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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”: Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern, and further actions and initiatives

Statement submitted by the International Federation of Women in Legal Careers , 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 and of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/CN.6/2012/1.

Statement

International Federation of Women in Legal Careers has analyzed the priority theme of the 56th C.S.W. Session – “The empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges”.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** recognizes that despite the growing participation of women in decision-making at the political level and their increased presence at the level of the judiciary, they have still little relevance in the making of decisions at the economic and financial level.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** reaffirms that in order to attain the Millennium Goals it will require the total eradication of all discrimination towards Women and their total participation in all decision-making process.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** affirms that the right to food, the right to access to water, and to a healthy environment are fundamental Human Rights and appeals to all the States, as well as public and private entities to help create the conditions that lead to their exercise and enjoyment.

The lasting recognition of Women’s Human Rights, the guarantee of gender equality, and the elimination of all discrimination against women is the way to a Sustainable and equitable Development of the planet, which will make Peace possible.

In order to implement the Women’s Human Rights through national legislation, the governments of each State, must follow the rules of the International Conventions, notably those of CEDAW.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** considers the women and girls education as the most powerful tool in order to obtain Empowerment of Women and Gender Equality, and consequently to combat Gender Violence.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** reaffirms that in order

to attain the Millennium Goals, namely n°2 and 3, it will require the total eradication of all discrimination towards Women and Girls and their total participation in all decision-making process.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** regards as essential, in order to achieve the above mentioned goals, that sexism, all kind of stereotypes related to the traditional roles of women and men and gender bias should be eradicated from all educational programmes.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** wants, therefore, to reaffirm the stated on General Recommendation n° 3 (sixth session, 1987) of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women : “(...) Further considering that, although the reports have come from States with different levels of development, they present features in varying degrees showing the existence of stereotyped conceptions of women, owing to socio-cultural factors, that perpetuate discrimination based on sex and hinder the implementation of article 5 of the Convention, urges all States parties effectively to adopt education and public information programmes, which will help eliminate prejudices and current practices that hinder the full operation of the principle of the social equality of women.”

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** believes that it is the establishment of conditions to an economic, social and cultural development everywhere in the world, which make possible the exercise and enjoyment of all the Human Rights for Women and Men in Liberty and Equality.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** thinks that all States should take all appropriate measures in order to guarantee that all professors, at all educational degrees, must have an instruction on Women Human Rights, Equality and, in the countries with a strong immigration, knowledge of the different cultures.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** regards, consequently, given the actual economic and financial crisis, as more important than

ever all States to make an effective commitment to the creation of vehicles for full employment and decent work.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** sends an appeal to all the States to give social and responsible investing more priority and to allocate the due resources for women and girls to have access to credit and financial assets, to promote their education in all areas, namely in the financial industry, so that women can advance to leadership positions within it.

The **International Federation of Women in Legal Careers** exhorts them equally to direct the competent executive, legislative and judicial authorities to take all necessary means and to assign adequate budgetary funds to effectively promote and protect the Human Rights of Women and Girls.

Lisbon, November 2011