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Thursday, 14 April 2016

Ref-AM-NAYD-1442016

**Ms Helen Clark
Under-Secretary General
Administrator of the United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP)
New York, USA**

Ms. Clark,

**Subject: NAYD`s Initiative for the Implementation of SDGs in African Rural Communities-
Launching Workshop, Johannesburg, August 2016**

Network of African Youths for Development (NAYD), an African youth driven social movement, in partnership with Partners for Peace and Prosperity and African Monitor, has set up an initiative that aims to push for an effective implementation of sustainable development in African rural communities.

The Agenda 2030 adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations (UN), represented a firm commitment by the world leaders and UN member states to address the most challenging issues facing the world such as poverty, inequality and climate change. Its people - focused agenda formed on the foundation of Leave No One Behind will not be complete until all people have equal opportunities including the most marginalized, youth, women and children in society. Social Inclusion is a key tenet of Sustainable Development - rural communities have been left behind in development terms through a complex mix of social, political, technological, economic and environmental factors.

The African Union Agenda 2063 aims at achieving socio-economic transformation of the continent, through economic growth and sustainable development over the next 50 years, building on various continental, regional and national initiatives and best practices.

The mission will be achieved by focusing on meeting these objectives:

- To build a social movement by forming a network of gender balanced, committed, and country focused teams.
- To popularise and build constituency on relevant SDG goals.
- To monitor the implementation of SDGs at the community level with an aim of informed decision making and resource allocation.
- To work with local authorities implementing SDGs in rural communities by promoting volunteerism.

In that regard, NAYD wishes to seize the opportunity of the International Youth Day, on 12 August 2016 to launch the initiative at the continental level during a 3-day workshop that will comprise representatives of the 40 member countries in Africa, as well as those from partner institutions.

The meeting will define strategies to mainstream the implementation of sustainable development goals in African rural communities, as well as the needed institutional framework and capacity building mechanisms. Approximately 150 people will participate in the event.

Therefore, we would like to seek your support for the organization of this important event, including the sponsorship of at least 80 participants from the 40 member States, the funding of resource-experts and logistical costs.

Attached, please find the Concept Note for the workshop. For more information, please contact the following persons: 1) NAYD: Mr. Paul Shaw: paul@geovision.co.uk, Partners for Peace and Prosperity: Mr. Andre Nikwigize: partnersforpeace2015@gmail.com, 3) African Monitor: Mr. Yared Tsegay: yared@africanmonitor.org.

In your capacity as the Administrator of UNDP, NAYD would be pleased to benefit from your support.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Shaw', written in a cursive style.

Paul Shaw
NAYD Representative