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Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by the International Alliance of Women, a non-governmental organization in general consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[25 August 2014]

GE.14-15583 (E)







^{*} This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

Written statement re Panel on the Protection of the Family and its Members

The International Alliance of Women (IAW) wishes to congratulate all families and their members on the celebration of the 20th day of the family.

The family is not an entity for which the human rights are written, they are written for individuals, women, men, girls, boys, older women and men. They all have a role within families.

There should be no violence or coercion within families, nor should there be forced pregnancies or forced terminations thereof.

When there are children in the family, they have to be protected and cared for. This may happen independent of the type of family they grow up in. Even if children are in an institution this must apply.

There must be no discrimination between children. Girls and boys have equal rights to food, to health care, to education. They have equal responsibilities where chores are concerned.

There must also not be discrimination between families. Whether the responsibility for children is shared between a mother and a father, two mothers or two fathers, the children in the family are entitled to protection. When a family stays together after a sex change of one of the partners the state should not interfere. When the parents die and the grandparents, or the grandmother cares for the children, they also are a family and the children have a right to protection. A one parent family, whether through choice, death or divorce, is a family too and the parent should not be forced to marry. Children living alone should be protected, especially in cases of conflict and social unrest. Refugee children have a right to protection, also by the state whereto they fled. Children must have access to Justice, Children should not be forced to marry, not even if their parents are poor.

Children should have a legal identity, their birth should be registered (in accordance with the report on birth registration A/HRC/27/22/Eng.doc and the resolution of this Human Rights Council A/HRC/Res/19/9).

The International Alliance of Women is of the opinion that a Social Protection Floor as in Recommendation 202 (2012) of the International Labour Organization would benefit all families and all children and recommends all states that do not have it to introduce it, to begin with a childrens' allowance.

The IAW holds that the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention to Eliminate all forms of Discrimination against Women and all other relevant human rights conventions should be applied.

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