



Can You Hear US?

Voices from around the world
in support of the Social Protection
Floor Initiative

NGO Committee for Social Development



January 2012

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Introduction

The 'Social Protection Floor Initiative' (SPF-I) was mandated by the Chief Executive Board (CEB) of the United Nations in April 2009. SPF-I is part of a set of multilateral actions to address the recent crisis, deploying all UN resources and capacities in support of effective national responses.

The Social Protection Floor Initiative is built on a coalition led by the ILO and the World Health Organization (WHO) and is part of a larger social protection system. Ms. Michele Bachelet, Executive Director of UN Women pointed out that more than 5 billion people are not covered by adequate social security and 1.4 billion live on less than \$1.25 a day.

Social protection is the essential missing piece in a fair and inclusive globalization. The New York based NGO Committee for Social Development at the United Nations initiated an online campaign 'Support the Social Protection Floor Initiative to create awareness and build momentum.

www.gopetition.com/petitions/signature-campaign-social-protection-floor/

More than 15,000 supporters from around the world have signed on to the petition. The signatories have also urged their governments to implement social protection floor programmes tailored to national needs.

In this publication, we present to you the voices of signatories to the campaign. **Can you hear them?** They are a rallying call asking for a strong political will and commitment to implement nationally tailored, universal social protection floor initiatives and for international support to vulnerable countries, in particular, the Least Developed Countries!

Special Thanks:

The NGO Committee for Social Development appreciates Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Chair of the Advisory Group, for acknowledging the NGO Committee's activism in promoting the social protection floor in the report 'Social Protection Floor For a Fair and Inclusive Globalization'. Appreciation is also extended to DESA NGO Branch, NGLS and ILO for disseminating information on Signature Campaign in their news updates. Thank you to all the world citizens who continue to give strength to this initiative with their confidence, hard work, and determination.

*-The New York based NGO Committee for Social Development at the
United Nations, January 2012*

The Signatories Declare...

We, members of civil society, strongly support the Social Protection Floor Initiative – a joint UN effort coordinated by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and supported by UN agencies, international NGOs, development banks and other development partners.

About 75 percent of people in the world do not have adequate social security. This lack of protection undermines social cohesion and economic performance and creates political and institutional instability. This floor is a necessary tool for eradicating poverty.

No one should live below a certain income level. Everyone should be able to access at least basic health services, primary education, housing, water, sanitation and other essential services. The two necessary elements for the Social Protection Floor are social transfers to guarantee income security, food security, adequate nutrition, and universal access to essential services.

Universal

The Social Protection Floor (SPF) must be tailored to the needs of each country and builds on that country's existing social protection mechanisms. It aims to make it possible for everyone to enjoy the rights expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (par 22) "Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security".

Affordable

A Social Protection Floor can be afforded by every country if integrated incrementally. A number of low- and middle-income countries have taken successful measures to build their national Social Protection Floor.

We call on all governments to implement a national social protection floor.

We call on the United Nations to assist in the development and
Implementation of such policies.

For further information visit:

<http://www.socialfloor.org> and www.ngosocdev.net

To sign the Petition please go to:

www.gopetition.com/petitions/signature-campaign-social-protection-floor/signatures.html

Echoes from the Signatories

"I strongly support the Social Protection Floor Initiative suggested by ILO and WHO. It is an urgent need if we really want to achieve MDGs and the objectives of the Second Decade for poverty eradication."

-Ms. Fatima Rodrigo, USA

Too many people around the globe are vulnerable to income poverty. Therefore it is imperative for the states to provide whatever assistance they can provide, within their available resources to minimize and ultimately eradicate income poverty.

-Mr. Jetro Ngwenya, South Africa

The human dignity is inalienable. It is the duty of all to promote ways that man can live and not just to survive.

-Sinara de Sousa Rangel, Brazil

In Niger, more than 63% of the population is poor, the majority of which are women, especially rural women and girls. We call on the international community to make even greater efforts to turn words into actions that will reduce poverty in the world.

-Mme, Anonymous, Niger

About 54% of Mozambican population lives below poverty levels, meaning that 1 in every Mozambican does not have adequate social security. To achievement of MDGs is possible through pro poor budgets and the floor is a necessary tool for achieving MDGs and eradicating poverty.

-Mr. Gabriel DeBarros, Mozambique

We need governments that function as if people, even if they happen to be poor, matter.

-Edwin John, India

Basic human needs must be seen as a right not a matter for charity.

-Susan Cummings, Canada

As global citizens, we must act so that all members of our world community have basics to live a life of dignity.

-Catherine Minhoto, U.S.A.

Societal well-being is key to national development.

-Robert Bakiika, Uganda

Yes, this is a very important area that needs further promotion and commitment from policy makers so that the marginalized and the disenfranchised, can have the opportunities to steady themselves to advance further.

-Ms. Braema Mathiaparanam, Singapore

Both women and men together can realize a more humane and supportive world. Well-being for all, without exception.

-Claudia Juarez, Honduras

Most of our poor peoples are not helped, they do not have employment, no jobs, no skills training in order to find works. They are mostly illiterate, ignorance easily to be allured to prostitutions, recreational works can ear good money, but they often were cheated and abused. Many kinds of loaning for the poor but they only loan to those who can pay back not for those who are really poor that cannot pay.

-Nguyen Bach, Vietnam

This campaign is strategic to achieve the objective of a balanced development, key point for the consensus and participation of people to the present world economic system.

-Marco Ricceri, Italy

League for the Rights of Congolese Women (CFSA) supports the stand in the field of education to provide free primary education and primary health care.

-Mohameden Horma Babana, Mauritania



Baihar, India. Katherine Isojoki



Altiplano, Bolivia. UN Photo/Jeffrey Fox

I had been working among the indigenous people of Meghalaya, relieving them from extreme poverty through sustainable development through various types of plantation and opened a Cooperative Society in order to save them from the clutches of money lenders and middle man. This has become a success story which could be replicated in other place. Proper market linkage is very important for development especially for the marginal farmers.

-Ms. Rose Kayathinkara, India

The Social Protection Floor is one way to distribute the benefits of globalization.

-Wouter van Ginneken, France

I call this national and international reforms on behalf of my organization, Romanian Independent Society of Human Rights - SIRDO.

-Lucica Humenuc, Romania

Providing social security to enable the world living in poverty including the United States will have a return in investment with a larger per cent of the global population focused on fixing common world environmental, human rights, and other social issues instead of worrying how to fill their children's stomachs with food and provide them with a healthful environment. We learned as children to share and to play nice, this initiative is the same of what we already know.

-David Kenneth Waldman, U.S.A.

We support this initiative because the lives of people in the world is at risk and those who run our countries do not have the worries of the population but their earlier enrichment. Social protection should be a priority in our pays. The majority of workers in our country are in the informal sector and are not entitled to health care, good protection and social security.

-Kipulu Katani Angelique, DR of the Congo

A poor and inadequate lifestyle at an older age is and will remain a factor of fear and uncertainty for younger generations. There is no better than now to act together towards encouraging participation and change in defining and supporting the older womens' roles in our lives. Albanian Society for All Ages.

-Ermira Pirdeni, Albania

Affordability is one of the most key issues. It is said that a social floor could cost 1-2% of GnP, but that would probably only cover income transfers. Moreover finding 1-2% in countries which collect few taxes is a huge challenge. What expenditures could be reallocated? How to limit initial expenditures and build on political popularity and experience?

-Mr. Dalmer Hoskins, USA

The world has over 1 billion people leaving in poverty. We must do all we can to alleviate their suffering and deliver a dignified life through this initiative.

-Martin Barasaa, Kenya

A crucial safety net and necessary contribution towards the achievement of human rights.

-Carol Nelson , New Zealand

I support this petition to encourage all people in the world regardless of race gender nationality, access to basic social services and poverty eradication. I wish and the means of the poor should be increased by taking into account their development needs by providing them with the means to enable them to meet their needs.

-Hady Diallo, Senegal

This is not an impossible dream - with the WILL, it is POSSIBLE.

-Pamela D. Lowe, United Kingdom

I strongly support this feasible target, for it would cost only a little more than the total level of ODA at present. This could easily be achieved by slicing ten percent off military spending in developed countries.

-John Langmore, Australia

It is the duty of humanity that all human beings to have certain minimum safety and that the state is responsible for the people of each nation and their active citizenship is a category that for many people has lost its meaning.

-Vivian Alsina Elgue, Uruguay

Social protection should be a matter of allowing all people a competitive edge, and the UN is to encourage family planning projects for people with lower resources, that would help the children who are born are not intended to poverty and misery of their parents.

-Roberto Rios, Ecuador

This is the first time I sign this petition. I assured you that I can advocate it to my Contemplative community when I come back and also the people we served. I am one of the participant in the Asian Formators' Training Session here in Tagaytay Phil.. I am also doing some petition like this in another NGO like Avaaz.

-Sr. Imelda Fuentes, Philippines

I feel strongly that global peace will only be achieved by greater fairness in wealth distribution. Social protection is the first step towards equality in individual societies. It is only fair.

-Ann Averill, Ireland

I feel comforted seeing the world united for mankind to live in dignity. Being, one who grew up in a country where it is more than necessary to have such initiative, I'm completely in support.

- Salimata Cheikh, Nouakchott, Mauritania

I am a supporting fan for this campaign due to a belief that this campaign would lead our world to a new dimension.

-Pornpavee Pitiyont, Thailand

To grow spiritually, a person needs a minimum of security.

-Marie Rose Lepers, Belgium

The eradication of poverty from all the peoples of the world is being asked by our global society. The Social Protection is the necessary tool and the big leap for succeeding this major target.

-Kallirroï Nikoli, Greece

The support for social protection should be put a plan in every corner of the world.

- Mazenga Kadjim Alpha, Dhekalia

Equality and dignity are human rights are the basis of a civilized society.

-Angelika Striedinger , Belgium

Governments have always come up with beautiful policy documents but these often than not, remain on paper as very little is done to implement them.

-Frederic Oguba, Kenya

This comprehensive Social Protection floor Initiative by the UN is a realistic and concrete way for all countries to help alleviate hunger in the world. I hope that all NGO's will do their utmost to advocate with their governments for such a policy to be enacted in their countries of involvement so it can become a worldwide movement.

-Rev Camille Piche St Albert, Alberta, Canada

This petition asks for the requirements to meet the basic needs of the people on the planet. In all faiths, we are told to care for one another. I support this petition wholeheartedly as it is life giving.

-Janice Sevre-Duszynska, U.S.A.

Some basic equality necessary to fight for a better, democratic life on this little globe, for peace, and for spiritual development of mankind. No more animal laws of the jungle; the time for that is in the past. Now we all have to be able to work towards solutions of the problems arising from excessive greed, wars and pollution.

-Beatrice Nielsen, Denmark

When every single one in a country has food, home and education, there is real progress. When one person suffers from the most basic need, the country is indeed regressing.

-Anonymous, Singapore

No one should live below a certain income level.

There is a proverb saying: "all hands are not equal, we should help one another."

-Emmanuel Owusu Mensah, Ghana



Algeria. UN Photo/Evan Schneider

It is imperative that Governments support this initiative as a way of eradicating extreme poverty. All human beings should have clean water and basic nutrition needs met. It is a question of all of us together having the will to do what is needed. Let's hope we can do it.

-Brigid Murphy, UK

A Social Protection Floor in every country is a short cut to beginning to push back the damage done by extreme poverty.

-Fr. Kevin Dance, USA

Such poverty leads to millions becoming vulnerable to black market economy and to the trafficking of human beings. All humans have a right to live a decent life.

-Imelda Poole, Albania

It is Important make this support is because social security in Colombia is bequeathed to corruption, poor attention to the ARS, EPS, IPs and hospitals, often serve in precarious conditions. Everyone should enjoy social protection and all people should be paid more than a minimum wage.

-Liliana Sanchez Contreras, Columbia

Government must have the concrete programs to decrease poverty. Privatization and globalization loose the right of society of healthcare and education. Also many investor take the indigenous' land that make them to be poor. So government must have public oriented in making public policy.

- Ruth Mulyani, Indonesia

How wonderful! With this petition we are acknowledging that we are one world, interdependent and interconnected a plea for the life of all.

-Sandra Price, Nicaragua



Lesuata, Timor-Leste. UN Photo/Martine Perret.

I understand the Social Protection Floor Initiative is very important as a mechanism to eradicate poverty on the planet. I pledge to work together with the UN to develop this program.

-Juan Pablo Acosta Garcia, Dominican Republic

We have been observing for a long time that the finance of UN is facing serious set back due to inefficiency in the top-level decision making bodies of the UN, wherein the richer nations play active role. It is gathered that the decision makers involved in the recruitment in financial institutions or development organizations choosing inefficient personnel for running these programmes as the governments of some UN member countries (rich nations in particular) exert undue pressure in selection.

-Shah Sufi Saleh Uddin Ahmed Chisty – Bangladesh

Everyone should be able to access at least basic health services, primary education, housing, water, sanitation and other essential services. That's, why I am supporting activities toward to the Inclusion society and inclusion economy as a tool for fulfillment the above mentioned goals.

-Ladislav Setnický, Slovakia

The Social Protection Floor is an important step in countries' efforts to assure essential services to its citizens. Every country can do something; when the SPF is implemented, however, incrementally, It benefits the most needy and vulnerable citizens.

-Germaine Price, U.S.A

Is a need for justice and fairness to ensure that all people can enjoy their basic rights to life.

-Graciela Mendez Perera, Argentina

It is imperative that basic social protections are afforded to all citizens and that the developed world takes responsibility to assist low income counties in providing supports to people living in poverty through such things as ODA, loans without burdensome conditionalities and debt forgiveness.

-Louise Cleary, Australia

We are the children of this world, no matter what age, gender, or socio-economic status.

-Hyunil Keum, South Korea

I endorse the request for a protection floor.

-Victoria, Vargas Cortez, Chile

All vulnerable groups should have rights to ensure their dignity. Specially poorest of poor, older people, disabled...etc. Therefore social protection Floor is needed as universal regulation. Sri Lanka has some social protection system. that also have to be improved according to the living cost annually. These are the basic rights to ensure humanity to free human being from market gambling.

-Mr. M.S. Chaminda, Sri Lanka

I strongly support this campaign which would ensure the rights of every citizen. I assure you that I will disseminate this information to all the Women and Children's groups of our organization.

-Sister Gladys Veronica Solomon, India

We live like kings while others starve and die.

-Mr. Michael Leslie Leach, UK

The need for a Social Protection Floor is required for the good of all people. When I consider the millions of people who are malnourished, especially children, who face hunger, disease, homelessness, lack of water, and many other indignities we must act quickly to turn around this social injustice which we inflict on so many. Please consider developing and implementing policies and actions to change this scourge on poor people throughout the world.

-Sr. Carol Nazareth, USA

In a rich-resource world, there is no reason why people should live in extreme poverty. If people's wellbeing and dignity are to be promoted, then their social rights must be ensured by those charged with government and by those who control the major part of the world's wealth.

-Rosemary Grundy, Australia

The implementation of a SPF is a must in the eradication of POVERTY.

I Plead with all forms of governments both local, national and international to act now.

Yes, THE TIME IS 'NOW'.

-Marie Roche, Canada

Full support for this campaign, for all to have access to basic services to live in dignity.

-Lili Davila, Peru

In order to uphold the human rights of every individual in the world, we need to support this campaign.

-Ms. Anonymous, India



Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Brett Howard

Time has come when the consequences of the 1966 recognition of social security as a human right cannot continue to be ignored - using unequal development levels as an alibi. Equally, discrimination within countries based on occupation or place of residence concerning levels of accessing social protection has to be denounced and eliminated. And the principle of individual promotion attached to modern social security needs to be universally recognized - as are those of prevention, and protection.

-Jean-Victor Gruat, France

The rights and protection of all peoples on this earth should be safeguarded and cared for. When there is an end to poverty there will be more likelihood that peace will prevail.

-Sr. Barbara Daniel, Brighton, Australia

International Human Rights Observer (IHRO) Pakistan fully endorses and supports Social Protection Floor Initiative of United Nations which inflicts a great initiative to promote and protect social values in every society. IHRO encourages this great effort coordinated by the International Labor Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and supported by numerous UN agencies, international NGOs, development banks and other development partners.

-Dr. Khalid Pervaiz Sulehri, Pakistan

This is a great goal that will provide access to social protection to 80% of people in the world who do not.

-Ms. Christine Bockstal, Switzerland

Please give the right to social security for people who really need it and may the national social protection can be implemented to all countries. God Bless.

- Ms. Elda Konsaga, Malaysia



Forest, Virginia, USA. Kim Raff

I appeal for

- 1. Access to essential health care for all.**
 - 2. Income security for children, the elderly, disabled and people living in extreme poverty.**
 - 3. Education for all.**
 - 4. Access to clean water; sanitation; housing and food security;**
- All such rights being enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.**

-Margaret Sullivan, Ireland

I strongly support the Social Protection Floor Initiative – which is a joint UN effort coordinated by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and supported by UN agencies, international NGOs, development banks and other development partners.

It is quite saddening to know that 75% of people in the world do not have adequate social security. Something is really wrong and there is therefore the need to act.

-Josephine Agbo-Nettey, Ghana

Countries in the global North need to be doing much more to eradicate poverty in the world. As a Canadian citizen, I urge the Canadian government to fund efforts that create greater social and economic security for people in the global South.

-Sue Wilson, Canada

On behalf of the Al-Hakim Foundation, one of the most activist NGO in Iraq and a member of the UN, We would like to be a part of the support to social protection, to try and make a change in any way we can.

-Al-Hakim Foundation NGO, Iraq

Every human person rights needs to be recognized by all regardless of race, religion, etc.

-Salomi Cruz, Malasia

I applaud your initiative for the change in behavior of nations vis a vis the poor. They are of this world and must earn a real welfare. Otherwise no one is immune to the social risks that know no borders.

-Diedhiou Ibrahima, Senegal

I grew up in a country - the UK - at war for its very existence, with strained health and basic services. These gaps were not by any means extreme for us - children were a priority - but they cast long shadows. I want to support those across the world who have far less NOW than we did THEN.

-Edmund Blackie, United Kingdom

There is growing inequity here in the US and almost everywhere. A "floor" of justice must be established before we all fall through it.

-MaryJo Matheny, U.S.A.

It's wonderful initiative that needs to be highly appreciated. So I can't hesitate to sign-in for it. what an awesome action in the life of mankind, fighting against extreme poverty!

-Samson NING KUMETAH, Cameroon

We need a government and people that demonstrate commitment to the principles and practice of social protection. Please, lets do it!

-Nathaniel Awuapila, Nigeria

A crucial safety net and necessary contribution towards the achievement of human rights.

-Carol Nelson, New Zealand

About 75 percent of people in the world do not have adequate social security. This lack of protection undermines social cohesion and economic performance and creates political and institutional instability. This floor is a necessary tool for eradicating poverty.

-S M Nazer Hossain, Bangladesh

The need for Social Protection in Pakistan is very, very great and I'm sure this can be said for most developing countries. Not having it causes untold suffering especially to poor widows trying to bring up a family.

-Anonymous, Pakistan

Poverty is an international social problem. It causes many problems those violate human rights. We should tackle poverty together worldwide.

-YING-CHEN CHANG, Taiwan

As members of civil society we support this initiative for the social protection floor and all the organizations that are working to make it a reality. May we, all the people of the world, unite against the inequalities that exist in our world and protect the weak and marginalized members of our society

-Mr. Dou Guehi Mihel, Ivory Coast

We are very hopeful that the social protection floor will be initiated in our country so that the living conditions of the least favored members of our society will be improved. Thanks to the help from outside agencies, some of the poorest families are able to benefit from regular cash transfers during the past year. This has greatly improved their lives.

-Mrs. Marie Mathde Manganée Onana Ngassimi, Cameroon

It is important that corporations and banking institutions contribute to supporting the poor peoples of the world who provide the labour that produces their wealth.

-Lena Dominelli, UK

In solidarity with my less privileged sisters and brothers worldwide. I wholeheartedly support all action which is undertaken for the promotion of social security for all.

-Rev. Herman Wijtten, Netherlands

I support the Social Protection Floor Initiative to encourage the world leaders for taking a global policy binding UN member states in meeting people adequate social security.

-Fr. Paulus Rahmat, Indonesia

If we do not stand for social protection, for human rights, for justice, soon we will become a history. We are still sleeping while we hear the sounds of horror and terror. When will we rise from this slumber? If these sounds of blasts, crying of mothers seeing their children in blood. The tears and laments of sisters seeing their brothers corpses, when they were the sole bread owners.

If this cannot awake us then what will awake us?

-Mr. Shahid Akhtar, Pakistan

Inequity in development leads to innately unstable and unsustainable national growth. For this and for ethical considerations of the hunger pangs that plague mankind, we all are in need of a Social Protection Floor.

-Katherine Isojoki, USA

The *eradication* of poverty is a universal struggle. No one has the right to be indifferent to this struggle.

-Mr. Louis-Roi Deha, USA

I understand the Social Protection Floor Initiative is very important as a mechanism to eradicate poverty on the planet. I pledge to work together with the UN to develop this program.

-Mr. Juan Pablo Acosta Garcia, Dominican Republic

There can be no doubt about the benefits of social protection. It can prevent or alleviate poverty and reduce inequality and injustice. The net costs of starting social protection mechanisms are likely to be offset in due course by a better motivated, nourished, educated and healthier workforce. Reduction of inequality and despair reduces social tensions. The benefits of national social security schemes are shown by their universal use in successful developed countries.

- Professor, John Langmore, Australia

As a professor of social policy I am so much interested on developing the social protection systems to guarantee the social rights of all citizens all over the world, and especially in Albania where I am living. I am ready to contribute in this global initiative.

-Prof. Ass. Dr. Merita Xhumari, Albania

Thank you for your efforts in campaigning for those made poor, for being a voice for the muffled, stifled and silenced voices of the poor. I am grateful for your presence at UN and pray that those who have power to change structures and unjust systems will dare to act for the good of humanity.

-Sr. Anne Lyons, Ireland/Israel



UN Photo



El Fasher, Sudan. UN Photo/Albert Gonzalez Farran.

SPF-I is very welcome, indeed it is another opportunity to influence policy, practice and research. It is another opportunity to challenge and address the financial policies that continue to push millions of our people down the poverty pit. Please count on the African Development Programme as a strong supporter of the SPF-I. We are in the process of establishing a national SPF-I platform that will include organisations for disabled persons.

-Mr. Charles Abbey, Accra, Ghana

I consider this initiative as a humanitarian action very effective both on the individual level (helping people) as well as on nation all levels (ensuring social equity) which is considered as a prerequisite for peace.

- Prof. Dr. Faten Abdellatif, Alexandria, Egypt

I am very unwell at present...but I do have access to medical care, financial security, housing, food and shelter. I strongly believe that everyone on our earth has these rights. Let us do all in our power to facilitate this.

-Clare Corcoran Sandringham, Australia

Social Protection Floor can and should be implemented in all countries without delay. The large gap between the rich and the poor has to be bridged. The role of UN today is great and we believe UN will do it.

-Dr Aquinas Edassery, India

World economic and social stability depends on supporting all countries with minimum livelihood and the support to reach their identified capacity and goals.

-Prof. Cindy Hunter, USA

A most dignified and worthy ambition - how could we strive for less?

-Bjorn Grunewald, Sweden

I join the request that we can end extreme poverty, that our brothers and sisters who share this same soil find life more dignified life.

-María Alejandra Leguizamón, Peru

The poor become poorer as the rich become richer. We need to give everyone the basics for a comfortable life. Remember Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. We cannot live at the expense of others.

-Ms. Donna Peacock, New Zealand

I agree completely with the petition and hope that the leaders of my country will also sign and implement policies in line with the social protection campaign.

-Ms. Patricia Fe Gonzales, Philippines

Social Justice is an integral part of successful communities. it needs to stem out of family values of sharing which will enable build contentment that will prevent unjustified accumulation of wealth. there is enough for everyone's need but little for anyone's greed.

-Miss. Florence David, India

The Social Protection Floor Initiative is a socio-economic mechanism which has the potential to meet the MDG's in reducing the level of poverty in developing countries.

-Philip Knight, Barbados

It is about time an NGO wrote to petition this important human right. I hope that you can gather enough signatures for support. There are so many people who don't have this right. Let me know if there are other kinds of action that I can support.

-Teresa Dagdag, Italy

I fully support the creation of a social protection floor as it will bring some fairness in the distribution of resources.

-Mr. Godfred Paul, Thailand

This seems to be one of the surest ways to insure we do not have people living in EXTREME poverty. There are wonderful examples of developing countries managing to do this. May they inspire all of us to act with and for our brothers and sisters who are the most vulnerable in our societies.

-Patricia Connolly, USA

With all my heart I support this worthwhile initiative, which will achieve a just and dignified life for millions of brothers and sisters who suffer from unequal rights in the world.

-Francisca Torres, Costa Rica

Committed to fight poverty story, My organization is the protection and promotion of children's rights and those mother's daughter. However, we support this action to bring our various government make their full contribution to the struggle for all.

CAVOAH-CAM which recently received its Special Consultative Status to do with his determination.

-Télesphore BALONGA, Cameroon

We must reach the Millenium Goals in 4 years by 2015, which must increase to speed things up, and so we should do so towards the cause of collective security and the sense of human dignity and its value.

-Nadège Chell, Switzerland

We ANFD non-profit NGO named: New Dawn for Women and Development, established in the East part of DR. Congo, who campaigned for human rights and social advancement of indigenous women in the territories of Uvira and Fizi, we sign this petition stating that our government must do regular monitoring to ensure respect for human right and social legislation for ensure the promotion of security and social protection for the well being of nations.

-Crispin Swedi Bilombele, D.R. of the Congo.

It is imperative that Governments support this initiative as a way of eradicating extreme poverty. All human beings should have clean water and basic nutrition needs met. It is a question of all of us together having the will to do what is needed. Let's hope we can do it.

-Brigid Murphy, UK

The benefit to the poor will in turn benefit the whole society.

-Maria Ruth Christian, Ecuador

Governments have always come up with beautiful policy documents but these often than not, remain on paper as very little is done to implement them.

-Frederic Oguba, Kenya

Let's work together to eradicate poverty - united we will succeed.

-Therese Thong, Taiwan

I support the social protection floor and wishing gladly it will relay to all people.

-Molina Ligia, Guatemala

More access to public schools and employment services in Chicago.

-George Zavala, U.S.A.

All will add to the support for the causes of peace and justice.

-Lety Cervantes, Mexico

Everyone has the right for social security.

-Antoinette Assaf, Lebanon

Let us all help alleviate poverty and raise the dignity of people, especially the poor. Let us help minimize the large gap between the rich and the poor.

-Rosalinda Argosino, Phillipines

Each person must have access to quality public services enabling a decent life (water, food, education, health) throughout his life.

-Michele Vianes, France

We have to fight for a fairer society.

-Maria Percila, Brazil

The global solidarity and the sharing of resources in raising the level of life of each human being in the Earth should be a reality today. Let us say no to the precarity of life.

-Koutsava Edouard, France

We as members of civil society, we support the initiative for a sustainable base of social protection envisaged by the UN joint effort coordinated by the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organisation, NGOs, banks and other development partners. Unite people of the world protect the weaker against the inequality diseases, malnutrition, poverty.

-DOUA GUEHI MICHEL, Ivory Coast



Tarialan, Mongolia. UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe.

More than **15,000** signatures from
 around the globe express support for the
The Social Protection Floor Initiative

1. Afghanistan	36. Gabon	70. Mali	103. Singapore
2. Albania	37. Gambia	71. Malta	104. Slovakia
3. Algeria	38. Georgia	72. Mauritania	105. Slovenia
4. Angola	39. Germany	73. Mauritius	106. South Africa
5. Antigua and Barbuda	40. Ghana	74. Mexico	107. South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands
6. Argentina	41. Gibraltar	75. Morocco	108. South Korea
7. Australia	42. Greece	76. Mozambique	109. South Sudan
8. Austria	43. Guatemala	77. Myanmar	110. Spain
9. Bangladesh	44. Guernsey	78. Nepal	111. Sri Lanka
10. Barbados	45. Haiti	79. Netherlands	112. Sudan
11. Belgium	46. Honduras	80. New Zealand	113. Sweden
12. Belize	47. Hungary	81. Nicaragua	114. Switzerland
13. Bolivia	48. India	82. Niger	115. Syria
14. Brazil	49. Indonesia	83. Nigeria	116. Taiwan
15. Bulgaria	50. Iran	84. Norway	117. Tanzania
16. Cambodia	51. Iraq	85. Pakistan	118. Thailand
17. Cameroon	52. Ireland	86. Palestine	119. Togo
18. Canada	53. Israel	87. Panama	120. Turkey
19. Chile	54. Italy	88. Papua New Guinea	121. UAE
20. China	55. Jamaica	89. Paraguay	122. Uganda
21. Colombia	56. Japan	90. Peru	123. Ukraine
22. Costa Rica	57. Jordan	91. Philippines	124. United Kingdom
23. Cote d'Ivoire	58. Kazakhstan	92. Poland	125. United States
24. Cyprus	59. Kenya	93. Portugal	126. Uruguay
25. Czech Republic	60. Korea	94. Qatar	127. Vanuatu
26. DR of Congo	61. Kyrgyzstan	95. Republic	128. Vietnam
27. Denmark	62. Laos	96. Romania	129. Venezuela
28. Dominican	63. Lebanon	97. Russia	130. Virgin Islands
29. Ecuador	64. Lesotho	98. Rwanda	131. Zambia
30. Egypt	65. Liberia	99. Saudi Arabia	132. Zimbabwe
31. . El Salvador	66. Lichtenstein	100. Scotland	
32. Ethiopia	67. Madagascar	101. Senegal	
33. Fiji	68. Malawi	102. Seychelles	
34. France	69. Malaysia		
35. French Guyana			

The Continuing Call to Governments

Respondents continue to campaign at the national level using the following postcard:

<p>Dear _____,</p> <p>We, the members of Civil Society, join with thousands of signatories of the online campaign 'Support the Social Protection Floor Initiative' http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/signature-campaign-social-protection-floor.html.</p> <p>We urge you to implement a Social Protection Floor programme tailored to our national needs. The priority theme of the 50th Session of UN Commission for Social Development is 'Poverty Eradication'. The Social Protection Floor Initiative is an effective strategy to eradicating poverty.</p> <p>Everyone has a right to at least basic health services, primary education, housing, water and sanitation. The two necessary elements for the Social Protection Floor are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Universal access to social services;2. Social transfers in cash or kind to guarantee income security, food security, adequate nutrition and access to essential services <p>More than 15 low and middle-income countries have successfully established their Social Protection Floor. <u>We urge you to make this a national priority for our country.</u></p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p>	<div data-bbox="1258 478 1406 627" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 91px; height: 71px; margin-bottom: 10px;"></div> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Concluding Statement

We call on Civil Society to educate, advocate and exercise leadership at every level to secure Social Protection Floor programs for all.

We call on all governments to implement a national social protection floor.

We call on the United Nations to assist in the development and implementation of such policies.