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## **Commission on the Status of Women**

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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 Women's Health and Education Center, 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**

## Empowering women and communities through education, health and technology: a concept note

The Women's Health and Education Center, grounded in the vision of equality as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, works for the elimination of discrimination against women and girls; the empowerment of women; and achievement of equality between women and men as partners and as beneficiaries of development, human rights, humanitarian action, peace and security. The healthy future of society depends on the health, education and technology literacy of today's children, women and communities. Gender equality, including in education, is a condition for development.

Women's Health and Education Center's strategy on e-Health focuses on strengthening health systems in countries; fostering public-private partnerships in information and communication technologies research and development for health and education. We support capacity building for e-Health applications worldwide and development and the use of norms and standards.

Success of our initiatives are predicted on investigating, documenting, analyzing the impact of e-Health data; and promoting better understanding by disseminating information. Our global network is available in 6 official languages of the United Nations. It is also posted in projects on the world map.

Our collaboration with the United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI) and the World Health Organization (WHO) had started on 24th October 2002 with the launch of an e-Health platform. In 2013, Women's Health and Education Center in collaboration with the United Nations and WHO, had launched the Learning and Innovation Network for Knowledge access project on the Women's Health and Education Center's global health line: to provide access to reproductive health and research worldwide.

Over the years this partnership and collaboration has strengthened, and we are serving in 227 countries and territories, and about 14 million subscribers, every year. There are three leading purposes of the health-related uses of information communications and technology in low- and middle-income countries:

- 1. To extend geographic access to health care;
- 2. To improve data management;
- 3. To facilitate communication between patients and physicians outside the physician's office.

The Women's Health and Education Center's global health line aims to establish in collaboration with programs in low- and middle-income countries to improve maternal and child health, in collaboration with the developed countries, of mutual benefit and mutual respect, through its Learning and Innovation Network for Knowledge and Solutions access project. Its syllabus is designed to promote and use of a broad understanding of women's and children's health; seek science and technology-based solutions to development challenges and encourage next generation especially girls and women to have education in science, mathematics and technology. Many economic and social factors impact women's and children's health and wellbeing to achieve good health and good health care systems.

We believe our initiatives are placing public health on the agenda and it is catalyzing collaborative networks cutting across disciplines, sectors and borders. Women's Health and Education Center provides free access and educational programs

2/3

to least developed countries, identified by United Nations Development Program. This helps Women's Health and Education Center to address inequalities in health and education and encourage sustainable development.

All over the world people have one common wish and desire – that their children are educated by finest teachers and universities to achieve a prosperous future. This is a timeless and ageless wish and desire. We all are linked with this common goal and pursuit.

Women's Health and Education Center's nine action areas that form global strategy operational framework and guidance on what could be done at national and sub-national levels are:

- 1. Country leadership: country leadership;
- 2. Financing for health: aligning and mobilizing financing;
- 3. Health system resilience: strengthening health systems;
- 4. Individual potential: establishing priorities for realizing individual potential;
- 5. Community engagement: supporting community engagement, participation and advocacy;
  - 6. Multi-sectoral action: enhancing mechanisms for multi-sectoral action;
- 7. Humanitarian and fragile settings: strengthening capacity for action in humanitarian and fragile settings;
  - 8. Research and innovation: fostering research and innovation;
- 9. Accountability: reinforcing global and national accountability mechanisms.

The desire for a healthier and better world in which to live our lives and raise our children is common to all people and all generations. Join the initiatives of Women's Health and Education Center with the United Nations and WHO to achieve our common goals and agenda.

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