Vision & Mission & Goals of NGO CSocD 2021-22

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We, the NGO Committee on Social Development, are guided by the principles of the Copenhagen Declaration. The Copenhagen Summit in 1995 was one of hope, commitment, and action. The Declaration acknowledged the difficulty of the tasks that lay ahead but at the same time reiterated that major progress could be achieved if international cooperation focused on people-centered social development, with a specific attention to people suffering from poverty, unemployment and social exclusion. Twenty-six years later, and in the context of the global pandemic crisis, the Commitments of the Copenhagen framework for action remain aspirational and are more relevant than ever.

According to the United Nations, an additional 150 million people will be pushed into extreme poverty due to the pandemic. They will be added to the 1.3 billion people already living in multidimensional and intergenerational poverty, struggling to survive and live in dignity. The pandemic not only exacerbated conditions of poverty, it also revealed pre-existing socio-economic inequalities and injustices that affected local communities worldwide. The pandemic has also created a global recession, and highlighted the importance of universal and permanent social protection for all individuals, working in both the formal and informal sectors, or not working at all.

A sustainable recovery relies on a recommitment to the Copenhagen principles and goals and the recognition of the urgency to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 interdependent Sustainable Development Goals. NGO CSocD can bring to this daunting challenge the strength of our members who work across all geographical boundaries engaging in relevant issues, developing best practices, and bringing a diversity of voices to the advocacy table on the most pressing matters and concerns, namely:

- Impact of the pandemic on specific marginalized communities
- Multidimensional and intergenerational poverty
- Participation of the grassroots: raising voices, social inclusion, lived experiences
- Universal social protection systems and floors
- Quality education and skilled development for all, and rural communities particularly
- Access to housing and homelessness prevention and remediation
- Gender equity (including care work and care economy, women in science)
- Integrated programs (mentoring, education, youth inclusion)
- Focus on the digital divide and digital equity
- Climate change and refugees
- Green economy and transition to just and sustainable societies
- Financial inclusion
- More equitable distribution of global resources
- Accountability and impact of UN resolutions on the ground
As the global community works towards recovering from COVID-19, the NGO Committee on Social Development will focus on the Priority Theme of United Nations’ 60th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD60): “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”.

By connecting poverty, hunger, wellbeing and dignity with the framework of the 2030 Agenda, this new Priority Theme compels the NGO Committee on Social Development to work on the synergies between the Copenhagen Declaration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As such, the NGO CSocD looks forward to actively engaging in the High Level Political Forum 2021, in addition to the Commission for Social Development’s 60th session in February 2022.

Our purpose as a committee is to advocate for:

1. A healthy and productive life in harmony with the environment for all people, who must be at the center of sustainable development.
2. Sustained social development for all peoples, especially people living in poverty and to achieve the Goals of the 2030 Agenda.
1. Democracy, human dignity, social justice and solidarity at all levels, ensure tolerance, non-violence, and non-discrimination, with full respect for diversity within and among societies;
2. Equitable distribution of income and greater access to resources through equity and equality of opportunity for all;
3. Universal respect for, and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.
4. Equality and equity between women and men; protection of the rights of children and youth; and strengthening of social integration and civil society.

Our Approach:

1. Engage with all stakeholders and build coalitions to advocate on the various elements of the mission and purpose of the Committee.
2. Participate in multi-stakeholder events and coalitions to further our advocacy as relates to the annual Priority theme.
3. Organize and provide a platform (virtually / in-person) for our members to participate and engage in the events organized by the United Nations.
4. Organize and partner with like-minded individuals and civil society organizations in the advocacy elements around the Annual Priority Theme of the Commission for Social Development.
5. Raise the level of awareness education and discussion through our various sub-committees.