NON-STATE ACTOR COMMITMENT FOR ADOLESCENT WELL-BEING

24th October, 2023

Christian Council of Nigeria
Very Rev. Dr. Evans Onyemara
General Secretary
139 Ogunlana Drive, Lagos, NIGERIA

Subject: Committing to Adolescent Well-being in response to the UN Secretary General’s Call for SDG Transformation Commitments at the SDG Summit 2023; and in support of the 2023 Global Forum for Adolescents

On behalf of the CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF NIGERIA, we recognize that the well-being of adolescents is critical to achieving sustainable development and acknowledge the importance of adopting a whole-of-society approach to work together in a coordinated and collaborative manner to address the multiple and intersecting factors that impact adolescents.

We commit to strengthen investments in adolescent well-being as it is a smart investment in the future of our societies, economies, and the planet, and call for sustainable and adequate funding for adolescent-focused programs and initiatives. We commit to prioritize adolescent well-being in our plans and strategies, to support disaggregated data collection to better understand the challenges and opportunities for ensuring adolescent well-being, and to integrate adolescent-specific indicators into our monitoring and reporting frameworks by meaningfully engaging adolescents and young people in the design, implementation, and monitoring of policies and programs that affect their well-being.

Our commitment to adolescent well-being is:

- in response to the United Nation’s Secretary-General’s call for national and global commitments to deliver the ‘Rescue Plan for People and Planet’ at the SDG Summit 2023, that will help drive SDG transformation for inclusion and sustainability in the years ahead; and
- in support of the Global Forum for Adolescents, the world’s largest-ever convening of stakeholders – youth networks, governments, private sector, donors, the UN and others – to raise attention to the need for immediate action to advance the major determinants of adolescent well-being, as a major milestone within the 1.8 Billion Young People for Change campaign, convened by PMNCH.

On behalf of the CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF NIGERIA, we commit to:

- By the end of 2023, CCN commits to train 70 leaders among young people living with HIV and theological students.
- By mid-2024, CCN commits to create an advisory committee with 10 young people and adolescents, to guide our work.
- By the end of 2024, CCN commits to train 30 young people living with HIV.
Our commitment is directly aligned to the domains of the Adolescent well-being framework:

1. Health and nutrition, specially HIV/AIDS
2. Connectedness, positive values, and contribution to society, creation of safe spaces within the faith community for young people and adolescents
3. Safety and a supportive environment
4. Learning, competence, education, skills, and employability, specially life skills
5. Agency and resilience

Our commitment is aimed at accelerating progress towards the following SDGs:

- SDG 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages)
- SDG 5, (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls focus on young people)
- SDG 16 (Promotion of inclusive societies and reduction of all forms of violence)

By making this commitment we agree to register our commitments on the SDG Summit Acceleration and Accountability Platform. We commit to systematically report on the implementation of these commitments through existing follow-up and review processes including:

- Stakeholder engagement report as part of Voluntary National Reviews for SDG progress reporting;
- Releasing an annual shareholder report that includes this commitment;
- Joint reporting efforts together with other stakeholders;
- Reporting as part of Government-led multi stakeholder platform, etc.

Sincerely,

Very Rev. Dr. Evans Onyemara

General Secretary.