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 United Children of Nigeria, 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

Over the years, United Children of Nigeria has worked tirelessly to make a positive impact on the lives of countless young Nigerians. We have provided scholarships, mentorship programs, and vocational training to empower our youth to reach their full potential.

United Children of Nigeria present an initiative designed to actively address and combat poverty, one of the most pervasive global challenges. This initiative centers on the integration of well-targeted social policies to accelerate progress towards the specific objectives outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In particular, we aim to advance the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal 1 (SDG 1) – “No Poverty.”

Key Components:

Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis: Collaborate with experts, local communities, and governmental bodies to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the specific needs of marginalized communities, identifying gaps and areas ripe for intervention. This analysis will be conducted within the broader context of the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on SDG 1.

Tailored Policy Framework: Develop a precise and actionable policy framework that includes measurable targets and clear indicators. This framework will be structured to address the unique challenges of eradicating poverty within the targeted communities, placing a special emphasis on the economic, social, and environmental dimensions outlined in the 2030 Agenda.

Localized Implementation: Advocate for the endorsement and implementation of these tailored policies at the national and local levels, ensuring that they are adaptable to the specific contexts of each community. Forge strategic partnerships with governments, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, and civil society groups to establish a robust network of support.

Capacity Building and Empowerment: Design and implement capacity-building programs aimed at equipping local policymakers, community leaders, and civil society organizations with the knowledge and skills necessary to design, implement, and evaluate effective social policies that target poverty eradication.

Real-time Data Monitoring and Impact Assessment: Establish a dynamic data monitoring system that provides real-time insights into the progress of policy implementation. Use data-driven approaches to ensure accountability and refine policies as needed for optimal impact on poverty eradication.

Community Engagement and Education: Initiate community engagement and public awareness campaigns, providing education and resources to enhance the understanding of the importance of social policies in achieving SDG 1. Encourage broad public participation and support for the policies.

Expected Outcomes:
This initiative is expected to yield specific outcomes, including:

• Customized Policy Implementation: Tailored policies designed to address the unique challenges faced by communities in achieving SDG 1, leading to more effective poverty eradication efforts.

• Improved Access to Services: Enhanced access to essential social services, including education, healthcare, and social safety nets, thus reducing vulnerability to poverty.
• Community Empowerment: Increased capacity and empowerment within marginalized communities, allowing them to actively participate in the decision-making process and the implementation of anti-poverty policies.

• Effective Collaboration: Reinforced partnerships between local governments, non-governmental organizations, and civil society to create a coordinated and efficient network of support for poverty eradication.

By focusing on the specific needs of marginalized communities, tailoring policy solutions, and actively engaging all stakeholders, this initiative aims to achieve targeted and tangible results in the fight against poverty and the advancement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We wish to reiterate that our mission is to provide educational opportunities and technical assistance to youth in need, equipping them with the tools and knowledge necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world. We are committed to breaking down barriers to education and fostering innovation and creativity among Nigeria’s future leaders.

We envision a Nigeria where every child has access to quality education and the opportunity to develop essential technical skills. Our vision is to empower young individuals to become self-reliant, socially responsible, and globally competitive citizens.

Thank you.