



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
10 December 2013

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Fifty-eighth session

10-21 March 2014

**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 Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia, 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

Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia initiative to help former commercial sex workers

Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia, the certifying authority for Indonesia of the European Computer Driving Licence/International Computer Driving Licence, proposes that the Government and non-governmental organizations in East Java work together to close prostitution centres in East Java Province.

The programme we propose, “Joint project between Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia and its partners for humanitarian services”, will empower former commercial sex workers to learn basic information and communications technology skills. The programme will be implemented in cooperation with interested Islamic secondary schools, which have been accredited as International Computer Driving Licence-approved test centres, and other partners from Government and civil society.

Through the initiative, Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia and its partners aim to raise awareness of the importance of the ability of former commercial sex workers to live full and enriching lives as well as to contribute to society.

The initiative corresponds to our overall objective of supporting the creation of a safe and effective digital society. We continually improve our technical programmes offered to the general public, and try to reach all segments of society with our information technology literacy programmes to enable people to work locally or internationally, with their International Computer Driving Licence certificate in hand.

The International Computer Driving Licence programme has been present in the region since 2003 and has been enjoyed by many, including women. It also caters to divorcees, jobseekers, retirees and people with disabilities, as they tend to be on the periphery of economic opportunities and welfare.

Our Chairman, Datuk Agung Sidayu, stated:

“Our primary goal is to enhance the social and economic well-being of all Indonesian citizens through learning of essential information and communications technology skills. Since the inception of the International Computer Driving Licence, our philosophy has been based on empowering people, all the people, with digital skills to improve their quality of life. This new and unique initiative by Yayasan Pendidikan Indonesia and its partners, governmental and non-governmental organizations, which involves former commercial sex workers is an example of our renewed commitment to remain an inclusive programme for all, irrespective of age, background and gender. They have as much potential as any other individual and deserve the opportunity to realize their potential. As we look to a brighter future, we call on others to join us and expand their reach so that one day they can access their learning and individual development desires.”