

Delegation from the Republic of Chad
Position Paper for the Economic and Social Council

The topics before the United Nations (UN) Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) are: I. Education in Post-Conflict Situations, II. Implementing SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All and III. Promoting the Political, Socioeconomic, and Cultural Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These three topics are of crucial importance to economic and social reality in all states of the world. But especially outstanding is the access to renewable energy. Only with access to energy it is possible to develop a society and country, in order to eradicate poverty and establish an education system. For this reason, Chad wants to discuss topic II first, followed by topic I and topic III.

I. Education in Post-Conflict Situations

Former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan wrote in the foreword of *The State of the World Children 1999*: "Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development." Without education, states are not to evolve after conflicts. According to UN Special Envoy for Education Gordon Brown, there are 240 million children worldwide who do not attend school. Especially in post-conflict areas, the problem is enormous because giving children access to education is difficult. This is because many families have been attacked by these conflicts, or the infrastructure is no longer there. Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) guarantees everyone in the world access to at least primary education. General Assembly resolution 70/137 (2015) on the *Rights of the Child* emphasizes the importance of the implementation of the Right to Education in every state. International aid is being funded, among other things, by Education Cannot Wait Fund (ECWF). This is a global fund under the administration of UNICEF to ensure the provision of education in emergency situations. Involved are governments, humanitarian actors and development organizations. The Chad has benefited from this fundraising project with \$ 10 million and has been working to improve the *Global Partnership for Education programs*. Nearly one hundred new classrooms, 10,000 teacher's guides and 500,000 new textbooks were purchased. In 2015, the Education 2030 Framework for Action (FFA) was founded. This framework is a guide to *Sustainable Development Goals*, especially SDG4. Since 2018, the National Intérimaire de l'éducation Plan has been active in Chad, which focus on the resilience of the education sector. Missing teachers and a lack of funding mean that education in post-conflict states is very bad. But one particularly relevant aspect is the under-utilized education program by the population and especially the children. Getting kids to school is one of the main problems. Only half of the school-age children go to school in the Chad, about 60% of the girls who could go to school do not go. This is mainly because of a social reason, since child marriage and traditional family pictures in post-conflict states are very often normal. It is also a problem that families and children are not aware of the possibilities of education and the opportunities outside of formal education. There are a variety of alternative education offerings as presented in *Strategies for Girls' Education* of UNICEF. Many schools offer child care, while underage mothers go to school or alternative offers such as learning centers exist in post-conflict states, as access to schools is sometimes not available yet. That is why Chad proposes a promoting campaign in the affected African states. Implemented by the UNICEF, a comprehensive advertising campaign is to be launched on the possibilities of child education in the affected countries, which should increase awareness within families. Personal interviews of UNICEF trained field agents who visit local families and encourage girls to go to school or take alternative offers should also be included. This campaign aims to help liberalize families, as access to education is essential for every child to develop. Showing alternatives and offering opportunities is very important for such families, as there is a lack of information in the broader society.

II. Implementing SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All

There are more than 7 billion people on earth. About 3 billion people live without access to renewable energy. Almost a billion people have no access to electricity at all. SDG7 is part of General Assembly (GA) resolution 70/1 (2015), *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, that aims to provide access to sustainable, renewable and affordable energy for all people on Earth by the year 2030. Energy is generally regarded as one of the United Nations' main goals. For example, energy has been recognized as a priority for sustainable development in Rio + 20 at the United Nations (UN) Conference on Sustainable Development. Among other things, GA resolution 60/199, *Promoting the new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation*

of the *World Solar Program 1999-2005*, which emphasizes the relevance of the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* (JPol). This acknowledges that access to renewable energy is related to poverty eradication. That is why it is particularly important to ensure access to renewable energy in African countries, as there were 28 countries in need of food aid in 2017, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Chad has a lot of potential, especially in the case of grid-connected solar power, due to the high level of solar radiation. With the *Djermaya Solar IPP with 30 MW* is a project under debate, which is to feed into the net. The only national electricity supplier Société Nationale d'Electricité (SNE) obtains the entire electricity from diesel or gas. The dependency on diesel is a major challenge for the Chad because it lacks the infrastructure to establish a well-developed renewable energy grid in their countries. The *Africa Renewable Energy Initiative* (AREI), which emerged from the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), is the first continental political initiative focusing exclusively on the development of renewable energy. The Chad Basin is a geographical zone that includes eight African states. The average energy access in rural areas there is around 10%. The monitoring tool is the *Chad Basin Commission*, which is responsible for regulating the use of natural resources within the Chad Basin. There are a variety of programs that seek to implement various SDGs in the region, such as the *Biosphere and Heritage of Lake Chad* (BIOPALT), which addresses the security, humanitarian and environmental challenges faced by the region. To improve living conditions in the Chad basin, Chad proposes an implementation program for SDG7 to provide private households with energy. The *Chad Basin Commission* will act as a coordinator and, together with the ECOSOC, further root the private sector to provide sustainable energy for the people. Funds like the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa, the Green Climate Fund and others can be used for projects in the respective countries. The task of the program should be to improve the energy infrastructure in the region and to supply private households with electricity. Companies should be equipped with jobs through the program to deploy this infrastructure. If possible, private companies should also cooperate with state energy suppliers.

III. Promoting the Political, Socioeconomic, and Cultural Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The proportion of Indigenous People is about 5% of the total population on earth, but belongs to the poorest population. The rights of these people are under scrutiny worldwide as they are denied fundamental rights such as housing rights, health rights, education rights, and political rights and cultural rights. There is no definition of what constitutes indigenous people. Their identification lies with them and their tribe or their culture itself. What identify them all, however, are their roots in their territories and the local natural resources. Often they have a colonial past and have since been injured in their rights. The United Nations has increasingly tried to protect the rights of indigenous people. For example, by the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People*. Here they are granted extensive rights, such as self-determination (Article 3), freedom and equality (Article 2) and land rights (Article 25). Chad itself has 22 indigenous groups that make up a significant part of the population. The poor conditions of indigenous peoples in their home countries lead to increased migration of people to neighboring countries. Chad is now home to more than 380,000 immigrants. With so many indigenous people living in Chad, it is important to introduce them into society. The Chad constitution enshrines the protection of minorities, highlighting the importance of indigenous peoples in Chad. Nonetheless, among the multitude of indigenous people, it is almost impossible to defend the rights and interests of all indigenous people. However, it is important that indigenous groups do not identify themselves as rebels and jeopardize peace in the states. In the past of the Chad, indigenous groups have often joined forces to form rebel associations against the democratic government. Inserting entire sections of society into society is never an easy task. Therefore, Chad proposes a knowledge and expertise exchange program between member states under the supervision of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD), which works to integrate indigenous people into their society and to develop their rights. To this extent, Member States can share their knowledge and resources, thus better taking into account the political, socio-economic and cultural rights of indigenous people. As a result, not only knowledge is exchanged, but also the abuses in individual states are elaborated and improved. This should be designed as a bilateral program on a multilateral level. This knowledge exchange program should be designed under the CSocD. To improve the rights of indigenous people in states, Chad sees this program as extremely important. Not only states should be part of this program, but also human rights organizations and organizations that deal particularly with indigenous people, such as the *International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs* should meet twice a year to share ideas and solutions. Together with a multitude of actors, this program is intended to strengthen the rights of indigenous people, in which the expertise can be directly exchanged by the states and used to improve the status of indigenous people in affected states.