Commissioner Mimica’s Top five priorities

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The global population is set to exceed 9 billion by 2050. We are already using 50% more natural resources than the planet can afford, and inequality does not cease to grow the world over. The European commission must show leadership in pushing for and subsequently implementing a comprehensive and transformative post-2015 framework based on human rights principles and respect for the environment. This must be backed up by adequate financial and non-financial means of implementation and subject to rigorous, participatory accountability mechanisms.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

75 million young people in developing countries are unemployed and 1 in 4 young people cannot find work for more than $1.25 a day.

The European Commission must support decent work initiatives which target marginalised or disadvantaged young people, particularly girls, and which contribute to young people fulfilling their potential and raising their standard of living.

GENDER EQUALITY & WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

1 in 3 women has experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence at some point in their lives, with some national violence studies showing that up to 70% of women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime from an intimate partner.

The European Commission must work to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against girls and women in all domains and at all levels, including the harmful practices which stem from it. This must be supported by gender assessments, gender-responsive budgeting and gender-sensitive monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

EDUCATION

170 million people could be lifted out of poverty if all students in poor countries had basic reading skills, but globally 58 million children are still out of school.

The European Commission must ensure all children, particularly girls, are able to complete a full cycle of quality primary and secondary education which equips them with the skills needed to succeed in life and adequately prepares them to enter the labour market.

CHILD PROTECTION

Up to 1.5 billion children every year experience some form of sexual, physical or psychological violence.

The European Commission must complement its focus on specific child protection issues by assisting countries to strengthen the local and national child protection systems.

Plan EU Office strives to ensure the promotion and protection of children’s rights, with a focus on girls, is a priority for the EU’s external action in policy and practice.

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