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ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

**Written statement* submitted by the World Movement of Mothers,
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.

[9 February 2006]

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

Enhanced participation of women in development and decision making
Full inclusion of unpaid caregivers in development and decision making at all levels

The World Movement of Mothers, MMM, together with F.E.F.A.F - Fédération Européenne des Femmes au Foyer, the EU umbrella NGO of national and regional associations representing at-home parents and carers, call on the United Nations and National Governments, respectively, to include unremunerated caregivers explicitly and directly in development and decision making at all levels.

The lack of recognition of the human, economic, educational and social value of women's unremunerated work, including unpaid child care and education, the care of elderly and disabled relatives, housework, the production of food, and voluntary work within the community, is a serious impediment to women's progress and has serious negative implications for equality between men and women.

Those who undertake unpaid work as their primary occupation are mostly women and are underrepresented in international, national and local decision-making bodies.

FEFAF ask that statistics be collected on unpaid work and unpaid workers as a priority so that

1. access to human, economic and social rights based on all work, remunerated or otherwise, is ensured;
2. development includes unpaid caregivers explicitly at all levels; and
3. representation on international, national and local decision-making bodies is made as open to unpaid workers as it is to paid workers.

There can be no clear planning or cost-benefit analysis for the care of children, elderly and disabled without reliable data on all types of care: community-based care, institutional care **AND** unremunerated family-based work carried out within the family.

Therefore F.E.F.A.F. requests

the implementation of § 11 and 14 (CEDAW) and 165g, 206 (f, g, o, p) and 209 (PfA Beijing)

- 1 specifically referring to the collection of data on
 - * the economic value of unremunerated family-based work for the benefit of dependent individuals
 - * the impact of national and community policies on the basic unit of the family and all its members, notably in the domain of the elimination of discrimination, the struggle against domestic violence, the risk of poverty of female heads of households, and pensions policies for unremunerated parents and carers
- 2 methods of data collection on unremunerated work should be internationalised and include:
 - * headings in the census and all relevant statistics, including the UN Census 2010 (population and housing) round, for unremunerated work and workers, unremunerated agricultural and food production; unremunerated childcare, eldercare and care of the disabled; unremunerated community and NGO support work
 - * parallel GDP accounts for unremunerated agricultural, family caring and voluntary work

* gender- and age-disaggregated information on unremunerated workers
3 the recognition of unremunerated work as an emerging issue from the Beijing PfA
process.
