



# Economic and Social Council

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## Commission on the Status of Women

Sixty-fourth session

9–20 March 2020

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 Fundación Luz María, 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.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

As the founder of a non-governmental organization dedicated to advancing the support provided to women in domestic violence situations, I hope to contribute to the discussion of the present inequalities and development of social inclusion. As a woman fighting for women, I believe we have entered a time period that values open-mindedness and the willingness to take on challenges. We see this continuously in the support of women through Time's Up and Me Too, voter movements created by young women and "for women by women" organizations. In this statement, I present the need to recognize women's intersectionality within societies when discussing their circumstances and creating ways in which to support and engage all women.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was a considerable stride for women and the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission on the Status of Women outlined their priority theme for 2019 to focus on "social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality, and the empowerment of women and girls" – a theme my organization is gratified to help push forward in partnership with the Commission on the Status of Women.

The dangers of intersectional women to be issues that fall through the cracks – intersections such as race, gender, class, sexual orientation, financial well-being, and more. I stand by the belief that humanitarian support increases the chances of people breaking out of the poverty cycle, and promotes inclusive growth, empowerment of independence, and entrepreneurship. Exclusions within societies can be found in many different ways and as someone who works in hopes for a brighter, more diverse future, I believe that an expanded community of women can achieve social inclusion by immersion of people with differing wages, races, religions, and sexes. One thing that has genuinely amazed me about female communities around the world today is our ability to support one another – something I'd like to see happen on a larger, global scale, with women supporting women of all different communities coming together and fighting for a collective idea they believe in. This is how I hope to see the future: women coming together to discuss and question systems that don't support our needs and desires, and actively working to change them.

Being able to participate in these platforms makes me believe in a better future. The young women who rise up and argue the standards imposed on them every day makes me believe in a stronger future. Participating in the development of the Sustainable Development Goals and witnessing the efforts dedicated to making these goals happen makes me believe in a future that strives to constantly improve.

In preparation for year 2020 and the goals to continue hitting the milestones of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, I believe it is necessary to push towards taking into account women's intersectionality within societies and communities. Even more so, it is necessary to make efforts to create positions where women can help women globally, rather than appeal to a patriarchal society where the intersectional cracks women fall through hinder them from succeeding.