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**Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the
twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: priority
theme: strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable
development for all**

Statement submitted by Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research, 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

Implementing the philosophy of sharing is an indispensable basic requirement for sustainable development for all. It represents a world vision to eradicate extreme poverty. The inner quality of magnanimity and the path of reconciliation enhance sharing within our social relations, thus lead to accomplish the motto “leaving no one behind”.

The Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research (S.E.R.) has been working for reconciliation and peace, human rights and the implementation of the MDGs for many years. S.E.R. has done this by pointing out the importance of reconciliation and high ethical values and sharing ideas and experiences of how to implement the UN goals, which are now couched in the SDGs.

The idea of “sharing” teaches the eradication of poverty through socio-economic and political reforms. It is designed to uplift human value, dignity and equality geared towards a better world order of tomorrow.

The idea is that if everybody, who has enough, shares their wealth with those who need help, there will be peace on Earth. Extreme poverty and hunger will be eradicated and the essential needs for health will be ensured.

The policies of international financial institutions aimed at growth, have only recently acknowledged human well-being, dignity and empowerment to be of the same importance as growth. It is a similar story of countries’ policies that restrict provisioning basic social services like those for education and health. Due to these policies, even advanced countries are facing a worsening of inequality despite growth.

This urgently calls for measures to make social integration happen by redistribution of unequally accumulated wealth, targets at stable and just societies.

It obviously demands steps that have never been taken before.

Beside other tools like government interventions through progressive taxation, it calls for a conscious decision for social cohesion, for a voluntary reconciliatory process between those excluded and the beneficiaries of economic growth, between targets like wealth and social responsibility, between single interests and the interests of the community of people.

All ancient cultures inherit symbols of inner development, of virtues that can be understood as lighthouses, leading out of dangerous terrain. One of these well-known virtues is the principle of sharing, in the Christian culture symbolised by the figure of St. Martin.

Sharing expresses a voluntary act. It takes dignity, the right to live, of basic rights of the other for granted. It stands for joint use of resources.

To counteract the existing extremely unbalanced distribution of wealth and to facilitate unconventional actions of the beneficiaries of growth, the Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research (S.E.R.) proposes to launch a campaign for sharing for implementing SDG1 the Eradication of Poverty to reach sustainable development by leaving no-one behind.

The campaign should be headed by exemplary acting prominent partners especially from policy, the financial sector, leading enterprises and landlords. Such figures for instance could contribute ten per cent, of their wealth including property, to a fund, run by the UN or appointed experts of government, civil society and NGO's. Enterprises might also contribute by sharing their profits through converting informal jobs to employment on a permanent basis and reserve a percentage of these jobs for the most disadvantaged groups as youth, women and minorities. By giving land, people living in rural areas would be enabled to grow plants in order to ensure their livelihood. A financing of internet access in remote areas could reduce exclusion through the existing digital divide.

All these actions are an expression of accomplishing social cohesion by reconciliation in action. It is because of these broad effects that the Foundation for Subjective Experience and Research (S.E.R.) since 2009 has called for a Global Reconciliation Decade.

One last remark: By pursuing the principle of sharing, we do not only honour those in need and reconcile with them, but to the same degree our own cause of living and reconcile with ourselves.
