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## **Economic and Social Council**

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## Commission on the Status of Women

Sixty-eighth session

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Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and 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 Sociedade Filantropica Maria de Nazare, 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.

<sup>\*</sup> The present statement is issued without formal editing.





## Statement

## Global ecological and war crisis, in an approach to strengthening institutions with a gender perspective

A civilization that does not give primacy to the protection of its least valued members is unfeasible. The dignification of femininity, which necessarily involves the empowerment of women and girls, would bring unequivocal positive results in the field of political-cultural, socioeconomic and even military strategies. It is easy to make the mistake of getting distracted by the urgencies of an alarming war scenario, with emphasis to the conflagration between Ukraine and Russia and the recently erupted terrorist conflict involving Israel. However, it is of the utmost importance that we recognize that, at the root of every invasive, violent and/or terrorist territorial dispute, we will inevitably find the diabolical seed of the degenerate patriarchalism, which has plagued humanity for so many centuries.

Nothing will be resolved, in a profound and definitive way, on the most horrendous scales of horrific slaughter on the battlefronts, if we do not turn to the deep roots of this multi-millennial cancer, which has caused bloodshed to stain the history of our planetary community, both in the form of anachronistic carnage of Dantean fratricidal escalations, and also through the cyclopean monsters of hunger, pandemics and all the corollaries of poverty – such as structural failures in basic sanitation, minimum medical and hospital support and access to education and technology.

The institutions, whether governmental or not, that support gender diversity need to be honored not only with political and mediatic support but, above all, in the pragmatic sphere of financing their approaches to helping billions of women and girls who do not enjoy access to the basic benefits of education, for example, academic and professional, that qualify them as citizens in their homelands, as citizens of the world!

The speeches and infamous warmongering initiatives of confrontation between nations, peoples, ethnicities and races are the consequences of the infernal web of irrational, inhuman and genocidal assumptions that make the daily lives of hundreds of millions of women ignoble, in any age group, and, on a global and multifaceted scale, degenerate into the problem of the international expansion of the nuclear weapons arsenal and the very acute and unavoidable climate and environmental crisis.

There is no more time to waste on words thrown to the wind. It is urgent to raise awareness, and effectively unfold it into practical and sustainable measures that will politically and financially support all serious institutions that set out to minimize, in whatever sphere, the countless and serious problems that revolve around the lack of equality in the treatment of people, on the obsolete and obscene basis of misogyny that wounds, bleeds, keeps the entire humanity of our small planetary corner hemorrhaging and on the verge of irreversible collapse.

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