

Ms. Maria Albuquerque
The Legion of Goodwill
General debate on the theme of the Annual Ministerial Review
4 July 2007

Mr. President, Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In cooperation with the AMR, the LEGION OF GOOD WILL, a Brazilian NGO with general consultative status with ECOSOC, brings its recommendations based on a platform of action that engages multi-stakeholder partnerships to fulfill the Development Goals, especially the eradication of poverty and its consequences. For over 57 years, the LGW has developed hundreds of social and educational programs in the areas of extreme poverty in Latin America, mostly in Brazil. It renders annually more than 5.7 million social services provided with community resources, professional support and volunteer task force.

The fact is: Poverty is not only a social and economical issue. To overcome this challenge it is mandatory to educate, furthermore, to re-educate the human being upon solidary values of peace, understanding and fraternal love. The LGW's development programs, based on the triangulation – school, family and community, improve the individual to live his or her complete citizenship as a constructing agent for an altruistic solidary society. As it is stated in the preamble of UNESCO'S Constitution: "It is in the minds of men that defences of peace must be constructed", therefore it is urgent to combine education of the minds with the one of the hearts to strengthen a global consciousness open to a Planet of justice and peace.

For further information we suggest you to read the statement reference E/2007/NGO/2.

Thank you Mr. President for this opportunity so the voice of civil society can also be heard and considered.