



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission for Social Development

#### Fifty-second session

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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: promoting empowerment of people in achieving  
poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and  
decent work for all**

### **Statement submitted by Sacro Militare Ordine Costantiniano di San Giorgio, 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.



## Statement

The Sacro Militare Ordine Costantiniano di San Giorgio (Sacred Military Constantinian Order of Saint George) has the historic mission of helping the sick, the needy and the most disadvantaged in society. Through the involvement of its 2,800 members organized in national and regional delegations operating in over 40 countries, the Order provides medical and social assistance, disaster relief in the case of armed conflicts and natural catastrophes, emergency services, help for the elderly, the handicapped and children in need and the provision of first aid training, and support for refugees and internally displaced persons regardless of race, origin or religion.

Poverty is an exceptionally complex social phenomenon, and trying to eradicate it is equally complicated. The Order welcomes the promotion of empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all.

Having witnessed first-hand the massive challenges facing less developed countries as well as those facing the unemployed in the advanced world, the Order emphasizes that there is no one global approach to resolving poverty, unemployment and regional disadvantage. Rather, free market initiatives and governmental regulation must be balanced as appropriate, supported by more widespread, high-quality academic and moral education within national and cultural contexts.

The Order urges national Governments, the private sector and community sectors to engage in a structured collaboration in identifying and assessing strategies to address poverty and inequality firmly at the centre of their development and to create lasting solutions. The Order further urges the global community to collaborate in a concerted effort to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable human development, accelerate economic growth, fight administrative and political corruption, increase the efficiency of government services and facilitate a nation's integration into today's global economy.

For its part, the Order reaffirms its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals and the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, and underscores its intention to engage in collaborative projects that advance, within its sphere of influence, the principles of the Goals and the Declaration, as well as the broader development goals of the United Nations related to sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels.