

THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

19 November 2020

Excellency,

Pursuant to resolution 74/122, the General Assembly decided to devote one high-level meeting at its 75<sup>th</sup> session, in 2020, to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the World Summit on Social Development (WSSD). In the same resolution, the General Assembly also invited the Economic and Social Council to give appropriate consideration to the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the World Summit by organizing a meeting during the regular programme of work of the substantive session of the Council.

In keeping with our commitment to

**Commemoration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development**

Theme: **Re-setting Inclusive Social Policies for Resilience to build back better from COVID-19 crisis:**  
**Addressing inequalities in access to basic services and infrastructure**

## **Rationale for Re-setting Social Policies for Greater Resilience and Inclusion in the Post-COVID Era**

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned into a multi-faceted social, economic and financial crisis, affecting peoples across regions. The virus has exposed the weakness of national health systems due to many years of under-investment, inadequacy of social protection systems and the acute vulnerability of marginalized communities and people living in poverty. The disruption of supply chains and projected fall in aggregate demand compounded by falling remittances and commodity prices, and job losses has pushed the world into recession with devastating consequences, particularly for middle- and low-income countries with limited capacities to respond.

