

## **CONCEPT NOTE FOR THE 62<sup>ND</sup> COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT SIDE EVENT.**

### **Title: Inclusive Social and Fiscal Policies: Key to achieving Poverty Eradication and Women's right to Land and Habitat**

The Priority theme for the session is “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”.

Poverty has been defined and described in various ways across the world. It has been defined in the economic sense, to portray lack of the necessities of life, such as food, shelter, clothing, lack of or in ability to access opportunities or afford social services. Poverty has also manifested in the form of lack of income or sustainable livelihoods, hunger, malnutrition, ill health, limited or lack of access to education, homelessness or lack of inadequate housing, social discrimination, and exclusion.

The World Bank has described poverty as hunger, lack of shelter, being sick and not being able to see a doctor, not having access to school and not knowing how to read. Poverty has also been connected and inked to lack of control over resources, such as land and habitat, skills, knowledge, capital, and social connections. There are about 1.2 billion people in 111 developing countries, who live in multidimensional poverty, accounting for 19% of the world's population.

According to the Secretary General's report on progress towards the SDGs, the world is off-track to achieving SDGs, as about 575 million people will still be living in extreme poverty in 2030. The way things are going presently, it will take 286 years to close gender gaps in legal protection and remove discriminatory laws. Women and girls in Sub-Saharan Africa are most at risk with mainly informal economy, and unpaid care work, including many forms of discrimination and barriers, such as lack of access, ownership, and rights to land, inheritance, and property among others.

To accelerate the progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieve the overarching goal of poverty eradication, we need a social perspective on development. This perspective must promote a people-centered approach to poverty eradication as well as advocating the empowerment of people living in poverty through their full participation in all aspects of political, economic, and social life, especially in the design and implementation of policies that affect the most vulnerable groups of society.

The theme of the 62<sup>nd</sup> Commission is important in addressing the challenges faced by rural women and girls in the world and particularly in the global south. We need Inclusive social and fiscal policies that target equitable distribution of wealth, income and social protection coverage and other workable strategies to address poverty and implement the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

It is important to address those challenges faced by rural women, through cooperatives, access to land, and removing other discriminatory practices against women and seeking social justice. The cooperative strategy can reduce poverty in areas where the government, private enterprises and individuals found difficult. It is a people-centered business model which plays an important role particularly in rural areas through mobilizing the self-help mechanisms with common purpose covering some economic sectors and social needs.

### **Objectives of the side event:**

The main objective of the side event is to focus on the key issues that are driving people into poverty and highlight effective strategies to ameliorate the situation. Therefore, the event will be addressing:

- How Inclusive Social and Fiscal Policies will enable states and communities achieving poverty eradication and implement the Sustainable Development Goals.
- It is also important to Identify and break down those traditional or customary barriers to women's right to land and habitat in order to achieve social justice and poverty eradication.
- The event will also address the issue of gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls as a catalyst for poverty eradication and Leaving No One Behind in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- The role of cooperatives and private sector in accelerating poverty eradication and ensuring women's right to land and habitat will be discussed.