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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: rethinking and strengthening social
development in the contemporary world**

Statement submitted by Asabe Shehu Yar'Adua 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

Addressing Social Development: A tool for Sustainable Development in Nations of the Contemporary World

Asabe Shehu Yar'Adua Foundation's statement relates to the priority theme of the 54th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD54). This tends to analyse an in-depth understanding of social development, its challenges in rural communities, especially in developing and under-developed Countries. It will also further analyse the important factors which social development as a civil rights has to prioritize and necessitate. This statement will further highlight the key challenge area of the economic impact of social development.

The MDGs were not fully achieved in all areas and until now, several developing countries, under-developed and even developed countries still have challenges such as issues related to ageing, rural communities, social corporations, persons with disabilities, unemployment and youth. Other areas which need to be addressed and defined include: climate change, human trafficking (transborder), forced labour, child labour, migrants and immigrant' rights, gender inequality, girls education and child abuse.

The organization hereby presents a statement to reflect on the above stated challenges facing social development and the contemporary world: we request government intervention on policies toward the achievement of social development especially in rural communities in developing and under-developed countries.

We put forward that the social sectors of the contemporary world should be prioritized in development plans with special focus on bridging the wide gap between urban-born and native-born women and girls, youth and the elderly, especially in developing and under-developed nations. The Commission on Social Development should also address and employ the areas of SDGs related to the work of the Commission. Also, the Commission needs to revive dying social values which have given rise to escalated social crisis, strengthening and galvanizing stakeholders in public and social sectors (CSOs, NGOs) to complement the impacts of other sectors of society for a sustainable development.
