

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL



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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Twenty-sixth session
Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN

DRAFT CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

Statement submitted by International Alliance of Women, International Council of Women (category I), Associated Country Women of the World, Bahá'i International Community, Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations, International Catholic Migration Commission, International Council of Social Democratic Women, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, Soroptomist International, St. Joan's International Alliance, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, World Muslim Congress, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations, World Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Zonta International (category II), Christian Peace Conference, International Peace Academy, International Society for Community Development, National Organization for Women (NOW) (Roster).

The Secretary-General has received the following statement which is circulated in accordance with paragraphs 29 and 30 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

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- 1. The above non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council support the completion of a convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women at its twenty-sixth session as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 3521 (XXX). We believe that such a convention will provide a necessary legal basis for action and will be an important instrument for achieving the equality of men and women which is a goal of the United Nations Decade for Women (1975-1985) approved by the General Assembly at the thirtieth session.
- 2. The text drafted by the Working Group in 1974 discussed at the last session of the Commission, together with the comments submitted by Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations which are before this session of the Commission, provide a basis for the elaboration and finalization of the convention in 1976 as requested by the World Conference for the International Women's Year in resolution 25.
- 3. We urge that the convention include all the provisions of the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, a document we have found of great value in our efforts to promote recognition of the equality of men and women in all countries.
- 4. In taking note of article 21, the alternative and the additional texts in the draft prepared by the Working Group which deal with the reporting of steps taken to implement the convention and the reviewing of such steps by a committee on the convention, we urge that implementation procedures be included in the convention as well as provisions for reporting and dealing with violations.
- 5. We shall encourage our national affiliates to make the provisions of the convention widely known and understood in their respective countries and to assist, in whatever way each organization finds possible, in the ratification of the convention so that it may come into force by 1980, when the Decade will be reviewed.