Commission for Social Development
Sixty-first session
5–14 February 2024
Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
Priority Theme: “Fostering social development and social justice through social policies to accelerate progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication”

Statement submitted by Association de la jeunesse Congolaise pour le développement, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.
Statement

The 62nd session of the commission for social development should provide an opportunity to take stock of the commitments made in theoretical and practical fields of development. At this meeting, it will be necessary to renew the commitment and translate this concept of social development into something more politically feasible. This is the human right to development, by virtue of which every human person and all peoples have the right to participate in, contribute to and benefit from economic, social, cultural, and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized. Strengthening the implementation of the right to development through the formulation of appropriate development policies and the adoption of appropriate measures.

Covid-19 has exacerbated many inequalities, with particularly devastating effects on people who are already socially or economically fragile, especially women. Women are disproportionately affected by the consequences of the crisis, as they are overexposed to less of employment or income. The same pandemic has delayed the already well-structured poverty reduction programs, which need to be relinked quickly in order to speed up the implementation of the 2030 agenda. Many jobs need to be created for the overall integration of all sections of society, to move economies forward. Significant progress has been made towards achieving the anti-poverty objectives.

At present, much remains to be done to foster social development. Involve the population in drawing up development programs. Require that national programs be able to assess the situation before and after implementation and measure their impact on poverty reduction. Continue to work with UN agencies to accelerate the implementation and adoption of the comprehensive development framework, the poverty reduction strategy, and related initiatives. By making livelihoods more sustainable, this approach takes a practical approach to human development. Providing a framework for both policy definition and program design aimed at sustainable poverty reduction.

Recent data confirms that, despite the development strategies elaborated since the year 2000, a hundred or so countries are experiencing economic decline or stagnation, the global income distribution is accentuating the polarization of the world, and thousands of people are living in poverty. There are several reasons for the shortfalls recorded, and they are often linked to strictly national factors. Countries need even to accelerate significantly, and even extraordinarily. Employment and social integration are essential prerequisites for any policy to eradicate poverty. Measuring the value of social concerns and aligning priorities for action with priority spending. Likewise, adapting policies to people’s need, maximizing social benefits to determine whether various measures are socially desirable. Impact studies could be carried out after the event to determine the extent to which the opportunity assessment was correct, or whether certain points need to be rectified. Make the Strengthening of social development a dominant strategy. If social integration was to progress in the centuries to come, new and convincing forms of compromise would have to be found that applied to the most diverse situations.

We would also have to insist that governments commit to implementing social policies. A new generation of anti-poverty programs should help guide and coordinate activities and mobilize support to ensure that the poor benefit more from growth that targets inequalities and focused action on empowering the poor. Highlighted the instability of international financial markets, and the risk in such situations of seeing economic and social benefits rapidly wiped out at the cost of considerable national effort and investment.