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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 Women’s Rights and Health Project, Ltd./Gte. and Partnership for Justice, non-governmental organizations 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

According to a United Nations Children and Education Fund (UNICEF) report in 2021, about 18.5 million children, 60% of whom are girls, do not have access to education in Nigeria.

Also, the numerous attacks on schools by terrorist gangs in the Northern region of Nigeria has particularly created a precarious learning environment and militated against access to education among young girls.

All children regardless of their socioeconomic background have the right to quality education. Poverty, gender inequality, and geographical location are important factors which has mitigated against access to quality education in Nigeria.

Majority of girls who are out of school reside predominantly in rural areas. Furthermore, Girls who are out-of-school are more vulnerable to rape, sexual abuse, teenage pregnancies which limits them from actualizing their potential.

There is a need for a joint and collaborative effort among women's rights organizations and agencies both at the local, national and international level to create safe spaces for girls and provide equal learning opportunities and facilities to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and also promote lifelong learning opportunities for all young girls in Nigeria.

Thank you.
