



# Economic and Social Council

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## Commission for Social Development

Sixtieth session

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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: Inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19 for sustainable livelihoods, well-being, and dignity for all: eradicating poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions to achieve the 2030 Agenda**

### **Statement submitted by Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale-onlus, 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.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

The Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale-onlus, is contented that the 60th Session of the *Commission for Social Development*, convoked at the context of Covid-19, has chosen as a priority theme *the Inclusive and resilient recovery for sustainable livelihoods, well-being and dignity for all: eradicating poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions to achieve the 2030 Agenda*.

Throughout the time of COVID-19 pandemic, the other types of pandemics such as hunger, poverty and unemployment have emerged and increased. These have added to the increase in the cost of living, the prices of food and agricultural inputs, affecting the conditions of millions of people, especially women and girls.

Hunger has increased criminality, violence and migration in the poorest neighbourhoods. Under these shadows, the States have taken advantage to be further corruptive, criminal and appropriation of public funds.

Due to lack of resources and internet connectivity, millions of students and adolescents, especially girls, have dropped out of educational institutions.

There is an overwhelming increase in gender-based violence and harassment of women and girls, in homes and in workplaces, exacerbating conditions of hunger and poverty.

The migrants and refugees, especially those waiting at the borders to enter the destination countries, suffer humanitarian crises without food and shelter. On the other hand, several of the existing armed conflicts in different regions of the world, have worsened without heeding to the call of the UN Secretary General to assume ceasefire.

These situations that are presented in this statement reinforce the Report of 2021 Sustainable Development Goals, which states that around 119 to 124 million people suffer poverty and chronic hunger and around 255 million jobs have been lost.

### **The Services of Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale onlus:**

Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale onlus has been promoting integral social development, through a network of our partners in 67 countries where we are present. Our projects have been aimed at mitigating the impacts of hunger and impoverishment.

We have been engaged in the implementation of the following projects and programs to assist the poorest:

Community kitchens; fraternal dining rooms; promotion and creation of solidarity savings banks; providing counselling and guidance services; the generation of employment; the distribution of food, toiletries and basic necessities; the creation, promotion and support of campaigns to collect food, groceries and money for the COVID-19 victims; the reconstruction of homes; dissemination of information about the aid provided by other organizations and the States and providing medical assistance.

Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale onlus has been working in alliance with other Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to enable recovery among the Covid-19 victims. The creation of education and training programs, especially for women and girls; capacity building for people to demand the governments to fulfil their obligations and to denounce the acts of corruption by governments in the management of the pandemic; and accompanying the rural workers to seek improved marketing and the creation of food security programs.

**Fondazione PROCLADE Internazionale onlus urges:**

While recognizing the efforts of various States to face the planetary crises, we believe that those efforts must be redoubled to realize the desires and objectives of the 2030 agenda. For this reason, we urge that the Member States and the various UN bodies must:

- To review the government policies to address the root causes of poverty, land tenure, labor conditions and public services, so that they are not just government programs, but they may become true public policies with a long reach, beyond the term of the government in office.
- Introduce and implement social protection policies and programs to overcome the cycle of poverty and reduce inequalities, particularly to ensure access to housing and food, for the homeless, migrants and refugees and other marginalized groups especially women and children.
- Radically confront the criminality of State corruption, otherwise the efforts to end poverty and the pandemic, will be futile.
- Redouble the efforts to ensure internet connectivity and the improvement of the quality education, to accomplish the universal access to education, with priority for women and girls.
- Continue to build alliances between the States and Civil Society Organizations, to generate fair prize for agricultural products, by creating systems where the producers can control the prices without intermediaries, so that the small producers and peasants might find livelihood-alternatives in countryside and are not conditioned to migrate to big cities and other countries.
- Build the necessary infrastructure in roads and means of communication, to connect the rural sectors with the goods and services that are often found only in the big cities.
- Provide to everyone the opportunities to generate sufficient income, starting with the provision of incentives.
- Put an end to the criminalization of victims of gender violence, environmental defenders and social leaders.
- Implement policies to monitor the processes of change in the energy matrix to ensure respect for human rights, the right to prior and informed consultation of ethnic peoples and rural dwellers.
- Support the implementation of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Climate Change as a mechanism to protect especially the poorest peoples and individuals who suffer the impacts of climate change.
- Allocate additional economic and technical resources to strengthen the free public health service that allows equitable access in the situations of special emergency, mitigation and recovery services (health and psychosocial care).
- Discuss the realization of the Universal Basic Income.
- Ensure that those who have been hit hardest are supported to recovery which is a necessity to make the realization of the 2030 Agenda.
- Prioritize, in the process of recovery and development, the women and children, indigenous peoples, migrants and refugees, and the households of the elderly, orphans and single parents.
- Work to overcome gender wage inequality and all forms of discrimination.