ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the UN development system in the context of the 2030 Agenda

Submitted by Scientific Association of Young Political Scientists

To: NGO Branch - UN ECOSOC

The Scientific Association of Young Political Scientists presents its compliments to the ECOSOC and wishes to underline that the outcome of the ongoing dialogue on the long-term positioning of the United Nations development system should be one that encompasses and addresses the critical issues that lay before us, such as poverty, hunger, climate change, unemployment, health diseases, grave and mass human rights violations which destabilize countries and lead to spillover effects on a regional or international level, and the progressively shrinking natural resources which can back up and fund our development policies.

The global efforts on building a global partnership for development demonstrated that though there is enough head room to improve our actions and policies, the goal of enhancing development through the United Nations system is within reach. By this token, the long term positioning of the United Nations development system should bear those features that are susceptible to render it dynamic, based on data-driven decisions which are tailored to the needs of each country and capable of using technological innovations that maximize the end-results without draining or adding significant weight on the available natural resources.

Architecting the post-2015 development agenda and policies is a process that should place human security and education at its heart. A stable environment coupled with strongly educated individuals shall facilitate a better and more efficient use of the funding received by developing countries and it will also allow individuals to have a significant and fruitful role in the development process. To this end, the funding practices and official development assistance provided should also target long term goals, such as enhancing entrepreneurship, rebooting economies through investments and helping developing countries which are lagging behind in technological innovations to import, use and produce technology as a mean of development.

The question of achieving human security and promoting stronger education is one that cannot be met outside the protective umbrella of good governance. Grave Human Rights violations and the commitment of mass atrocities have clearly showed that a state’s failure to protect its own citizens can trigger a widespread crisis that can jeopardize state’s stability and therefore strike down its development rates, adding, in this way, more weight on the international community which is required to find immediate funds to address the humanitarian catastrophes generated, funds that could have been used- if prevention of
such violations was effective in helping states address development issues. Therefore, by promoting peace through education and development we also achieve human security.

The Scientific Association of Young Political Scientists has always placed through its actions and conferences, a significant importance on the promotion of democracy, open deliberation, human security and education as a mean that could help states forge their economies. To this scope we remain committed and we avail ourselves of this opportunity to express that we will continue to focus our efforts on these goals by integrating more data-driven decisions and analytics.

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