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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 Centre for Public Health, 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.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

The Centre for Public Health (CPH) is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-political, non-religious organization in Nigeria that was founded in 1997. Its mission is to provide increased awareness of some of the health issues women in rural Nigeria are facing. CPH works mainly in these areas in collaboration with regional health centers, to reduce the mortality rate from infectious diseases and to tackle the burden of cancer and HIV/AIDS. The CPH provides educational and training seminars, radio broadcasts focused on health education, advocacy campaigns for cancer prevention, and more.

Many girls in Africa are absent from school during their monthly menstrual flow. This contributes to poor performance in school, which the CPH works to combat. The CPH does so through its young volunteers who are working to provide sanitary pads to them. The CPH has also been dedicated to helping prevent the spread of COVID-19 and encourage vaccination. Additionally, the CPH has partnered with an emerging Bloomberg program, in Umuaka City Nigeria to microfinance health insurance.

CPH is dedicated to reducing the mortality rate from infectious diseases and to tackle the burden of cancer in Nigeria through creating awareness and providing education for preventative care and early detection. As CPH begins the process of expanding to neighboring countries, they are also integrating clinics to provide young men and women with the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines. Recent studies indicate that 80 per cent of new HPV cases occur in low- and middle-income countries like Nigeria. Cervical cancer, one of the cancers linked to HPV, is one of the leading causes of death in Nigerian women. Every year roughly 9,000 women die in Nigeria from cervical cancer and 15,000 new cases are diagnosed. By advocating for preventative care, such as the HPV vaccine, CPH seeks to bring awareness to this preventable disease and promote the health and wellbeing of all Nigerian women.
