries will have complete peace and prosperity when poor countries have similar health and welfare facilities. The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection in its proposed submission, addresses the micro and macro approach to eradicating poverty, and recommends paying attention to the macro approach. Here we would like to also mention the Declaration on the Right to Development and draw the attention to the last paragraph of the written statement submitted by this association and presented at the 34th session of the UN Human Rights Council with reference A/HRC/34/NGO/26. (Proposal for the establishment of the international institution United Nations Environmental Rights "UNER").

Finally, emphasizing that the inevitable approach of humans in the after-COVID-19 is that countries interact, understand, dialogue and cooperate. Governments can solve the

various problems and threats posed to humanity and achieve to sustainable development.

149. The Brooke

Accelerating Change and Creating Transformative Pathways to Achieve Sustainable Development in global health

The World Health Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organisation for Animal Health partnered to create the 'One Health' approach to designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research. This means that multiple sectors (e.g. human health, animal health and environmental sciences) can work together to achieve better public health outcomes. Brooke has been using a One Health approach in South Asia partnering with regional governments, relevant United Nations entities, civil society and private sector to form a consortia on the brick kiln industry. The aim of this consortia is to create a pilot 'One Health' programme within the brick kiln sector showing improved health and welfare outcomes for the humans working on the kilns, the animals which the workers depend on for their livelihoods, and an improved environment within which the sector operates.

But to create transformative pathways we need a sector wide response which leaves no-one behind:

- Brooke calls for veterinarians and animal health professionals to be seen as key workers, especially during global disease outbreak, thereby acknowledging that livestock are a key livelihood asset, supporting food security, which if lost could plunge people in low income economies into further poverty.
- By 2050 it is estimated that the number one cause of death globally will be AMR with an estimated 10 million deaths a year. Brooke calls for improved access to essential medicines for animal health practitioners across the globe. We know that poor access to sub-standard medicines, coupled with inadequate training and regulation, results in the misuse of anti-microbials. We support and advocate for quality training and regulation of animal health practitioners and agro-pharmacists to ensure the responsible use of anti-microbial drugs.
- Better diagnostics and monitoring of disease in livestock. Of all emerging human infections, 75% are zoonotic (transferred from animals) and 61% of all human infections come from animals. We cannot neglect investment in better diagnostics, monitoring and modelling of current and future diseases so that we can take preventative measures earlier and provide better treatment.

To accelerate action for the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, strengthening animal health systems must be prioritised, enabling us to look at global health in a truly global way, supporting people and planet.

150. The Catholic Health Association of India

Post Millennium Development Goals in 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been serving as mile posts indicating progress towards a sustainable world. While there has been substantial progress in some areas, there are areas which still need a tremendous amount of work, partnerships and collaboration.

India has made notable progress on a number of indicators including health, water and sanitation. However, in the areas of poverty, hunger, gender and climate fronts, more needs to be done. There have been heartening reductions in maternal mortality ratio, under 5 mortality ratio and neonatal mortality ratios. The number of births attended by Skilled Birth Attendants is promising and has been an encouraging trend for the country. New HIV infections and TB infections are tapering, though not at the rate we aspire to. India has held itself accountable to ambitious goals in non-communicable disease and the progress seems arduous.

To achieve the SDGs, the momentum needs to be accelerated. Basic building blocks of health need to be continually reinforced. A strong grassroots network which is affordable, accessible and provides quality care with compassion is the backbone of the health system of any country. An educated and empowered frontline health worker who belongs to the community can dramatically alter the healthcare trajectory of a village. The penetration of mobile networks and phones is ubiquitous in India and this is a boon for digital healthcare delivery. Low cost appropriate technology can make delivery of healthcare cost effective, efficient and universal. These tools in our arsenal can shorten the path towards achieving the SDGs. Partnerships and collaborations, both public and private, formation of likeminded networks are crucial to expand reach. However, the world is contending with an unprecedented global health and economic crisis. Most countries, especially low-middle income countries have a healthcare system that is ill equipped to manage the pandemic. Shortfalls in critical care equipment and protective equipment are looming large and the situation is unpredictable. The pandemic is predicted to have a tremendous toll on physical, mental health and the economic aftereffects will also take their toll. The post pandemic scenario is unforeseen and long-term changes in the healthcare delivery system are yet to be anticipated.

The Catholic Healthcare network in India, continues to make strides towards achieving the SDGs despite these challenges. In an emergent response to the pandemic, CHAI is at the forefront, equipping frontline healthcare workers and hospitals with equipment and personal protective gear to continue essential services. The vulnerable families facing the economic brunt are being provided emergency food and sanitation kits. The core function of the network, to provide affordable, accessible, compassionate quality of care at the grassroots continues to be fulfilled despite the pandemic. CHAI has been partnering with several organizations and the government in this rapid response as collaboration and networking are key elements to reaching the unreached and serving

the underserved. The outlook for India is cautiously optimistic and we continue to endeavour towards this transformation towards our goal for "Health for All".

151. The Geneva Consensus Foundation

From Vision to Action to Achieve SDGs: A Paradigm Shift from Economic to Sustainable Competitiveness

Delivering on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we developed an interactive-iterative performance evaluation system for monitoring progress made by countries towards achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). As a first step towards developing economic theory more in tune with the requirements of our global age, we propose an innovative Model that transcends standard measures to more comprehensive economic, social and environmental attributes. Our approach is flexible and it is applicable to evaluating the performance and competitiveness of all sorts of decision making units: such as regions, cities, projects, enterprises; schools; banks, etc. that are engaged in transforming multiple inputs to multiple outputs: “Frontier” DMUs are able to coordinate available tools to achieve an optimal mix of social-economic goals thus defining the frontier of the doable. The others are sub-frontier, falling short of the doable.

Employing methods of operations research, we determine numerically the envelope to a given set of data points. The envelope is the frontier and a surface in many dimensions (one dimension for each SDG and each policy instrument). Rather than packing all given data into a single dubious index, the envelope spells out all the desired aspects of the performance explicitly. For sub-frontier units, we calculated its possible improvement. Within our framework the frontier includes nations from all continents. Some of them are quite poor. So, “best practice” becomes a quite democratic concept. Most importantly, our model suggests how things could be improved and some indication of corrective policy.

From Vision to Action

The Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) (C228/37) on ‘Listening to the citizens of Europe for a sustainable future (Sibiu and beyond)’ defined “Sustainable competitiveness” as a model that balances economic prosperity, environmental issues and social inclusiveness. EESC submits that; in this context, the sustainability-adjusted global competitiveness index needs to take into consideration two new dimensions — environmental and social. This definition is based on our work with Sten Thore: “The Sustainable Competitiveness of Nations”.

We believe by the adoption of our definition by EESC on 20 march 2019, during its Plenary session No 542 we have made our modest contribution to the paradigm shift beyond economic towards sustainable competitiveness, that will still yields its results in the years to come!

152. The HETL Association, Inc.

Strengthening the United Nations' SDG Implementation through Sustainability Research

Sustainable development is an increasingly important initiative for the welfare of humanity. One of the chief aims of the International Higher Education Teaching and Learning Association (HETL) is to improve sustainable development initiatives by transforming the scholarship and practice of teaching and learning in educational institutions around the world. This statement will discuss some key initiatives developed by HETL to reorient higher education institutions towards a more sustainable development focus.

Overview of the Issue

HETL collaborates directly with educational scholars and researchers around the world to conduct and publish basic and applied research in order to develop new research methods, theories, principles, models, frameworks, taxonomies, and concepts related to the nexus of sustainable development, social responsibility, and higher education. Within this broad remit, the objective of this statement is to report and reflect on the HETL initiative called, Sustainable Development for a Socially Responsible World.

Accomplishments and Challenges

To achieve the aforementioned goals, HETL works in four key areas: networking, conferences, research, and publishing. HETL has built one of the world's largest and most productive networks of higher education professionals in the world. HETL convenes periodic conferences and conducts advanced research, to bring together educators from around the world to dialogue on issues related to sustainable development and social responsibility.

A few examples of the published research that HETL has recently completed include 1) university partnerships for sustainable development 2) sustainable development leadership and strategies 3) teaching and learning strategies for sustainable development, and 4) integrating sustainable development into the curriculum.

A Way Forward: Expectations and Policy Recommendations

HETL's sustainable development research shows that humanity should rethink and reimagine social development by adopting the SDGs in order to address the growing crises around the world.

Thus, rethinking sustainable development should include: 1) focusing on equity and inclusion for a more humanistic way of life, 2) adopting globally shared values centered on human, animal, and environmental rights and democratic principles, 3) taking a more holistic, multidisciplinary, and integrated approach to understanding sustainable development, and 4) focusing on sustainable capacity-building at all levels.

Conclusion

Because of the significance of sustainable development to the overall well-being of the planet, the development of advanced research on sustainable development is critical to the successful implementation of the United Nations' SDGs.

153. The Institute for Conscious Global Change, Inc.

Technology creates opportunities to build capacity, engage citizens and transfer knowledge for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Institute for Conscious Global Change (ICGC) has embraced the technologies of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), GeoDesign and related technologies to create an innovative and revolutionary approach achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that leave no one behind and create transparency, accountability and monitoring. ICGC has used GIS, GeoDesign to develop a pilot in the informal settlement of Manyatta in the City of Kisumu, Kenya working with the government and citizens. The pilot was designed to show “how” the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development might be implemented by each government engaging in a middle step of integrated comprehensive development planning. This was done in collaboration with Antioch University using the research methodologies of:

- Participatory Action Research
- Situational Analysis
- Problem Tree Analysis
- Stakeholder Analysis

The goals were:

- To illustrate landscapes in their current condition
- To display existing infrastructure developments on the current landscape
- To create a participatory forum to engage individuals through the use of GIS, GeoDesign and related technologies with emphasis on achieving the social, economic and environment sustainability of the informal settlement of Manyatta.
- To build capacity among the citizens and government
- Knowledge and technology transfer
- Citizen engagement

500 georeferenced Household surveys, 11 Key Informant Interviews (KII), 13 Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and 19 Member Participatory Action Research/Situational Analysis/GeoDesign discussion group were conducted. Together we gathered all the data points for all public and private education and health facilities and all public and private water points; in addition to the data from the situational analysis of the settlement taking into account the geographic elements such as: existing developments; road networks; Auji River; lagas; topography and soil typology.

All these sources of data provided the information needed to GeoDesign the community that produced a Detailed Strategic Design of the community and additional

maps for implementation: Transit Oriented Model; Mixed Use Model; an Integrated Model; Manyatta Proposed Residential Land Use Zones; Industrial Land Use Zone; Educational Land Use Zone; Recreational Land Use Zones; Public Purpose Land Use Zones; Commercial Land Use Zones; Public Utility Land Use Zones and Transportation Land Use Zones.

This model of development has the potential for being a model for acceleration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by including the very essential middle step of integrated, comprehensive and holistic planning between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and actual implementation. ICGC believes this is crucial to achieve poverty eradication given all the goals and targets are interrelated and therefore the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in any other way but in an integrated and comprehensive manner would delay the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's implementation. ICGC believes country-specific virtual infrastructure models will enable all countries to meet the SDGs while building sustainable, economic and environmentally sound communities where no citizen is left behind. Through technological innovation and a focus on infrastructure and self-empowerment, ICGC believes our revolutionary approach to development will design "The Future We Want" and "Put Equality on The Map"!

154. The Institute of Development Studies

Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways for Sustainable Development in the Context of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic presents a unique set of opportunities and challenges for accelerating progress towards meeting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Our immediate response to the virus, how we support recovery and the way in which we transform our long-term development approaches in the wake of an outbreak which has exposed and exacerbated entrenched inequalities and injustices is critical to our ability to build more equitable and sustainable futures.

Drawing on our expertise as the world's leading international development think tank, and experience of leading global programmes that have both shaped immediate responses to outbreaks such as Ebola (West Africa, 2014-16) and long-term approaches to strengthening countries' preparedness and resilience to future epidemics, IDS believe knowledge, action and leadership is required in five key areas if we are to build back better and leave no-one behind:

- Making the universality of development a driving force for change.

COVID-19 has affected everyone, everywhere, albeit in very different ways. In response to the outbreak, rich and poor countries alike are undertaking humanitarian reconstruction and thinking about how best to put in place welfare and safety nets for the most vulnerable. Recognising this shared endeavour and development as progressive, economic and social change for all people in all countries is critical to meeting the SDGs.

- Building and connecting solidarities for collective action.

COVID-19 has demonstrated that knowledge, action and leadership can emerge at local level – for example, neighbourhood organised quarantines or providing food to the most vulnerable – as well be driven by states or international institutions. To tackle global challenges like pandemics or climate change, we need to recognise, support and connect local efforts with national and global collective action such as strengthening international financial and economic governance and sharing science and data.

- Engaging effectively with uncertainty.

Our world is shaped by shocks such as pandemics and economic, environmental, social, technological and political disruptions which create uncertainty and change which people and places experience differently. We need to invest more in developing

flexible, adaptive and iterative ways of working that can respond more effectively to these dynamic, complex and rapidly evolving contexts.

- Valuing diverse knowledge and expertise.

Efforts to tackle global challenges must be shaped by expertise from across disciplines, countries, sectors and communities and better systems put in place to facilitate the collaborative generation and sharing of this knowledge and learning.

- Understanding, addressing and challenging power.

Power and power imbalances infuse all aspects of development and COVID-19 has shone a light on the resulting inequalities and injustices - from whose advice counts in shaping responses to how far different communities are able to follow advice and access services. Understanding power relations and redressing power imbalances is critical to a building a more equitable and sustainable future where no-one is left behind.

155. The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Building Back Better

We are at the beginning of the decade leading us to the 2030 target year for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A decade that must deliver real action and transformative pathways for sustainable development.

This also a moment marked by unprecedented crisis and potential slowing down of essential efforts to accelerate action to make the SDGs a reality by 2030.

COVID-19 is an acute reminder that building capacity and resilience in our social and economic systems is what provides the best protections in moments of crisis. While governments, public institutions and the private sector are urgently focusing on protecting health, incomes and businesses are threatened.

In the recovery phase, we can expect renewed emphasis on resilience to pandemics. But this is insufficient. It is not enough to rebuild economies with only pandemics in mind.

We now have the opportunity to make this a green, resilient and more equitable recovery because other fundamental threats exist such as, biodiversity collapse, a burgeoning and ageing population, water and resource scarcity and climate change. Science-based projections teach us that our climate goals are critical to reducing the risk of catastrophic crises in the future. While the pandemic offers some lessons for these challenges, it would be a mistake to believe that pandemic “solutions” can be transferred onto them: a vaccine will not halt climate change and lockdowns will not preserve biodiversity. Moreover, short-term “quick fix” solutions will not help us to meet the longer-term goals we have set ourselves.

In times of crisis there is a resurgent demand in ethics and trusted professional advice and expertise.

RICS’ 1881 charter specifies a core responsibility to: “...secure the advancement and facilitate the acquisition of that knowledge which constitutes the profession...” and “maintain and promote the usefulness of the profession for the public advantage”

Over time, the society’s understanding of “public advantage” has become increasingly sophisticated. The principles of sustainable development embodied by the SDGs are a useable and well-defined proxy for public advantage.

As part of their public advantage responsibility, the surveying profession stands ready to lead the way on a post-pandemic recovery that does not simply return to previous norms but to “build back better” by pressing the case for a transition to sustainable and resilient economic and social systems.

We call on governments and the private sector to also fully embrace this understanding of public advantage in their help and recovery programmes.

156. Triglav Circle

The focus of the Triglav Circle is on sustainable development goal (SDG) 12: Target 12.8. This target raises the principal question: What information and awareness are essential to the realization of sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature? First, it is necessary to consider how the world understands ‘nature.’ Second, it is necessary to consider the indicator 12.8.1: The extent to which [i] global citizen education and [ii] education for sustainable development [including climate change education] are mainstreamed in [a] national education policies [b] curricula [c] teacher education and [d] student assessment.

First, what is the ‘nature’ the world is to harmonize with? ‘Nature’ is more difficult to define than ‘environment’ because it has different connotations depending on the level of human perception and the values assigned to it at each level. In common parlance ‘nature’ can have both physical and metaphysical connotations, terms whose meanings are often intertwined. For example, nature has been described as a composite of visible and invisible parts of an infinite organism. Discourse on being ‘in harmony with nature’ contrasts nature’s instrumental value as resources for human use with its extrinsic value as a phenomenon of beauty, or its intrinsic value, which is ‘in and of’ its own substance— independent of human appreciation. Significantly, the intrinsic value cannot be ignored because of the many unknown phenomena of Nature veiled in its transcendent dimensions with relevance for human existence.

Second, what will be the content of Global citizenship education for development in harmony with Nature? If education is limited to what is seen in the physical universe, it is unlikely to bring about any semblance of efforts to harmonize with nature. Scientific knowledge is always changing. Not to deepen understanding with insights of reality fed by Nature and the universe, is to “wrestle in the dark with an unknown opponent.” All the more so because as physicist Brian Greene notes: “assessing life through everyday experience is like gazing at a Van Gogh masterpiece through a coke bottle.” Sadly, this is just what the international community has been doing—assessing life through the green glass of a coke bottle. Since the 1960’s, “environment politics” dominates the political discourse concerning nature. In the SDGs the word Nature appears once. It is the word environment which displaced nature in the 1960’s that echoes in debates. Only sensitivity to the intrinsic values of nature can inform humanity that a holistic approach to the environment can restore harmony with nature.

Nature’s advocates include philosophers, poets, artists, musicians in addition to natural scientists and a host of other thinkers. Their other-sourced knowledge expands horizons of thinking, encourages imagination, and offers the poetic inspiration essential should sustainable development be truly in harmony with nature, as opposed to a mere balancing of natural resources with concrete carrying capacities of the earth to provide them.

157. Türkiye Yesilay Cemiyeti

Addiction is a brain disorder characterized by compulsive engagement in rewarding stimuli despite adverse consequences. The term addiction does not only refer to dependence on substances such as heroin or cocaine. A person who cannot stop taking a particular drug or chemical has a substance dependence. Some addictions also involve an inability to stop partaking in activities, such as gambling, eating, or working. In these circumstances, a person has a behavioural addiction.

Green Crescent focuses on finding solutions for drug, alcohol, tobacco, technology and gambling addictions to promote public health and contribute to healthy generations. These substance and behavioural addictions directly prevent achieving 10 of the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) which are No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Wellbeing, Quality Education, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Reduced Inequality, Responsible Consumption and Production, Life Below Water, Life on Land and Peace and Justice Strong Institutions. They indirectly but adversely affect achieving other remaining SDGs.

Substance use, such as alcohol, tobacco and illicit drugs are directly and indirectly responsible for over billions of deaths per year.

An estimated 1.3 billion people worldwide use tobacco products, 80% of whom are in low- and middle-income countries. Tobacco use contributes to poverty by diverting household spending from basic needs, such as food and shelter, to tobacco. This spending behaviour is difficult to curb because tobacco is so addictive. It also causes premature death and disability of productive age adults in households thus leading to reduced household income and increased healthcare costs.

In addition to the detrimental impact of tobacco on health, the total economic cost of smoking (from health expenditures and productivity losses together) are estimated to be around US\$ 1.4 trillion per year, equivalent in magnitude to 1.8% of the world's annual gross domestic product (GDP). In addition, 6 trillion cigarettes are smoked worldwide, and 4.5 trillion cigarettes are littered in the environment. Trillions of cigarette butts are thrown into the environment every year, where they leach nicotine and heavy metals before turning into micro plastic pollution.

Today, more than 7 million people suffer from an illicit drug disorder, and one in four deaths results from illicit drug use. In fact, more deaths, illnesses and disabilities are associated with drug abuse than any other preventable health condition. People suffering from drug and alcohol addiction also have a higher risk of unintentional injuries, accidents and domestic violence incidents.

Green Crescent offers Prevention and Recovery for all levels to save generations and promote public health. Starting with pre-schoolers, our programs aim to raise awareness about addiction by educating people of all ages in society. There are more than 40 Green Crescent Consultancy Centres called YEDAM in different parts of Turkey. They are aimed to provide free psychological and social support to people having problems in alcohol and substance use and their families.

With the socially responsible mindset, we primarily target protecting kids and youth, support people affected by substance or behavioural addiction problems, make communities safer, and promote health and development for all, worldwide.

158. UCC Whale Center Inc.

Blue Community One Planet Living Model for Sustainable Cities

The Blue Community One Planet Living program was designed to accelerate the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) for cities. The program is particularly applicable for cities with strong tourism sectors and has an emphasis on protecting, enhancing, and restoring coastal habitat and marine environments.

The program was developed by the UCC Whale Center Blue Community program and Bioregional. Both contributed to the Villages Nature Resort, recipient of the World Hospitality Award for sustainable development and social responsibility, recognized as one of the most sustainable resorts in the world, and a game change for sustainable tourism.

The integration of the two programs was piloted in hotels, restaurants, and attractions in the communities of New Smyrna Beach, and Anna Maria Island and now being implemented on a community wide basis in six cities in Florida including Orlando, the largest tourism destination in North America with over 80 million visitors a year.

The program and process has been field tested internationally in North America, Europe and Africa. The program includes the integration of several features to accelerate the implementation of the SDG's including but not limited to:

- An online community assessment tool to develop baseline data using the SDG framework, One Planet Living principles, Blue Community strategies, Global Sustainable Tourism Council framework, and the science of the nine planetary boundaries.
- A training program that has been field tested successfully in different countries.
- A software platform for cities to develop their own customized sustainability plans using the framework of the 17 SDGs, a feature to involve multi stakeholders in the process, and publish the plan for transparency. See the Blue Community plan.
- A software feature to allow for the development of sustainability plans of businesses, NGOs, and other community organizations with a link to the overall city plan to track collective data.
- Integrates One Planet Living Framework, used in the most sustainable tourism resort in the world.
- Utilizes the 12 Blue Community strategies co-developed with the Walt Disney Company and proven cost-effective.
- Online format that utilizes block chain technology for easy reporting.

- PM4SD Training (Project Management 4 Sustainable Development).
- An Olympic award-winning leadership development program developed in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- A tool kit including several resources such as case studies, videos of best practices, and more.
- Evaluation tools to measure performance, programmatic, and cultural change data.

This City program is ready to serve.

159. UNANIMA International

UNANIMA International's Written Statement HLPF 2020 "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"

UNANIMA International welcomes "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development" as the theme for the 2020 High Level Political Forum.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda means addressing each of the goals in a multidimensional and multilateral manner ensuring no one is left behind. Unfortunately, vulnerable people including homeless families and individuals continue to be left behind, especially during times of crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic. Achieving the Agenda requires addressing Family Homelessness, a subject that has thus far been overlooked, deemphasized, and misunderstood. Often considered embarrassing or taboo governments tend to underestimate the problem. Homelessness affects families and individuals no matter their social, economic, or environmental context, having a multitude of direct and indirect health, social, and educational consequences. It is an issue connected to each of the 17 goals as highlighted in UNANIMA International's research. It is integral in achieving the Agenda particularly because of the issues intersections with others, including human trafficking, the environment and migration.

The issue of Family Homelessness not only hinders the success of the Agenda but also obstructs individuals and families from enjoying the Human Rights we are each entitled to. As noted by the Danish Institute for Human Rights, over 90% of the SDGs' targets are linked to international human rights, as detailed in the Universal Declaration for Human Rights and international labor standards. Given their importance we suggest that any ambitious and transformative approaches going into the decade for acceleration be born from a human rights base, centered around vulnerable individuals and families, especially women and children.

To ensure accelerated action and pave the way for transformative pathways to achieve the United Nations' 2030 Agenda, we must not be blindsided to issues at the intersections and niches of others. We must include people experiencing such issues in efforts for their prevention and solution; cycles of poverty and complacency must be broken promoting structural and systematic change. We call for global action towards a multilateral paradigm shift in how we perceive these problems. We urgently need start a dialogue that views and treats homelessness and all issues plaguing the 2030 Agenda as what they are: Human and Civil Rights issues. It is only then that we will ignite ambition need to make the decade of action one which is transformative and successful.

160. Udisha

Initiatives of Indian Government on Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development in India with Focus on Achieving Food Security

Objective: To address the food security concerns and initiatives taken by the government for achieving food security and the way forward.

Overview: Udisha is working for women and child development and is concerned about food security, which is vital for a healthy nation. We advocate for provision of nutritious food to all children for their physical and mental growth.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are integral to India's longstanding tradition and heritage of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam" meaning "the world is one family". Much of India's development agenda is mirrored in the SDGs. SDGs can be met only through high standards of governance at all levels. In India, we have highly committed governments at the centre as well as states.

Food security is closely related to household resources, disposable income and socioeconomic status. It is also strongly interlinked with other issues, such as food prices, global environment change, water, energy and agriculture growth.

Some initiatives taken by the government for achieving food security:

- National Food Security Mission: which aims to increase production of rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals and commercial crops, through area expansion and productivity enhancement.
- Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY): A scheme allowing states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities as per the district/state agriculture plan.
- The National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013: Legally entitles up to 75% of the rural population and 50% of the urban population to receive subsidized food grains and more than 800 million people are covered in this Scheme.

Despite all the efforts of the government to ensure food security, lot more is required to be done. The government policy needs to adopt an integrated policy framework to facilitate agriculture productivity. The current direct nutrition programs should be revamped to enable management by women's Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and /or local bodies.

The Way Forward

The right to food is a well-established principle of international human rights law. It has evolved to include an obligation for state parties to respect, protect, and fulfil their

citizens' right to food security. India needs to adopt a policy that brings together diverse issues such as inequality, food diversity, indigenous rights and environmental justice to ensure sustainable food security.

161. Udyama

COVID-19 disaster has made everybody leveller and more than 200 countries have grossly been impacted. The risk is systemic, and crises are cascading. Disasters are rapidly producing further disasters to become more complex and deadly. Everyone is affected, but not everyone is affected equally. The elderly, people living with disabilities, migrant workers and the poor and marginalised are the most vulnerable. The only solution is, prevention followed by protection and provision, prepositioning readiness. Prevention saves lives. The core message – “Prevention saves lives” is about systemic risk and cascading disasters, and protection of the dignity of the stranded, and providing a humanitarian response without bias of class culture, creed, community. It is about how we need to recover, build back better, and think forward to resilience, and promote nature-based solutions to accelerate better nutrition, safe water and hygiene. It is about building capacities, and strengthening adaptation capability of enhancing social, cultural, natural, ecological, economical capital in order to improve wellbeing to address the next development challenges of climate change and global warming.

The civil society Udyama have responded to COVID-19 as one of the members in action by influencing policy for entitlements and extending humanitarian services.

Looking at the whole gamut of COVID-19 and vulnerability mitigation, there is a dire need for short- and long-term action to move towards sustainable communities and to meet the forthcoming climate crisis. Udyama has been also supporting returned migrants, stranded labour, women, children, people with disabilities, wage earners, daily labourers and slum dwellers to address hunger, save lives and rebuild livelihoods.

There are three major pathways to make communities resilient now that we look forward to beyond COVID-19:

- A humanitarian response that supports returned migrants and stranded labour during the COVID-19 pandemic. This response includes, nutrition kits, dignity kits, school children kits, preventive kits for front line workers, agro-kits with micro-nutrition supplements, health boosters, setting up call centres for IEC, employable skill-building and area sanitization by drone.
- Building community assets and the promotion of ecosystem-based climate change resilient integrated livelihood models with the objective to connect the community, save lives and provide security on food, water, culture, nature, nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, lifestyle, education on environment, circular economy, green energy and LEDS, technology transfer and familiarisation of the sustainable food system as part of innovation.
- An enabling environment and setting up an institutional process for learning, management and sustainability. This includes community institution

building, knowledge transformation, scaling up, call centres (Resource Hub) and ICT, Employable skill-building for women, youth as inclusion, connecting with Farmers Producers Organisation on processing, value addition, and marketing towards eco-preneurs.

This COVID-19 Pandemic crisis has given us a huge opportunity to educate our children, rethink the way we work, our cultural customs and to realign towards social, economic and environmental sustainability. The scale of the disaster requires new ways of working and innovative partnerships, to ensure interventions go to scale to prevent transmission, where the impact will be greatest, and ensure to combat climate crisis as people first “The Future We Want”.

162. Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB)

We, the Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey (TOBB), are committed to working towards fostering meaningful progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Dominated by a global crisis triggered by the recent COVID-19 pandemic and at a time in which inequality and finance gap is increasing, it is crucial to keep re-emphasizing the SDGs. Here are some of TOBB initiatives towards the SDGs:

- To create decent work and economic growth, we offer vocational qualification testing and certification to Syrians under temporary protection in Turkey's 12 provinces through our "Mahir Eller" project. The project, funded by the European Union, aims to reach out 30 thousand Syrians and promote formal employment with the end goal being 3000 job replacements.
- Through our Women Entrepreneurs Council comprising 7000 businesswomen, we are partnering with leading international companies on projects geared towards encouraging entrepreneurship among Turkey's women. Turkcell, - "Women Writing the Future" project educates women on software to increase their employment capacity. Facebook-Turkey's "She Means Business" project is a space for entrepreneurial women to make valuable connections, share advice, and move forward together. Coca-Cola Turkey's "My Sister" project aims to strengthen women's economic and social status and encourages them to take an active role in regional economic development.

The post-COVID-19 era brought further challenges to sustainable development. The stay-at-home orders have created unprecedented levels of unemployment and rising inequalities within societies. Gender inequality remains a key challenge, and refugees became more vulnerable than ever. Under these circumstances, we recommend the following action priorities:

- How the countries around the world manage their resources and design their long-term policies to respond to the pandemic will determine how the global order will look like in the aftermath. We encourage the United Nations to have a more active role in this process so that the SDGs do not lose importance.
- Women and girls should be at the centre of efforts to recover from COVID-19 and to reach the SDGs. Measures to stimulate the economy should put emphasis on women. As violence against women continues to increase throughout this period, we must put pressure on governments to be strict against the perpetrators. In coordination with TOBB's think-tank organization, the Economic Policy Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV), we have been publishing reports regarding the gender equality performance of Turkey's 81 provinces.

These kinds of initiatives increase the visibility and importance of gender-related issues and, thus, should be encouraged.

- As the refugees become more vulnerable than ever and as every countries' public finances diminish, it becomes essential for the United Nations to scale up its efforts and to provide assistance to countries such as Turkey who are hosting a significant number of world's refugees. The success of ongoing projects, such as TOBB's "Mahir Eller Project", would depend on the continuing support of international organizations such as the United Nations.

163. VAAGDHARA

Overview

As the world enters a new decade it has been globally agreed that much more accelerated efforts are required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Almost two decades have passed, including 15 years of MDGs, but still the indigenous community remains the least served and excluded sector of the society which could not reap its benefits as others. They are the practitioners of traditional cultures and have retained the distinct social and economic characteristics. For instance, their lifestyle was based on the circular economy that promoted restorative and regenerative process wherein the wastes were minimized and renewable sources of energy were utilized. The wastage from a sub-system becomes the resource for another. The food items grown were also nutritious and climate resilient. These approaches reduced their dependency on markets and ensured food security with enhanced earnings. Under economic characteristics, the trading of goods and services was done through barter system, without having sense of profit generation through markets. But due to increased commercialization in today's world, the profit maximization has become the major goal of economic transactions that drives the modern capitalistic economy. It has disturbed the age-old practices and resulted in increased inequality and other challenges, adversely impacting this community in terms of access to quality healthcare, education services, food, nutrition and livelihood security. Today, their traditional practices are increasingly under threat owing to a range of factors, but this must be acknowledged that their culture and practices are significant in attaining several SDGs.

Recommendations

Following are the recommendations to address the global challenges suggested by thousands of tribal farmers participated in tribal colloquium of VAAGDHARA.

- The eco-friendly farming practices, free from the use of chemical fertilizers and that are climate resilient, need to be promoted by the Government, providing maximum benefits to the small and marginal farmers.
- Government should focus on making the communities aware about the methods to grow nutritious food items.
- Decentralization of quality health services and education up to much lower levels in the rural areas is needed.
- Community engagement in planning process would be essential to develop a sense of ownership and responsibility towards achieving the SDGs.

Through this statement, VAAGDHARA urges governments to consider these recommendations while framing the related policies. The time has arrived to realize

that this community has multiple solutions to the global challenges and hence, without seeking their support, the achievement of SDGs by 2030 cannot be imagined.

164. Villes de France

Villes de France est une association pluraliste d'élus qui rassemble les villes de 10 000 à 100 000 habitants et leurs communautés d'agglomération du territoire français, ensemble qui est le cadre de vie de près de la moitié de la population (30 millions d'habitants).

Notre organisation, disposant du statut consultatif spécial depuis 2013 auprès du Conseil économique et social des Nations Unies, a été effectivement associée à la grande consultation préalable pour la création de l'Agenda des Nations Unies pour l'après-2015. La conviction de notre association est que les villes ont la capacité de pouvoir faire évoluer l'urbanisation dans le cadre du développement, tout en ayant une approche locale des changements au niveau mondial.

Notre association a, en particulier, salué la création d'un objectif spécifique consacré à l'urbanisation durable, comme de nombreux réseaux d'ONG et de pouvoirs locaux. L'Objectif de développement (ODD) 11 intitulé « Faire en sorte que les villes et les établissements humains soient ouverts à tous, sûrs, résilients et durables » constitue en effet une avancée certaine pour la réussite de cette nouvelle stratégie mondiale. Mais en raison de leurs compétences politiques, administratives et techniques, les villes restent en réalité concernées par tous les ODD.

L'Agenda 2030 du développement durable, qui constitue un cadre incontournable pour renforcer les politiques locales, doit donner une nouvelle impulsion aux outils par les collectivités, fixer des objectifs chiffrés et datés, mettre en place des mécanismes de suivi et faciliter les échanges entre collectivités et autres acteurs, français et internationaux.

Dans ce contexte, notre association plaide pour le soutien aux politiques locales de transition écologique des collectivités territoriales. Il importe aux États de mieux assurer la définition des cadres nationaux cohérents d'intervention. Les collectivités locales font aujourd'hui face à une pluralité de stratégies nationales en faveur de la transition écologique, notamment en France (stratégies nationales pour la biodiversité, stratégies nationales bas carbone, plans nationaux d'adaptation au changement climatique...). Disposer d'un cadre englobant et articulant ces différentes stratégies pourrait aider les villes à appréhender la transition écologique.

Aussi, les feuilles de route nationales des ODD pourraient davantage répondre à cette préoccupation, en valorisant la place des acteurs territoriaux. Une concertation préalable des associations représentant les collectivités locales dans chaque État devrait être systématique avant le dépôt de ces feuilles de route auprès des Nations Unies. La réussite de l'appropriation de ces Objectifs passe par une association systématique par les États dans leurs documents stratégiques, du niveau infranational des collectivités locales comme de l'implication réelle des ONG sur le terrain.

Notre association plaide aussi pour une approche ODD par ODD, comme pour des modalités de mise en œuvre et de suivi, y compris à l'échelle locale. Elle salue le travail effectué en ce sens par la France ces deux dernières années. Ce nouveau cadre devrait permettre de trouver un langage commun aux différents acteurs territoriaux (collectivités, associations, entreprises, habitants), pour conduire des politiques territoriales cohérentes. Il importe de donner plus de force et de sens aux innovations territoriales.

165. Voice of Specially Abled People Inc.

It has been five years since the sustainable development goals (SDGs) have been announced by the United Nations. While there have been noticeable improvements by certain areas of the global community, a lot more should be done over the next decade to achieve those goals.

Voice of Specially Abled People (VOSAP) believes that if we can provide accessibility, we can directly accelerate five of the SDGs outright.

VOSAP wants to operate as the catalyst for the world to become an accessible and inclusive place for Persons with Disabilities (PwD). VOSAP's transformative mobile app is the tool that has empowered 8,400+ "Change-Makers" by providing information and creating crowd-sourced demand for accessibility and inclusion.

If we take the life journey of a girl in Mumbai, having mobility impairment, this will become clearer. As she grows up, a fundamental thing she'll need is the ability to get to school. This requires building accessible schools and cities for commuting.

Having received the quality education (SDG 4) required to be a functional part of our society, she will be part of a community with one less inequality (SDG 10) and she'll be able to work towards her own economic security i.e. no poverty (SDG 1) and no hunger (SDG 2). In her career, along with her peers, she'll be able to work on ways big and small to bring humanity one step forward. In the next decade, with more accessible infrastructure, communities, the world will witness decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) because of the mainstreaming of millions of PwD.

Tactically speaking, VOSAP is building a robust Building Accessibility Database, easily available on map in VOSAP mobile application. Just that first journey of the girl to be able to easily go out of her home to any other building requires a knowledge of where she can go without accessibility barriers. VOSAP app aims to provide that. Our work has helped India implement the "Accessible India Campaign". Additionally, VoSAP has provided thousands of assistive devices and wheelchairs to enable PwD.

A Note for the Future

Before we aim to fix a problem, we must identify and measure where the problems exist. VOSAP aims to see a world where that girl's life is not just a good possibility, but a high probability. We are hopeful that the knowledge we are amassing can raise even more awareness, encourage accessible infrastructure development to help anyone whether they're in Nairobi, Mumbai, Naples, or Lima.

166. Women's Health and Education Center

Two Decades of e-Health Educational Programme with the United Nations and Promoting Universal Health Coverage Worldwide.

Established in 2001, Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) was granted special consultative status with the ECOSOC of the United Nations, in 2008. e-Health educational program to improve maternal and child health was launched in cooperation with the United Nations in 2002. The initiative provides information on everyday issues associated with women's health. Our e-Health development is holistic, evidence-based and people-centered. It considers how people live within their own environments and responds to stakeholders' needs.

WHEC's advocacy programs focus mainly on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

Efforts of WHEC in the provision of e-Governments and Integrated e-Health Care

Key Initiatives

- Demographic change, rising incidence of chronic disease and unmet needs for more personalized care are trends that demand a new, integrated approach to health and social care. Professionals must work across sections as a team with common goals and resources to deliver a coordinated response to each individual's care requirements. Advanced information and communication technology (ICT) provide a major new opportunity to realize care integration, superseding today's chain of disjoint responses to discrete threats to health.
- Telehealth, the provision of care at a distance, is a key component in future integrated care.
- Making the case for investment in telehealth applications requires better marshalling of existing evidence, not only to show that telehealth works, but also to show where – in what organized context – it will work.
- Financial flows in health systems must be critically assessed for their ability to act as incentives or disincentives for telehealth provision, acknowledging that the “business case” for telehealth is often very different for different players.
- The use of telehealth, as a tool to help support better integrated care, can be helped through initiatives that bring policy responsibilities together.
- To bring about change, mechanisms should be put in place to foster dialogue, thereby instilling a sense of partnership in reform and reducing resistance to change.

- e-Government and e-Health platforms to attain United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As Governments transition towards e-Government and e-health throughout the world, there is growing acknowledgment of the role that the e-Government and e-Health could play to harness for women's empowerment and gender equality. Recognizing this critical gap, WHEC as a part of gender equality initiatives aims to enhance knowledge awareness of good practices of gender-responsive capacity of Governments to harness this tool towards women's empowerment.

WHEC, through its e-Health initiative in Women's Health and Development, is serving in 227 countries with average of 13 to 14 million subscribers every year, and it is available in the six official languages of the United Nations. e-Health can result in economic benefits and improve health outcomes.

Join the efforts!

167. Women's Ordination Conference

Women's Ordination Conference is the largest organization that is working for full equality of women in the Roman Catholic Church. This may seem like an internal religious institutional concern, but in fact the discriminatory policies of the Catholic Church have a grave negative impact on all civil society. The sustainable development goals (SDGs) can only be achieved when there is greater equality for women throughout the world and its members model gender equitable practices, laws, and policies. Our concern is two-fold: the cultural and social influence, presence and prestige of the Roman Catholic Church, and the special status of the Holy See as a non-member State Permanent Observer at the United Nations.

First, the Roman Catholic Church explicitly, unequivocally and systematically excludes women from all leadership and decision-making on both the local and universal level. It neither models nor promotes the equality and human dignity upheld by the SDGs of the United Nations, but rather perpetuates the belief that it is acceptable to subjugate and silence women.

Secondly, the Holy See was granted Non-member State Permanent Observer status at the United Nations through an error. It is well documented that the Catholic Church does not constitute a "state". By allowing one religion a privileged position in proceedings of the General Assembly and especially the Commission on the Status of Women, the United Nations undercuts its own principles, violates its own laws and hinders the accelerated advocacy and transformative pathways that need to be forged in order to realize actions that will deliver sustainable development. As Catholics, we believe the global and moral influence of the Catholic Church would be far more credible if the institution and its leaders practiced gender equity.

The Economic and Social Council is looking for action-oriented recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs. Members and observers of the United Nations must be required to uphold the principles of equality, inclusion, and transparency – all qualities the Roman Catholic Church lacks. Women's Ordination Conference, as a dedicated special member of the Economic and Social Council, is convinced that removing the access and power that the Catholic Church enjoys (to the exclusion of all other faiths) would be a transformative step towards realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, fulfilling the goals of General Assembly resolution 72/305 and creating a better world.

168. **Womensport International**

Gender Equitable and Inclusive Sport/Physical Education/Physical Activity: Embodiment of Transformative Pathways to Achieving Sustainable Development

Purpose

Sport/physical education/physical activity (S/PE/PA) are the cultural forms of human movement. For recorded history, the cultural forms of movement have been dominated by boys and men and defined as primary avenues for the development of manhood and warrior leaders. In past decades, especially since the Beijing Platform for Action, the role of S/PE/PA in a transformed understanding of the contribution of girls and women to a peaceful, sustainable and equitable world emerged. The purpose of this statement is two-fold: to re-emphasize the existence of sound, action-oriented and transformative policy frameworks regarding gender-equitable sport already approved by the global community; to drive momentum towards existing mechanisms to accelerate action and deliver on the promises made to the world's women.

Overview

Existing sound policy frameworks: The core principles for gender equitable and inclusive S/PE/PA are stated, and consistently re-iterated, in the following globally approved documents and Conventions: The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979); Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); Beijing Platform for Action (1995); Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006); International Charter of Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (2015) in which numerous articles make specific reference to gender concerns; United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, para. 37 recognizes "sport is an important enabler of sustainable development...in the contribution it makes to the empowerment of women...". The United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace (UNOSDP) published a monograph illustrating ways S/PE/PA contribute to the achievement of all 17 SDGs. World leaders approved the intergovernmental mechanisms to activate these frameworks yet these are, by and large, promises broken.

Steps for accelerated action and transformative pathways to 2030

Consensus has evolved among women's sport advocacy organizations, and important governmental and NGO entities, that the crucial action needed is a monitoring mechanism calling to accountability all bodies controlling the fate of girls and women in S/PE/PA. The best action possible, at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), is to

give direct and indirect support for the Global Observatory on Women and Sport, 2017 Kazan Action Plan, Action 4.

Preliminary groundwork is underway for an Observatory (GO) to monitor in a continual and expert manner the progress of governments, sport bodies, universities and research facilities and all relevant bodies working towards a gender equitable and sustainable future. The Observatory will mark the progress, or lack thereof, for all parties in meeting appropriate standards for: equitable participation of girls and women as a human right; the provision of safe and inclusive programs; prevention of gender-based violence within S/PE/PA; gender equitable and inclusive sport development opportunities. The HLPF can make a significant contribution to meeting this aspect of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by supporting timely funding and implementation of the GO to be activated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UN Women and the Swiss Government.

169. World Animal Net, Inc.

The decade of action and delivery for sustainable development has begun in the midst of a global crisis: COVID-19. The impact of this pandemic and economic crisis brings additional challenges to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, leveraging “One Welfare”, the interlinked wellbeing of people, planet and animals, is core to the solution.

As one of the coordinators of the Animal Issues Thematic Cluster, a coalition of organizations demonstrating how the care, protection, and conservation of animals contributes to sustainable development, COVID-19 does not come as a shock. In fact, for many years members of this coalition have warned about increasing zoonotic disease threats caused by our growing use and mistreatment of animals.

This is because the wellbeing of humans, environmental stability and animal welfare is intrinsically connected. With increased ecosystem degradation and wildlife exploitation comes increased likelihood of disease spillover events. As farm animal production intensifies and grows, so does agriculture’s contribution to greenhouse gases, pollution, deforestation and biodiversity loss, and their impact on human wellbeing. Prophylactic use of antimicrobials in intensive systems results in increasing antimicrobial resistance, already responsible for 700,000 deaths annually.

But there is reason to be optimistic. This crisis has given the world a magnifying glass to analyze the problems inherent in “business-as-usual.” At this juncture, we must prioritize the urgent transformative actions called for in numerous reports: tackling root causes and drivers of environmental degradation, climate change, biodiversity loss and pandemics emerging from exploitation of domestic and wild animals. Nothing is more pressing in our current context than creating a new, better relationship with nature and animals, resulting in enhanced livelihoods, health and wellbeing for current and future generations.

As the global community considers necessary steps to recover from the crisis and “build back better,” “One Welfare” should be a critical component of recovery plans, policies and stimulus packages. One Welfare is an umbrella concept incorporating the widely recognized “One Health”, but is more holistic and applicable to sustainable development. One Welfare goes beyond health linkages, strengthening the well-being of humans, the environment and animals through their

shared relationship in ways which support all three pillars of sustainable development. For example, including animals in disaster response plans increases community resilience. Moving towards diets higher in plant-based foods and lower in animal products has been called “win-win” by FAO and WHO for their ability to simultaneously improve human health and reduce environmental impact. Ending commercial wildlife trade and markets, reducing wildlife consumption, tackling associated illicit activities, and carefully considering what “sustainable use” truly means when applied to wild animals are key to mitigating the risks of future pandemics.

Therefore, we are calling for the mainstreaming of One Welfare into sustainable development policies and investment. Only by doing so will it be possible to “build back better”, implement the SDGs, and, as called for in Transforming Our World (A/RES/70/1), achieve a world in which “humanity lives in harmony with nature and in which wildlife and other living species are protected.”

170. World Council for Curriculum and Instruction

Founded in 1970, the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction (WCCI) is a transnational educational association committed to the building of a just, peaceful and sustainable world community. A key dimension of WCCI's vision hence lies in implementing the principles of sustainable development through transformative education for peace, global citizenship and sustainable futures.

There is worldwide recognition of the challenges of living together in ways that do not threaten the survival of humanity and all other species on our shared planet. The environmental crisis is reflected in escalating pollutions, deforestation, destructive mining, overfishing, soil degradation, ozone layer destruction, biodiversity loss and disastrous climate change.

WCCI educators have responded to this crisis by developing curricula whereby learners understand the causes of unsustainable development and globalization and to then act to build sustainable futures. Individual and institutional members have integrated education for sustainable development in their curricular programs and motivated learners to participate in “greening” their schools and communities and in commemorating World Environment Day and Earth Day. WCCI chapters have undertaken educational projects in collaboration with indigenous communities striving to practice sustainable development for their cultural survival. WCCI members have also co-sponsored programs and practices in “green theology”.

However, the goal of building sustainable futures cannot be limited only to environmental sustainability. Development needs to share planetary resources in ways that promote social and economic justice for all citizens within and across nations. Despite many decades of “development” and “globalization”, a majority of peoples remain marginalized, lacking basic needs while a rich minority enjoy over-consumerism and heavy ecological footprints. The UN 2019 Sustainable Goals Report of 2019 concluded that “the world is not on track to end poverty by 2030”. Such continuing poverty and hunger rooted in structural inequalities often leads to violent conflicts causing more human suffering and diversion of scarce national resources to militarization.

In pursuing our vision, WCCI therefore also advocates for the development of curricula in educating for global and local justice. Such programs encourage learners to query if the dominant paradigm based on economic growth, over-consumerism, the free market and a highly competitive global economy will create a just, compassionate, and sustainable world?

In contrast, humanity need to promote an alternative development paradigm that is participatory, equitable, appropriate (in values and technology), and environmentally sustainable which embrace values and practices more consistent with WCCI vision? In this regard, the global COVID-19 pandemic shows how global and local injustices can further marginalize poor communities due to unequal access to healthcare, employment and other basic needs.

Hence, educational programs and projects of WCCI members have endeavoured to raise the awareness of learners of how existing policies of development and globalization have accentuated marginalization, and poverty. They are then motivated to engage in individual and social actions for a building a more just and compassionate world. Such curricula also seek to cultivate a spirit of compassion, justice and engaged responsibility among the affluent citizens to practice solidarity with the marginalized.

171. World Family Organization

Homelessness and Family

The World Family Organization (WFO) jointly with the Ministry of Women, Family, Childhood and Seniors of the Republic of Tunisia are pleased to report on their activities related to the theme of ECOSOC's 2020 High Level Segment, entitled, "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development," as part of its ongoing programme of action related to securing and sustaining the family in all its social, cultural and economic dimensions. Homelessness is one of the key issues we focused on during the current period.

The role of the family is fundamental to the issue of homelessness because families are profoundly affected by the conditions that lead to homelessness, and at the same time, may also be the one unit to keep family members together in the face of extremely disintegrating forces, such as wars, civil conflict, and now pandemics. Families, after all, are the place where we first learn proper and responsible social interaction as well as respect and understanding for people facing difficult social and economic conditions.

The Universal Declaration on Human Rights, Article 16, rightly recognizes "the family is the natural and fundamental unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State." This is recognition that the family plays an indispensable role in society and must be protected and supported regardless of social and economic challenges and upheavals.

This reality is a reminder that if we are to make serious progress on our international development goals, promotes broader peace and security and achieves social development for all peoples, we must be willing to invest in and protect the family.

Investing in the family is not only important to promoting greater understanding between cultures but also is a vital resource for achieving the SDGs. Investments in the family, particularly for the poor, reduce family poverty and helps to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty. Therefore, Governments must adopt accelerated actions, which provide social protection for the family, access to childcare and education, and flexible working arrangements.

However, the international community, including the WFO, is increasingly expanding its focus from family activities that center primarily on raising children to its role in caring for aging members of the family. In developing countries where accesses to retiree social

protection programs are limited, adult children and their families often shoulder the responsibility for aging parents. This reality promotes greater intergenerational solidarity as it recognizes that, while today's parents care for their children, in the coming years it may be the children who are caring for their parents.

On February 12th, 2020, "The World Family Organization," jointly with the Ministry of Women, Family, Childhood and Seniors of the Republic of Tunisia, in the context of the 58th Commission for Social Development, organized a side event at UN Headquarters titled: "Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address Homelessness". The event was attended by invited Member States affiliated with the Commission, including Egypt and Republic of Korea, Civil Society members from World Family Organization, Peace Boat, Children of War, and "United Religion Initiative" URI; staff members of the Division for Inclusive Social Development, NGO Branch and IOM, with special collaboration from the Ministry of Women, Family, Childhood and Seniors of the Republic of Tunisia and the Executive Secretary, Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights from Brazil.

Distinguished panellists were invited to speak at the Homelessness and Family Panel, addressing the global spread of homelessness. They provided national accounts of how their countries were addressing the link between the family and homelessness. They shared their concerns over the social and health conditions of homeless people who are the most vulnerable in our societies. Examples, included:

The Director of the Social Development Division recognized the concern that some families are faced with the prospect that their children could become street children, when parents are not able to support the family because mothers and fathers are jobless.

The President of WFO emphasized the role of Local Authorities in fighting poverty, hunger while promoting health, well-being and gender equity. Cultivating the balance between family and solidarity and making the family the core of the society are the ultimate WFO's goals.

The Minister of Women, Family, Childhood and Seniors of the Republic of Tunisia called attention to the efforts of Tunisia's newly formed Government to mobilize accelerated actions to promote social stability while maintaining women's acquired rights.

The Executive Secretary, Ministry of Women, Family and Human Rights from Brazil emphasized the strength of Brazil's 5000 Municipalities in creating several new entities to foster social and economic protection for the family.

The Ambassador of Egypt highlighted the progress made by his country in providing affordable housing and services, like the Internet as an indispensable aspect of modern life. He mentioned a campaign called "dignified life" that was launched with a cost of 6.8 billion

U S dollars. The objective was to develop the poorest and least developed villages by providing comprehensive medical education, social and cultural services.

The Representative of Republic of Korea pointed out that in making good policies, you need to have good regulations, but at the same time, we need to have good incentives. He added we are in the process of making good practices and the United Nations is the place where we can compare notes and find out good practices.

The Representative of IOM focused on the extent of homelessness represented by migrants and refugees, many of whom have been created by war, civil conflict and social upheaval. Today we are having a corresponding figure of 71 million people that are displaced.

The Representative of “Peace Boat” focused on the programme of work for achieving the SDGs. She cautioned that the issue of homelessness is jeopardizing many of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. People who are homeless are at risk of suffering from poverty, hunger, poor health, lack of access to education, clean water and sanitation.

The Representative of “Children of War” compared what was happening in Los Angeles. Living in Los Angeles for 17 years now and seeing this exponential rise in the homeless population in two years is that there is a substantial disconnect between the policy makers and what is really happening on the ground.

The Representative “United Religion Initiative” (URI) is convinced that we have to make some changes in our own lifestyles, but we need it for one another because the homeless on the street are still affecting the input and the impact on our environment.

The Representative of the NGO branch expected from civil society actors to continue the mobilization to advocate for the causes that we are fighting for at the UN. To hold government responsible for the commitment made. And beyond the pathway is the acceleration of the course of action of progress that we need.

The United Nations Habitat defined homelessness as, “the inability of people to enjoy a permanent accommodation.” But it is difficult to get a precise fix on what homelessness is and who is affected.

Based on National reports, it's estimated that no less than 150 million people, about 2 percent of the world's population, are homeless. However, about 1.6 billion, more than 20 percent of the world's population, may lack adequate housing, which may be a polite way of saying that such housing is entirely substandard or dangerous. This adds to the difficulty of defining and categorizing homelessness.

Millions of the homeless are also people without a country. UNHCR reported that at the end of 2018, 71 million people were forcibly displaced due to conflicts and civil strife, up from about 68.5 million in 2017, a nearly 65% increase from a decade ago.

Homeless people are often the invisible people, the forgotten people. We turn our heads and look away when we see men and women camped out under freeways and overpasses in our big cities. Or, we never see them at all, except as virtual images in vast refugee camps, living in tents with minimal services and over-crowding. We see pictures of sprawling urban slums and favelas perched on hillsides, one hovel on top of the next, and cannot even imagine the squalor in which these people live their daily lives.

The reason we turn away from these scenes of human despair is our realization, however unstated, that homelessness with its attendant poverty and displacement, represents the ultimate failure of our economic and social system – that the most basic requirement of any system should be in providing a dry, protected place to eat and sleep. In addition to lacking the warmth and safety of a physical shelter, homeless people, in which we include refugees displaced by war and conflict, suffer a range of medical, psychological and sleep problems, problems of personal hygiene, keeping clothes clean, storing and preparing food, hostility and violence from other homeless people and from a hostile external community, no employment or educational opportunities, and almost no help to escape the downward spiral that homelessness represents.

We have seen the political reaction in Europe and the United States to this level of population displacement and movement. Both legislative and physical barriers have been erected to keep these people out. An effort to criminalize homelessness seems to be well underway in a number of countries. This includes make panhandling in public or private spaces a criminal offense.

The WFO recognizes homelessness as a global problem, which is closely connected to the health and well-being of the family unit, hence integral to our program of work, which requires collective action across many countries and international organizations. The family should be at the core of efforts to end homelessness.

The above recognition of what the family can achieve in uniting everyone in a common purpose is the best way forward. In this difficult time, we have to express solidarity, basic values, intensify cooperation among countries knowing that at this unique moment in time the value of the family is paramount.

In this context, our motto for collective action is “leaving no one behind, which is the primary message of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. Given these global trends, we need accelerated action to tackle major social issues to reach the objectives that have been set out. Homelessness must be addressed within existing antipoverty strategies and taken fully on board from now until 2030.

In the Copenhagen Declaration, Member States pledged to work to eradicate poverty, support full employment of youth, women, persons with disabilities and “foster stable, safe and just societies”. We must keep this commitment.

A lot of hope was raised for 2020, marking the 75th anniversary of the United Nations, including the 75th anniversary of the Social Commission and the 25th anniversary of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development.

No one could have predicted that these anniversaries would coincide with COVID-19 pandemic, putting the whole planet at risk, at an “unprecedented scale demanding an unprecedented response,” according to the Secretary General. It is not just a health crisis, but an economic and development crisis of yet undetermined proportions. The poorest countries and the poorest people will be most severely affected, especially homeless people crowded in refugee camps and homeless shelters with few or no medical facilities.

It is worth noting, that WFO organizes an annual Summit to be held in different countries co-hosted by a Member State and would have addressed the theme of the “International Day of the Family” on 15 May 2020, but postponed to next year, due to the pandemic.

For WFO, homelessness, family welfare and solidarity are closely linked issues. Homelessness has the power to disintegrate families and generate social chaos. At the same time, the family is a powerful force for stability and social integration even when faced with homelessness and pandemics. WFO resources and programmes are devoted to strengthening the family unit, and we believe that a much greater proportion of international support should also be devoted to that end since it is essential to achieving the goals of the 2030 UN Agenda leaving no Family Behind.

172. World Federation of Engineering Organizations

Accelerated action, transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

The world is experiencing unprecedented disruption to daily lives with the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in profound health, social and economic impacts worldwide, including potential long-term effects on sustainable development efforts. While the immediate priority for countries is to solve the health crisis and protect the most vulnerable, the COVID-19 crisis offers in the longer term an important opportunity to move away from the existing system where social and environmental inequalities and vulnerabilities are structurally embedded. There is an opportunity to rethink the very foundations of our societies to achieve a more resilient, equitable and sustainable world, that includes changing the way we deal with existing and emerging long-term threats, such as biodiversity loss, land-use change and climate change, clean water scarce, energy and resources exhaust, etc.

An integrated sustainability transformations approach is offered in the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) 2019 which addresses the SDGs in a comprehensive, systemic way, rather than a collection of discrete goals. A major contribution of the GSDR is the establishment of entry points and levers and these should be used in the thematic and SDG reviews. Science and technology can only be implemented with strong engineering capacity, so engineering capacity building for accelerating the transformation should be considered as an important factor.

The STI Forum should primarily focus on the development of STI for SDG roadmaps at subnational and national levels and become a platform for collective learning, through exchange of experiences and best practices. Furthermore, the STI roadmaps should be reviewed together with the VNRs at the HLPF, as a way of encouraging member states to develop their own roadmaps and bolster the connection between the two fora.

There is a special urgency to rethink the role and importance of engineering to achieve the 2030 Agenda and to shift its current focus from creating economic value contribution to addressing the core transformations needed for achieving the SDGs. The UN's global Technology Facilitation Mechanism should be strengthened and become a vehicle to assess

whether the current stock of technology and engineering capacity are suitable to achieve the SDGs.

Implementation and review of the SDGs should take into account the multiple and complex risks' interactions which, without resilience programs, threaten progress made so far. The identification and understanding of risk demand interdisciplinary integrated approaches from science and engineering, and governments' cross-sectoral engagement. The UN should take steps to strengthen data collection and exchanges that are the cornerstone activities towards this end.

Member States and stakeholders urgently need to consider how they would respond to a situation of planetary emergency, in the face of the mounting evidence that global environmental change will cross tipping points and lead to cascading effects, amongst which are new infectious diseases outbreaks. To achieve preparedness, it is vital to anticipate such dynamics and to have widely accessible, properly deployed resilient infrastructure.

173. World Society of Victimology

Crime threatens the health, prosperity and well-being of millions of people across the globe. It is an obstacle to sustainable development; hence SDG 16 focuses on, among other priorities, enhancing the capacities of countries to prevent crime, improving access to justice and promoting the rule of law. For this purpose, the UN urges a “culture of shared responsibilities” and “collective action” (2016: 2).

Consistent, the World Society of Victimology (WSV) asserts that victimologists should play an integral role by contributing to the design, implementation and evaluation of ventures that contribute to safe and just sustainable societies. Although the WSV is a strong advocate for crime victims’ rights, it is also wary of those who seek to politicise victimological elements of the SDG agenda for self-interest and political expedience.

Greater investment crime control is necessary; however, strengthening the criminal justice system might also be counterproductive as well as unsustainable. Tackling the underlying causes of crime and disorder is necessary for achieving peace and stability as well as securing sustainable development.

The WSV concurs (UNODC (2013: 3) that “No person should go hungry, lack shelter or clean water and sanitation, face social and economic exclusion or live without access to basic health services and education.” We acknowledge that progress has been made in freeing people from poverty, yet millions still live in extreme poverty. Far too many people endure serious deprivation in health and education. Significant inequality related to income, gender, ethnicity, disability, age and location prevails. The WSV observes that economic downturn, exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, and ongoing armed conflicts have worsened poverty, inequality and exclusion.

Likewise, despite efforts to end abuse and exploitation of women and children, and to reduce all forms of violence, the need for more action is evidenced by the number of women and children who continue to experience violence globally. Too many children and women suffer human rights violations, including sexual violence, work-place exploitation, and sexual servitude. Such impacts the well-being of women and children everywhere – in all cultures and socio-economic statuses. Progress can neither be made nor sustained amid such violence and injustice.

Mindful of environmental issues (SDG 6, SDG 14 & SDG 15), the WSV point to the human victims of environmental harm (Popovski & Mundy 2011) and non-human environmental victims (White 2018). As White (2018) concludes, “... victimhood can be conceptualised in terms of environmental justice (the victim is human), ecological justice (the victim is specific environments) and species justice (the victim is animals, and plants).” Green victimologists are, for instance, researching the de-stabilising effects of climate change including climate-induced migration and conflict over natural resources (White 2011). Understanding such and

responding to specific instances of environmental victimisation are pertinent to the efforts to achieve sustainable development for all species and the planet we share. Post the Covid-19 pandemic, opportunities will beg for renewed collective action to transform our world for the betterment of all.

174. World Youth Alliance

The World Youth Alliance is a global coalition of young people dedicated to the promotion and defense of human dignity in policy and culture. The World Youth Alliance welcomes this year's theme.

Human dignity is the inherent and inviolable value of every human being, and the basis for human rights. It also provides the basis for policies under which human beings can flourish. Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration states that "Human beings are at the center of concerns for sustainable development." Development based on human dignity provides effective tools for people to drive development.

The World Youth Alliance believes that authentic development takes place at all levels of society, enabling people to reach their full potential to build flourishing societies. Thus, States must invest in human capital as solution to the main problems of sustainable development, such as poverty and inequality. The human person has a unique capacity for innovation that drives economic, social and environmental development.

People should never be seen as a burden to their societies. Some policies aim to reduce fertility in developing countries, treating people, rather than solution, as the problem. There are numerous examples of such policies that directly or indirectly coerce the poor and vulnerable, while failing to address the true causes of their poverty. Such actions violate human dignity and cannot be permitted.

States should accelerate their efforts to achieve authentic development. However, these must be long-term solutions, not simply providing commodities but investing in people and creating conditions for human flourishing.

Education (SDG 4) is one of the best ways to achieve this. The primary responsibility for education rests on the parents and it is the obligation of the State to support them in this role. Quality education must be available to all and should flow from an authentic understanding of the human person, fostering the development of human capital.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms." (Art 26). Education which promotes respect for human rights equips youth to build authentic development and just societies.

WYA has created the Human Dignity Curriculum (HDC), which focuses on developing a holistic understanding of the person to foster personal development. HDC teaches children about the respect and recognition of human dignity as a universal value. Through the program, students understand themselves as people capable of making healthy decisions and achieving human excellence.

Young people who understand human dignity are prepared to respect themselves and others, and contribute to sustainable development, the eradication of poverty, and other social problems they face in their communities.

Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires cooperation and solidarity at all levels to promote conditions lead to authentic development. Through efforts grounded in respect for human dignity, we can build sustainable and resilient societies.

World Youth Alliance calls on Member States to prioritize person-centered measures and ensure quality education, including education about human dignity.

175. Wynad Social Service Society

Accelerated Action and Transformative Pathways

At the 21st century the world is fast changing and the change exerts so much pressure on the globe. It gets polluted and as a result the reaction happens as disasters. There is no natural disaster as such; every disaster points to the dark side of human inversions in the natural habitat of the environment. The theme aims to reflect the need for accelerated action, and to be easily communicable the accelerated action and transformative pathways of NGOs in India with the reference of realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development. Through this action plan, we focus on the need to address the sustainable development with reference to the NGOs in India especially with the works of Wayanad Social Service Society.

Issues related to Sustainable Development

Sustainable development considerations in India are focused on the following SDG goals:

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
2. End hunger achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote the well-being for all at all ages.
4. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
5. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong opportunities for all.
6. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
7. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Expectations and Policy Recommendations

- Reduction of poverty;
- Removal of subsidies given for use of resources as fertilizers, pesticides and promotion of organic pesticides;
- Introducing new technique of strict usage of land for agriculture purpose (an agricultural farm for a house);
- Public awareness;
- Market based approaches which aim to include pollution charges and user charges which tent the pollution generators to decrease the level of pollution;
- Promotion of value-added product making and its services;
- Having control over the unusual construction of buildings (houses should respond to needs not for a display, buildings for permanent residents not for yearly visitors);
- System development that adapts to the environment and which supports natural habitat; and
- Removal of preservatives, junk foods, etc. and the promotion of traditional and healthy food.

176. YOUTHLEAD (Jeunes Leaders)

Pour une meilleure réalisation des objectifs de développement durable (ODD) dans les années à venir, nous préconisons des alternatives suivantes :

- Intensifier la vulgarisation des ODD et inviter toutes les couches sociales à leurs réalisations : Si les ODD impliquent la prise en compte de toutes les couches sociales, il serait indispensable de sensibiliser toutes ces couches sur les ODD afin de leur permettre de mieux les comprendre. Une bonne compréhension des ODD par tous, engendrera une forte mobilisation et implication de tous dans son exécution ; nous serons donc en mesure d'amener le monde à plusieurs « ZERO » grâce aux actions de « TOUS ».
- Renforcer le dispositif de financement des ODD. Financer les ODD à 3 niveaux:
 - 1er niveau : Le financement des études de faisabilité des programmes/projets (une phase importante) Le but de l'étude de faisabilité est de vérifier que théoriquement le projet est cohérent avec la stratégie et les moyens disponibles. Cette démarche est importante dans la mesure où elle permet de mesurer en amont si les objectifs à atteindre cadre avec les ODD et éventuellement, leur cible ; évaluer les conditions nécessaires à la réussite du projet (timing, matériel, compétence, financement). Elle prend également en compte « le calcul du retour sur investissement » (les impacts). C'est à cette étape qu'on implique également les bénéficiaires du projet dans la réalisation de l'action à financer.
 - 2ème niveau : financer le « changement social ». En effet, pour parler du changement social, il faut que la transformation sociale soit repérable dans le temps, qu'elle concerne l'ensemble du système social et qu'elle ait des conséquences durables. Pour que cela soit chose faite, les gouvernements en collaboration avec les partenaires techniques et financiers doivent définir ensemble « la chaîne de financement de l'action à mener » ainsi que « la chaîne du changement sociale » souhaité lors de l'étude de faisabilité du programme/projet. Chaque partie prenante pourra identifier clairement sa place dans la chaîne de financement avec les moyens et les ressources à déployer.
 - 3ème niveau : financer le suivi et l'évaluation participative des actions. Le suivi et l'évaluation participatif des programmes/projets est la seule démarche susceptible d'écrire l'histoire du changement social dont nous parlions.
- Renforcer le dispositif de financement des ODD au niveau local. Pour une meilleure mobilisation et un meilleur financement efficace des ODD au niveau local surtout dans les pays en voie de développement, nous pouvons explorer

plusieurs pistes en occurrence, le financement par le biais des entreprises à travers la Responsabilité sociale ou sociétale (RSE) des entreprises. Définit comme l'ensemble des pratiques mises en place par les entreprises dans le but de respecter les principes du développement durable (social, environnemental et économique), la RSE est tout simplement la contribution des entreprises (sociales et lucratives) au développement durable.

Il sera donc question de sensibiliser et d'inviter les entreprises à mettre réellement la main à la pâte surtout dans les pays en voie de développement.

177. Yakutia - Our Opinion

Realizing the decade of action depends on effectiveness of state policy, especially in developing post-communist countries because great resources and authority to manage them are vested in the state.

We need to strengthen role of people in decision-making process. Regrettably, in the Russian Federation and some post-soviet countries people cannot properly take part in the management of state affairs. These countries are dominated by corruption, irresponsibility and formalism. The Russian state system is subordinated to selfish interests of corrupt officials and oligarchs.

To overcome this situation, we require to take the following measures:

1. Mandatory execution of results obtained during public hearings and referendums in decision-making on vital issues in order to realize citizens' rights to participate in the management of state affairs.
2. Priorities of authorities such as: i) actual problems requiring priority decision at the state level; ii) directions of spending of state budgetary and iii) extra-budgetary funds must be brought into line with interests of population.

A referendum can assist in addressing poverty. The main cause of poverty is unfair distribution of wealth including resource revenues that are illegally appropriated by Russian corrupt officials and oligarchs.

Fair distribution of wealth can be established as result of a referendum on the adoption of a mechanism of fair distribution of resource revenues active in developed countries, such as Norway, US, UAE and others.

This can be done through establishment of three-tier system of funds.

- At national level, a fund of Russian citizens' rights to resource revenues for distribution of resource rents among citizens;
- At regional level, regional funds for distribution of resource rents; and
- Funds for indigenous peoples.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russian government rejected the global practice of direct payments to people. In contrast, in the United States payment for individuals was \$1,200.

But if priorities of Russian authorities were given to people, individuals could receive 20,000 roubles as direct payments. Many budgetary resources could be spent on solving urgent problems but not for enriching corrupt officials and oligarchs.

Effective public participation in decision-making could stop anti-people government decisions. For example, the law "On Territories of priority socio-economic development in Russian Federation" violates economic, social and environmental rights of inhabitants of Siberia and Far East region. Therefore, it could be repealed through instructions of people as constitutional source of power to deputies and government. But people cannot do anything because they have not opportunities for effective participation in decision-making.

This has led to aggressive expansion of Chinese businesses that are mainly engaged in predatory seizure of biological resources. This provoked fierce opposition of people, open conflicts and armed clashes between local population and Chinese migrants.

It will result in the destruction of the fragile ecology of Siberia and Far East, expulsion of inhabitants from their lands and aggressive absorption of local population by foreigners.

In our view, decision-making without taking into account the population's interests is a main challenge to accelerated action and transformative pathways in many post-communist countries. Therefore, we need to ensure effective participation of people in the management of state affairs for successful realizing the decade of action.

178. Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia

Alzaytun Campus Forest Benefits in Difficult Time due to Coronavirus: A Lesson Learned Of Sustainable Development

24 years ago, when the Grand Chancellor of Ma'had Alzaytun Dr, Abdul Salam Rasyidi PG, MP decided to plant a tree before building the Alzaytun campus, many did not understand the purpose of his planning, many even cursed him. But he just kept quiet and telling his community members that 24 years from now you will understand the main purpose.

A few years later, even more so when COVID-19 hit human beings today, then all understood the benefits of tree planting. Recent research shows that sometimes, going to the park, or even seeing a tree can significantly improve a person's health and stress level. Some doctors have begun to prescribe the park as a remedy for patients' health problems, and the benefits of trees are so great and invaluable for mental and physical health.

The trees planted at the campus, which has now become a beautiful campus forest, turned out to follow the provisions of God in the Holy Quran. The trees are very important for filtering air, eliminating harmful pollutants, such as carbon monoxide (toxic at high levels), particles (causing asthma), and basic ozone (various respiratory effects). In this difficult time, the campus with hundreds of thousands of trees has become a safe zone from coronavirus.

The Grand Chancellor always motivated his community members, that the campus forest produces water availability to continue the life cycle. The trees provide benefits related to mental reliability, such as increasing one's memory. Plants and or greenery can increase the students' focus from a space perspective and increase community social cohesion.

The Campus has been developed by participatory action research and participatory action programs and follows modern project planning when being built and it is therefore different from other educational centers in Indonesia.

The benefits, it turns out are not only for the students and teachers, but also for other stakeholders, especially for mental improvement, so that its motto “The Center of education, peace, and tolerance culture development” continue to be implemented from time to time.

The campus forest is very useful for human life and certainly as an antidote to COVID19, which according to the experts and the benefits can be seen in the numbers below:

The number of trees estimated: 800,000 (45 trees/hectare), which provided advantages for :

- Elimination of pollution: 235 tons / year (\$ 3.59 million)
- Carbon storage: 204,000 tons (\$ 27.1 million)
- Carbon sequestration: 9,630 tons / year (\$ 1.28 million)

- Avoided storm water runoff: 10,730,168 cubic feet / year (\$ 717 thousand)
- Building energy savings: \$ 1,020,000 / year
- Avoided carbon emissions: 2,210 tons / year (\$ 294,000)

If you add up the benefits of the campus forest in Rupiah, then Alzaytun has contributed to the world approximately: \$ 34,000,000 , or the equivalent of 561,016,500,000 rupiahs per year.

179. Youth Alliance for Leadership and Development in Africa

Advocates of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals continue to witness the widespread adoption and unwavering commitment to the 17 global goals with conversations, initiatives, projects, businesses as well as policy formulation to contribute towards their attainment. On the African continent, there has been an increased effort to raise awareness and build the capacity of the people to take action and adopt mechanisms and ways of life that will effectively contribute to the attainment of these goals as their realization is pegged on collective action and partnerships.

The focus on ensuring that no one is left behind has resulted in the implementation of various interventions across the 54 states. Africa's socio-economic development necessitates that all stakeholders take up both individual and collective responsibility and effectively play their part to create systems, platforms and functional response mechanisms that support the conceptualization, ideation and implementation of viable solutions to matters that continually impede development on the continent and the world at large. Prioritized investment in infrastructure to boost intra-African trade; increased commitments to agricultural productivity to ensure food security; transformed education systems to bridge skills gaps and ease the high unemployment rates; adopted the use of renewable energy to minimize the costs of production and boost the manufacturing sector; equitable distribution of resources; and affordable healthcare are needed to actualize sustainable development. In addition, inclusive systems that place the citizens at the center of the development agenda as equal stakeholders who have the capacity to provide contextualized solutions to Africa's problems is paramount.

We acknowledge that this will be no small feat especially now, when the continent and the world at large is dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic; but the benefits realized for individuals, institutions and governments will outweigh the hardships encountered. The number of COVID-19 confirmed cases in Africa continues to rise necessitating more stringent measures to contain the spread of the virus such as restriction of movement and complete lockdowns that have impaired economic activities. Nations have independently put in place measures to ease the impact of the virus on its people but the fight against this pandemic requires international solidarity to reduce the risk of this pandemic reversing the progress attained in developing countries.

Our health systems have been put to the test and the need to invest in human development and prioritize capacity strengthening has become evident. At YALDA, we continue to invest in young people and enhance their capacity to proactively take up positive leadership positions in their communities by instilling in them the values of innovation, integrity and diversity as we also lobby for their inclusion in decision-making at national and continental levels. Cross-border collaboration is key in realizing our shared dream of the 'Africa we want' and thus, the need to organize, equitably allocate resources and invest in capacity strengthening for institutions and individuals to build a culture of accountability, resilience

and innovation. The people and their leadership ought to pursue collaboration that will accelerate development and facilitate equal and effective delivery at the grassroots.