



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
31 December 2014

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Fifty-ninth session

9-20 March 2015

**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”**

Statement submitted by World Family Organization, 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.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

The World Family Organization in its objectives to empower the families of the world confirms its commitment to the empowerment of women as a crucial step for the whole empowerment of the family. The World Family Organization recognizes that the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, 1995, will contribute to a better Socio Economic Justice with better access to education and health for families through the empowerment of women and young girls; The World Family Organization recognizes that in the past two decades there were other emerging issues and gaps that have risen that need the full cooperation and commitment of all the stakeholders for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The World Family Organization Women therefore advocates for the following strategies and actions for the achievement of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:

(a) Women and poverty and women in economy: Governments should set the policies and legal infrastructure and implement their commitment of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action for the economic empowerment of women for the ultimate goal of empowering the families and the whole community through:

- Promoting entrepreneurship and setting the enabling environment of business development services and
 - o Taking measures for Government procurement policies to women owners of Small and Medium Enterprises and women vendors.
 - o Allocating the necessary resources for access to credit and finance for women.
 - o Taking necessary actions to increase women on Boards.
- Promoting harmonization of work and family responsibilities for women and men.
- Promoting women's economic rights and independence, including access to employment, appropriate working conditions.
- Facilitating women's equal access to resources, employment, markets and trade.
- Providing business services, training and access to markets, information and technology, particularly to low-income women.
- Strengthening women's economic capacity and commercial networks.

(b) Education and training of women: Education for women has a direct impact on the children and the awareness of the whole family. Governments should set National policies and legislation and allocate more resources for:

- Better education for the girl child and set the necessary legislation for better enrolment of girls in education.
- Improve women's access to vocational training, science and technology and continuing education.

- Take measures for more support programs for women’s literacy and basic informal education.

(c) Women and health: Access to health is crucial for the health of the whole family. Governments are required to set up the infrastructure for health care and allocate resources for health care units and maternal care.

Governments should set National policies to ensure the wellbeing and nutritional status of the women at all their ages including physical and mental health to ensure a healthy family.

The health situation not only directly affects the health of girls and women, but also places disproportionate responsibilities on women, whose multiple roles, including their roles within the family and the community, are often not acknowledged; hence they do not receive the necessary social, psychological and economic support. Governments should strengthen preventive programmes that promote women’s health.

(d) Violence against women: Governments should enforce all the laws which ensure the protection of women against all acts of violence and take integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women.

Female Genital Mutilation: Governments should set all the laws for the prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation.

Prevention of Forced Marriage

- Introduce legal measures to prohibit underage and forced marriages;

Child labour

- Lobby all governments to take all measures for the Elimination of Child Labour

Rights of women with disabilities: Governments are required to ensure laws that ensure the rights for women and girls with disabilities which have a direct effect on the situation of the families.

The World Family Organization reconfirms its commitment for the empowerment of Families through empowerment of women by collaborating with all stakeholders including Public and private partnerships.
