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to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and
peace for the twenty-first century”**

Statement submitted by WOOMB International, 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

As the international governing body of its national affiliations, WOOMB International serves close to fifty of its independent associations by providing them with the necessary tools for natural fertility health management. Within the language of emancipation for all women from conditions that impose regulations and limitations on their equal participation within their societies, the billings ovulation method champions its ability to liberate them to independent self-reliance through comprehensive fertility education. As women embrace the power of their fertility and sexual creativity, they become the instruments of their own destiny. Several of the 12 critical areas of concern within the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action are reflected in WOOMB International and its worldwide affiliates through the universal implementation of the Billings Ovulation Method® of natural fertility regulation.

When considering the inequalities and inadequacies in and unequal access to education and training, WOOMB International provides the education of natural fertility management to women and girls throughout the world, allowing for their unilateral independence in the realm of sexual health and freedom.

When considering the inequalities and inadequacies in and unequal access to health care and related services, the Billings Ovulation Method® has provided women the ability to achieve economic and social independence through its universal strategies, which empowers them to gain control of their reproductive and sexual health and to make sexual choices based on their current needs and livelihoods, for more than sixty-five years.

When considering the inequalities in economic structures and policies, in all forms of productive activities and in access to resources, a most notable contribution of the Billings Ovulation Method® to the economic welfare of women throughout the world is the ability for them to remain in the workforce uninterrupted by sexual or reproductive health concerns, enhancing their standard of living and economic growth within society.

When considering the inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision-making at all levels, the knowledge within the Billings Ovulation Method® has a profound effect upon women's relationships and interactions with their partners, raising their stature as their partners come to regard them with greater dignity. The burden of economic impediment as the result of unplanned pregnancies is removed as couples share in the responsibility of planning their pregnancies, if and as so desired.

When considering the insufficient mechanisms at all levels to promote women's advancement, the tools gained by those who use the Billings Ovulation Method® to postpone or avoid pregnancy aid the fortification of their resolve to live more complete and comprehensive lives, empowering them to plan and space their children according to their own individual circumstances.

When considering gender inequalities in the management of natural resources and the safeguarding of the environment, the Billings Ovulation Method® provides women the natural ability to control their reproductive health initiatives through a holistic approach, so that natural resources and the environment are safeguarded from the impact of synthetic and chemical pollutants throughout the waterways and landfills.

All of these concerns are addressed through a microcosm of sustainable advancements with the Billings Ovulation Method® in their relationship to sexual and fertile health. Women enjoy an increased sense of self-esteem and assertiveness through this knowledge afforded to them, and a delicate balance of independence and

economic interdependence co-exists, encouraging a cohesive integration within their places in society and in their personal lives.

Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to transform the world, WOOMB International implements several of them in the care and nurture of women and girls globally, through our constant and consistent presence within developing nations, as well as in developed countries.

The promotion of the third Sustainable Development Goal to “ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”, is supported by the involvement of the Billings Ovulation Method®, which helps monitor women’s reproductive health and recognize the abnormality that may arise in their fertility, making it a valuable tool in the early detection of reproduction health concerns.

Improvement in health and the reduction of inequalities is the aim of the fourth Sustainable Development Goal to “ensure equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning”. In societies where income, education, and occupation influence socioeconomic status, the population tends to be healthier and healthcare costs are generally lower. The Billings Ovulation Method® assists in this goal by educating women to understand their own fertility and elevating their self-recognition, self-esteem, self-mastery, and self-confidence. In doing so, women can attain higher levels of education and employment.

The fifth Sustainable Development Goal to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” is expressed and exercised by women and girls as they are empowered through the implementation of the Billings Ovulation Method® to recognize their inherent ability to pursue equality in all areas of their lives.

The implementation of the Billings Ovulation Method contributes to the realization of the sixth Sustainable Development Goal to “ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all” by providing a natural approach to fertility management, reducing the need of synthetic chemicals which may otherwise contaminate the water supply.

The Billings Ovulation Method® supports the eighth Sustainable Development Goal to “promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, and decent work for all” by enabling women to remain in the workforce uninterrupted by sexual and reproductive health concerns, which contributes greatly to their standard of living.

Advancing with the 17th Sustainable Development Goal to “strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development”, WOOMB International is ready assist any organization, institution, and administration in the empowerment of women and girls with the Billings Ovulation Method® of natural fertility management.

As the Sustainable Development Goals strive to reach their fulfillment by the desired year of 2030, WOOMB International will continue in our assistance of providing quality care within the realm of fertile and sexual health to all women and girls everywhere until no one is left behind.