



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on the Status of Women

#### Fifty-seventh session

4-15 March 2013

**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”: implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives**

### **Statement submitted by Zenab for Women in Development, Inc., a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.



## Statement

Zenab for Women in Development, Inc. in the Sudan, welcomes the fifty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women and the consideration by Member States of the priority theme on the “elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls”. Zenab for Women in Development, Inc. has worked very hard for many years to address violence against women in the Sudan.

Our programmes address the main forms of violence facing women in our societies, including female genital mutilation, early marriage and domestic and sexual violence, which are due to many factors, including the lack of education on rights for women and men, and traditional and patriarchal social norms applied in the name of religion.

Despite all the international declarations and the commitments from Member States to end violence against women, gender-based violence is still widespread.

We urge Member States:

1. To push for peace and security all over the world, including in the Sudan, to end the suffering of millions of women and girls.
2. To pursue policies that prevent and eliminate violence against women.
3. To strengthen the role of civil society to end gender-based violence and to promote women’s rights.

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