

**REMARKS**

**BY**

**H.E. MR. COLLEN V. KELAPILE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)**

**AT THE SIDE EVENT ON “ENDING POVERTY THROUGH  
ACHIEVING QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL” CO-ORGANIZED  
BY THE INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT ATD FOURTH WORLD  
AND ARIGATOU INTERNATIONAL**

**5 JULY 2022  
13:00-14:30 HOURS**

**VIRTUAL EVENT**

*Please check against delivery.*

- **Mr. Moderator – Kevin Gee,**
- **Excellencies,**
- **Mr. Nicolas Reuge, UNICEF Representative, and Senior Advisor Education,**
- **Mr. Fred Nyabera, Director, End Child Poverty,**
- **Community Activists and Members of the ATD Fourth World,**
- **Children and Activists from Arigatou International networks,**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. I am very pleased to take part in this important side event co-organized by International Movement ATD Fourth World and Arigatou International entitled **“Ending Poverty Through Achieving Quality Education for All.”**
2. This is a timely side event that contributes directly to the theme of the 2022 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), **“Building Back Better from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) While Advancing the Full Implementation**

***of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."***

3. This side event focuses on the interlinkages between **SDG 1 on No Poverty, SDG 4 on Quality Education, SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 10 on Reduced Inequalities and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.**
4. It demonstrates that ending poverty through inclusive education for all is key to ending inequalities, building peaceful and inclusive societies.
5. Moreover, it shows that quality education is a powerful transformative tool that enhances people's participation in public affairs and contributes to the formulation of better public policies and interventions that build fully inclusive societies.

**Excellencies,**

6. This side event also highlight the importance of placing dignity and inclusive education at the heart

of the COVID-19 recovery if countries are to build back better.

7. The dignity of the human being is not only a fundamental right in itself but constitutes the basis of all other fundamental rights.
8. Yet, the current reality shows that many people living in persistent poverty experience their dignity being denied and disrespected, especially in accessing quality education and life-long learning opportunities.
9. This side-event will highlight diverse forms of discrimination that perpetuate unequal access to quality education.
10. This side-event brings to the UN and to the HLPF lived experiences and the direct voices of those impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and by the persistence of poverty and social exclusion.
11. Children from Arigatou International networks, activists with lived experience of poverty and

members of the International Movement ATD Fourth World from Burkina Faso and Latin America, in a dialogue with UNICEF, academics, and civil society will discuss recommendations to transform education.

12. This side-event is a respectful space of expression which empowers people and children by fostering their ability to participate in or influence decisions that directly affect their lives.
13. The conclusions and recommendations of this side event will make a significant contribution to the HLPF.
14. I wish you fruitful deliberations and thank you all for your kind attention.