



## Economic and Social Council

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### 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 South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace, 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

South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace was formed as a national voluntary non-governmental organization with a legal entity. It is a member of the Sudan Council of Voluntary Agencies of the Ministry of Humanitarian Aid.

It was registered as a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 2011.

It was founded on the conviction that Sudanese women, who constitute 50 per cent of the population of the Sudan, must have a rightful role in society. South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace is committed to a vision of society in which women, girls and children feel safe and confident, in their homes and communities, to live freely, contribute to society, and prosper in their daily lives.

South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace always strives to create a healthy community and social and economic justice with human rights for women and children, for all. Its mandate is to set up strategies, policies, plans and programmes concerning the promotion and advancement of women to achieve the following objectives:

- Promote and empower women, socially, economically and politically
- Protect women's constitutional rights
- Improve the welfare of women and children to achieve a substantial reduction in their mortality rates
- Raise women's awareness of infectious and sexually transmitted diseases
- Participate in peacebuilding
- Reduce illiteracy among women.

Women remain affected by an inconsistent policy environment that does little to explicitly call for gender equality and support women's efforts to share in power and wealth. With this in mind, South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace took initiatives to combat violence against women and to empower women to attain their rights. However, women continue to suffer from marginalization, different types of violence, exclusion and social injustice, especially in the rural areas. The vast majority continue to be affected by poverty, ignorance, illiteracy and harmful customs.

South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace works to promote gender equality in order to facilitate the direct engagement of women in decision-making and in public life. It remains committed to building a better means of participation for women during peace processes. It works with Member States to develop national policies and strategies on gender equality along with a common position on gender equality.

Since poverty fuels gender inequality, South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace works to eradicate poverty among women, especially in rural areas. It has partnerships with financing institutions and offers microfinance for income-generating projects for women all around the country.

South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace works to raise awareness about gender issues by publishing and disseminating media messages that promote women's rights and human rights.

**Recommendations**

- Legislative revision to adopt gender equality in efforts to empower women
  - Change in social norms to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment (through awareness-raising campaigns, community sensitization and media messages).
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