



## Economic and Social Council

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### **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 Corporativa de Fundaciones, 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.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

### Implementation of the Peking Platform for Action

Corporativa de Fundaciones, A. C. (civil association), is a community foundation and a leader in the West of Mexico regarding the promotion of linkages and alliances between civil society organizations (CSOs) and strategic public and private actors, in favour of the community and of the empowerment of population groups and the most vulnerable sectors. Since its inception, the foundation has been an organization promoting development as part of its institutional philosophy and contributes to the sustainability of viable and innovative social projects, transferring skills and capacities to CSO members so that they may work professionally, responsibly and efficiently. The foundation has institutionalized women's empowerment programmes, recognizing women's integration into the economic, social, political, legal, cultural and environmental activities as a pillar of development. Corporativa de Fundaciones, A.C. has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, the Inter-American Development Bank and other international and national organizations.

We welcome the commemoration, in the framework of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), of the adoption of the strategic goals and measures of the Peking Declaration and Platform for Action, a key guide to the attainment of gender equality in 12 critical areas of concern, namely poverty, training, health, violence, armed conflicts, economic activity, power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, human rights, the media, the environment and the overall situation of the girl child.

Less than a year before planned attainment and final evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), Latin America and the Caribbean continue to be one of the most inequality-ridden regions of the planet (ECLAC, 2013). Despite significant progress since 2000, a skewed wealth distribution still characterized by gender inequality renders the region home to millions of disabled, indigenous, migrant, African-descent or other women and girls living in conditions of poverty, extreme poverty, social exclusion, discrimination and growing violence that is alarming.

We recognize that the success of the post-2015 development agenda will largely depend on the Latin American countries' current readiness to eradicate poverty, hunger and inequality, highlighting the urgent need to transform the global economic model and to view development as horizontal, inclusive and based on self-management. In that process, the potential of individuals and their local communities should be recognized, their needs identified, and creative and environmentally sustainable solutions generated in accordance with local culture, human rights and fundamental freedoms so as to improve substantially the quality of life of the persons concerned in a collective framework geared to well-being.

All social stakeholders supporting the efforts of the Government, namely organized civil society, the private sector, international organizations, the media and the citizens in general, especially women and girls, should be included in, strive for and feel responsible for the transition towards the post-2015 world.

By recognizing their vital role in the creation, character and development of CSOs, women and girls have broadly and directly owned an agenda for identifying

problems and addressing their causes through services that are complementary and, in various cases, supplementary to government efforts. Civil organizations are no doubt the actor that is closest to, knows best and has the clearest view of the needs, desires, concerns and will of persons and grassroots groups that generally lack access to the centres of management and governance.

Effective contribution of CSOs to development requires a favourable environment, namely social, economic, political, legal, cultural and environmental conditions conducive to creating and strengthening such organizations through activities that fall within the area of responsibility of Governments and, secondarily, other actors.

The Peking Declaration and Platform for Action and the earlier World Conferences on Women have upheld the women's ongoing efforts not only to help to build global, regional, national and local citizenship, but also to ensure full enjoyment of their human rights through relevant legislation and good practices. More than 4,000 CSOs contributed to the adoption of the Peking Declaration and Platform for Action, while the subsequent relevant reviews were strengthened and enriched with the growing participation of civil society, led by women and girls.

In commemorating the major achievements and outstanding challenges related to the Peking Declaration and Platform for Action, Corporativa de Fundaciones, A.C., 20 years later, urges the international community, at the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), to own new strategic and inclusive goals in the framework of the post-2015 development agenda, from a sound perspective that provides for gender equality and for the human rights and empowerment of women and girls with a view to full attainment of global and local development.

We encourage the international community to include the following specific recommendations in the discussions of the fifty-ninth session of CSW:

1. Guarantee, promote and respect the human rights of women and girls without any distinction based on gender, race, religion, socioeconomic status, ethnic group, sexual preference or nationality. This involves fulfilling earlier commitments under international instruments, avoiding regression with respect to the human rights of women and girls, and progressively implementing the international standards regarding such rights.
2. Recognize the crucial role of women and girls in local, national, regional and international development; and create and maintain conditions for a life without inequality, oppression, discrimination or violence.
3. Ensure the inclusive economic development of women and girls, seeking an equitable distribution of resources and addressing current disparities in areas in which the comprehensive development of women and girls is lagging. Launch specific and effective policies in the case of institutions and financial markets that exacerbate socioeconomic inequalities, especially in Latin America and the Caribbean.
4. Enhance the scope of social movements and organizations led by women and girls, and encourage the development of civil society networks.
5. Ensure that the post-2015 development agenda encompasses the gender dimension of development from a social, economic, political, legal, cultural

and environmental perspective; and adopt appropriate government policies through open consultations and ad hoc follow-up mechanisms permitting the inclusion of all social actors in the adoption, implementation and evaluation of the new global agenda for development.

6. Identify approaches to the formulation of the sustainable development agenda that enhance implementation resources and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development through recognition of the gender dimension. The sustainable development goals to be adopted in September 2015 must include awareness, accessibility and broad dissemination of such goals worldwide, particularly among such vulnerable groups as, inter alia, women, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, migrants, young persons and girls.

We reaffirm our commitment to working hand-in-hand with the United Nations for a more equitable and sustainable world. Moreover, we call upon the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to facilitate and support the States' efforts to fulfil their obligations and commitments.

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