**The Role of Youth in Fighting COVID 19 and Enhancing Economic and Social Recovery**

The COVID 19 pandemic has dramatically impactedmost young people around the world, mainly because it has intensified the social ills the youths were already facing before the pandemic broke out. With the high unemployment rate among many young people worldwide, youths have undergone the drastic impacts of socioeconomic marginalization, fall in livelihoods, and unmatched poverty. Recent surveys of the effects of COVID 19 reveal that the unemployment rate among young people may double, especially in the developing nations due to COVID 19,which would contribute to additional job losses and attrition of decent incomes. It is believed that around 16 million African young people, almost 13.4 percent of the total workforce of up to 24 years, will be facing unemployment. Despite the devastating impacts of the COVID 19 on the youths, the youth have a critical role in combating the virus and ensuring economic and social recovery.

Many youths are already proactively involved in the fight against the virus's spread and putting effort to lessen and address the pandemic's impact. First, the youths have been engaged in creating awareness and promoting relations. Many youths have been in the lead at-risk communication initiatives such as popularizing the information on fighting the spread of misinformation, discernment, and stigma associated with the virus, social distancing, and mechanisms for countering the spread of COVID 19.For example, the youth are involved in disseminating information about the virus within their networks and critical populations and reaching out to their associates to assess their needs.

Young people, working together with civil societies can lend a hand in protecting human rights by developing new ways of mitigating social justice and inclusion by social distancing as directed by the health department. Youths are also involved in protecting the people's rights and safety at risk of contracting the virus. Others are also involved in seeking government accountability on the economic decision made in response to the pandemic. Such actions would strengthen public institutions and respect for the law through transparency. Youths can also be actively involved in mitigating the economic and business impact of the pandemic. Young workers, entrepreneurs, and farmers can be applied in innovations and utilize different technologies to develop local solutions. This is critical in sustaining supply chains and building alternative, more robust,and all-encompassing economies that are critical in guaranteeing economic stability.

Young people must also be involved in supporting others. They should help promote the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines on COVID 19 and help address the needs of the vulnerable members of the society, such as people living with disabilities, migrants, older individuals, refugees, and slum dwellers. Throughout the world, youths are engaging in volunteer programs to ensure that vulnerable members of society have access to medication and food supplies. The youths are also involved in helping education institutions with few resources transfer and translate schools' curriculum for use by many people.

Young people in medical professionals have a role to play in saving lives. Even with the widespread shortage of protective equipment, youths in health care continue to risk their lives in the pandemic frontlines.Young researchers are helping in fighting the virus by contributing to life-saving measures, such as offering support to the medical interventionsthat can be easily implemented. They are also involved in generating new medical knowledge and promoting fact-based COVID 19 information online and across social media platforms.

In conclusion, the youth are part of the solution by contributing their efforts in combatting the COVID 19 pandemic, reducing its spread, and mitigating its impacts. The youth are the torchbearers of the world's sustainable development and advocators of environmental action for driving transformative change. Therefore, governments of the world should and civil societies must implement relevant policies to help tap the young people's contributions in fighting the pandemic and ensuring economic and social recovery.