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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 Nadam Foundation, 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 Nadam Foundation is a non-governmental organization holding consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In 2010, the foundation began its work in Kerala, India, taking stern strides toward securing gender equity, children’s rights, environmental protection, poverty, and nuclear disarmament. The foundation has initiated many programs within their community including planting trees, child rights seminars, and human rights seminars. Regarding poverty, one of the Nadam Foundation’s goals is to create awareness of poverty and provide resources for children to senior citizens to live the lives they deserve, especially those who are isolated in rural communities and developing countries. To achieve their mission, the volunteers and staff extend emotional and financial support to low-income students, senior citizens, children, and women. More specifically, in the past, the foundation has supplied resources in schools to support poor students and ensure their quality experience in education. Additionally, the foundation holds awareness programs for communities in rural India emphasizing various components causing poverty.

In rural areas of India, one of the various components causing poverty is disproportionate distribution. An example of this phenomenon is food. In rural parts of India, food waste is a multifaceted issue. It stems from the farmers discarding crops due to overproduction, pest damage, and market fluctuations that lead to significant food losses. Moreover, inadequate storage facilities, transportation infrastructure, and traditional beliefs such as cooking excess food for prosperity, in rural areas result in spoiled food and more waste. Limited awareness about the importance of reducing food waste, combined with inaccessible markets can cause wasteful practices. The Nadam Foundation has witnessed food waste and is creating awareness about the impact of food wastage through their campaign “Save the food” in educational institutions to guarantee proportionate distribution of food for everyone.

Solutions

The Nadam Foundation recognizes the importance of providing people with the necessary materials for expanding their community connections and education. Throughout the centers of rural areas of India, the Nadam Foundation has installed boxes for people to put excess food to minimize waste. By conveying this message, the Nadam Foundation promotes the efficient utilization of food resources, assuring that those in need can benefit from them. Yet, the foundation firmly believes that addressing “No Hunger” is distinct from addressing “No Poverty,” as poverty encompasses not only food but also the lack of necessities like healthcare. To support the underprivileged, we have included them in a group medical insurance program, with our organization serving as the nodal officer for this initiative.

Conclusion

The Nadam Foundation is committed to spreading awareness of poverty and providing restorative actions to rural communities in developing countries with proportionate distribution and the help of communal cooperation and the interconnections it provides. The Nadam Foundation encourages other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to undertake similar initiatives in other developing countries, citing how the phone plan firmly demonstrated greater health, well-being, and security for those suffering from poverty. The international community has a tremendous role to play in ensuring the safety happiness and quality of life for those communities.
The Nadam Foundation urges the Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and other relevant United Nations bodies to acknowledge the value of equal and fair access to resources and opportunities in providing agency, community, and security to people in conflict-affected countries. Each United Nations entity contributes significantly to expanding resources for people in impoverished populations where poverty and limited access to resources are prominent.

In conformity with the Division for Inclusive Social Development, the foundation confirms its commitment to eliminating poverty. We recognize the pivotal role of communal support and resources in creating an environment where individuals can come together, share their experiences, and learn from one another. This heightened awareness empowers people to assert their rights and seek assistance from trusted professionals, contributing to the advancement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Moreover, in relation to other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we, as a foundation, are convinced that the misuse of regional, religious, and racial differences presents a significant barrier to achieving these goals. Recent crises, like the conflicts between Russia and Ukraine and Palestine and Israel, have been exacerbated by the manipulation of human emotions associated with these factors. Many countries celebrate their national anthems during important occasions, so why not introduce an international anthem that underscores our shared humanity and the importance of environmental preservation? If all nations united under the United Nations were to adopt such a practice, the Nadam Foundation believes it would foster greater unity. The foundation is actively disseminating these unique messages at the grassroots level. By establishing universal rights and responsibilities, we can effectively progress towards achieving the SDGs.