

Proposed Language Amendments to the August 5 Draft Outcome Document for the World Summit, 14-16 September 2005

15 August 2005

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Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN),
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United Methodist United Nations Office (UMOUN)
Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) and
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

Women's organizations and networks urge governments to strengthen the revised version of the Draft Outcome Document dated August 5 (A/59/HLPM/CRP.1/Rev.2), and reaffirm the critical importance of gender equality, women's empowerment and the promotion and protection of the human rights of women in achieving sustainable development and peace. Specific recommendations for strengthening the draft Outcome Document can be found on pages 2-6; in addition we encourage governments to retain a number of key paragraphs in the draft.

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**All proposed language is in bold. References to previously agreed language are in italics.*

I. Values and Principles

12. We reaffirm that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for [**Delete:** all, in particular] for women [**Delete:** and children,] are essential to advance development, peace and security. [**Delete** We are committed to creating a world fit for future generations, which takes into account the best interests of the child.]

12 bis. We are committed to creating a world fit for future generations, which takes into account the best interests of the child. We reaffirm our obligation to take action to promote and protect the rights of each child – every human being below the age of 18 years, including adolescents. We are determined to respect the dignity and to secure the well-being of all children.

(A World Fit for Children, Paragraph 4)

II. Development

HIV/AIDS and other health issues

35 (1) Ensure that the resources needed for prevention, treatment, care and support, the elimination of stigma and discrimination, as well as enhanced access to affordable medicines, reduced vulnerability of **women and girls to HIV infection, as well as of other** affected persons in particular orphan children and older persons, and an expanded and comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS, and for full funding of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, as well as UN system agencies and programmes engaged in the fight against HIV/AIDS, are provided universally by 2010

Gender equality and empowerment of women

36. We reaffirm that the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is essential to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration; and resolve to promote gender equality and to eliminate pervasive gender discrimination by:

- Eliminating gender inequalities in primary and secondary education by 2006 and at all educational levels by 2015
- Guaranteeing the rights of women to **own and inherit land and** property [delete : and inheritance laws] and ensuring secure tenure of property to women

- Ensuring **universal** access to **sexual and** reproductive health **services** and **protecting reproductive rights**
- Promoting women's equal access to [~~delete~~ : labour markets,] sustainable employment as well as adequate labour protections
- Ensuring the protection of women in armed conflicts in accordance with the obligations of States under international humanitarian law
- **Investing in the environmentally-sound infrastructure necessary to reduce women's and girls' time burdens to access water, wood, fuel and other necessities**
- **Taking active measures to ensure** [~~delete~~ : Promoting] equal participation and **representation** of men and women in government decision making bodies; and
- Supporting [~~delete~~ : direct] actions **and providing resources** to protect women and the girl child from violence, including by ending impunity, in particular in situations of wars and civil strife **and to implement comprehensive national plans;**

37. We recognize the importance of gender mainstreaming as a tool for achieving gender equality. To this end, we undertake to actively promote mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic **environmental** and social spheres and we further undertake to strengthen the UN system's capabilities in the area of gender, **and to elevate the status of and provide resources for women-specific entities in the UN system.**

Meeting the special needs of Africa

44. Welcoming the substantial progress Africa has made in recent years in addressing its challenges and realizing its opportunities, and also the recent decisions taken by African partners, including the G8 and the European Union, in support of Africa's development efforts, we reaffirm our commitment to urgently meet the special needs of Africa, which is the only continent not on track to meet any of the goals of the Millennium Declaration by 2015, to enable it to enter the mainstream of the world economy, we resolve to:

- Support African commitment to **achieve gender equality through, inter alia, the ratification and the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, and** ensure that by 2015 all children have access to a complete, free and compulsory education of good quality, as well as to basic health care;
- Provide, as a priority, assistance for HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment in African countries on a grant basis, **taking into account the specific concerns, needs and leadership of African women and girls,** and to encourage pharmaceutical companies to make anti-retroviral drugs affordable and accessible in Africa and ensure increased support for bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa

III. Peace and collective security

Peacebuilding

82. The Peacebuilding Commission shall meet in variable configurations. Country-specific meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission should comprise:

- (a) the national authorities of the country under consideration, as appropriate;
- (b) countries in the region engaged in the post-conflict process, as well as relevant regional and sub-regional organizations;
- (c) the major financial and troop contributors involved in the recovery effort;
- (d) the senior UN representative in the field, and other relevant UN-representatives;
- (e) such regional and international financial institutions as may be relevant;
- (f) **civil society organizations involved in the post-conflict recovery and development efforts;**

86. We request the President of the General Assembly, assisted by the Secretary-General, to conduct consultations with Member States and **civil society organizations, and in particular, women's organizations**, to develop the necessary modalities for the effective operation of the Peacebuilding Commission including its rules of procedure, financial arrangements for its functioning, and selection of the Chairs, so that the body can begin operations no later than 31 December 2005.

Role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts

95. We stress the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding. We also underline the importance of the integration of gender perspective and women's equal participation and full involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and security, as well as the need to increase their role in decision-making at all levels. **We commit to the full and rapid implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.** We strongly condemn all violations of human rights of women and girls in situations of armed conflicts and the use of sexual **and other forms of** exploitations, and violence and abuse, and commit to elaborating and implementing strategies to prevent and report on gender-base violence.

IV. Human rights and rule of law

Human Rights

106. We recognize the need for special attention to human rights of women [**Delete:** and children] and undertake to advance them in every possible way, including by bringing gender [**Delete:** and child-protection] perspectives into the human rights agenda. **We urge states that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and urge states to implement it fully.**

107. We commit to respect and ensure the rights of each child within our jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status. **We urge states that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its optional protocols and urge states to implement them fully. We further commit to ensure that a strong child rights perspective is included in the work of all relevant organs of the United Nations system.** *(A/RES/59/261, Paragraphs 2, 11)*

Rule of law

113. Recognizing the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels, we:

- Call upon States to continue their efforts to **repeal laws and** eradicate policies and practices that discriminate against women and to adopt laws and promote practices that protect the rights of women and promote gender equality

Human Security

122. We stress the right of people to live in freedom and dignity. **We recognize that human security is a guiding principle of the vital need to protect civilian populations from the insecurities generated by current threats and challenges affecting people's lives.** We commit to further discuss the [Delete: notion] **concept** of human security **within the sixtieth session** of the General Assembly with a view to addressing more effectively the needs of vulnerable peoples.

V. Strengthening the United Nations

Management Reform

148. **We welcome the commitment of the Secretary-General to secure a gender balance in the staffing of the Organization, including at the senior-level.** We encourage the Secretary-General and all decision-making bodies to take further steps in mainstreaming a gender perspective in eth policies and decisions of the organization.

Regional organizations

152. We support a stronger relationship between the United Nations and regional and sub-regional organizations pursuant to Chapter VIII of the Charter as well as in the areas of economic **and social affairs**, and human rights and therefore resolve to:

- Strengthen cooperation in the areas of economic **and social affairs**, and human rights.

Participation of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector

154 We welcome the [~~delete:~~ positive] contribution of non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector in the promotion and implementation of development, security and human rights **mechanisms and** programmes, and stress the importance of their continued engagement with Governments, the United Nations, **in particular through enhanced interaction with and access to General Assembly and Security Council deliberations and decision-making**, and other international organizations in these key areas.

[**Move to a separate paragraph :** Encourage responsible business practices such as those promoted by the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships and the Global Compact initiatives in order to ensure private sector's contributions to the MDGs].

**Civil Society Organizations in Support of Proposed Language
Amendments on the Draft Outcome Document for the World Summit**

84 endorsers: updated 24 July 2005

1. ActionAid, South Africa
2. Action Canada for Population and Development, Canada
3. AFASDA (Association Women Sun Haiti), Haiti
4. AIDOS - Associazione italiana donne per lo sviluppo (Italian association for women in development), Italy
5. All African Conference of Churches (AACC)
6. American Association of University Women, USA
7. Anglican Consultative Council (office in US)
8. Armenian International Women's Association
9. Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre on Women (ARROW)
10. Association of Handling and Preventing Violence in the Family, Cyprus
11. Associazione Donne e Ambiente, Italy
12. Association for Reproductive and Family Health (ARFH) Nigeria
13. Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)
14. ASTRA - Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
15. Australian Reproductive Health Alliance (ARHA)
16. Autonomous Women's Center, Belgrade, Serbia
17. Beyond Beijing Committee, Nepal
18. Catholics for a Free Choice Canada
19. Center for Legislative Development International, Philippines
20. Center for Reproductive Rights, USA
21. Centre for Women's Development Studies, New Delhi, India
22. Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC), Nigeria
23. Coalition of Women from Asia and the Middle East (CWAME)
24. DamaD, Novi Pazar, Serbia
25. Dominican Leadership Conference, USA
26. Engender, South Africa
27. Esperanca, Novi Sad, Serbia
28. Family Care International, USA
29. Federation for Women and Family Planning, Poland
30. Feminist Publisher 94, Serbia
31. Fundacion para Estudio e Investigacion de la Mujer (FEIM), Argentina
32. FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development, Norway
33. Forum of Women's NGOs, Kyrgyzstan
34. GIRE (Information Group on Reproductive Choice), Mexico
35. Global Rights: Partners for Justice, USA
36. Gray Panthers, USA
37. Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council, USA
38. Hora, Valjevo, Serbia
39. India Women's Watch, India
40. International Alert, UK
41. International Alliance of Women, USA
42. International Federation of Business and Professional Women

43. International Federation of University Women
44. International Grail
45. International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, USA
46. International Women's Development Agency Inc. (IWDA), Australia
47. International Women's Health Coalition, USA
48. Japan's Network for Women and Health (WHJ)
49. Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP)
50. Japan Women's Watch (JAWW), Japan
51. Kebetkache Women Development & Resource, Nigeria
52. K.U.L.U. - Women and Development, Denmark
53. Loretto Community (Sisters of Loretto and Co-members), USA
54. MADRE, USA
55. Mouvement français pour le planning familial, France
56. Naripokkho, Bangladesh
57. NGO Coalition for the 5th WCW, Finland
58. Pacific Institute for Women's Health, USA
59. PPSEAWA (Pan Pacific and S.E. Asia Women's Association)
60. Population Action International, USA
61. Sancharika Samuha, Nepal
62. Reconstruction Women's Fund, Belgrade, Serbia
63. Red Nacional de Adolescentes en Salud Sexual y Reproductiva - RedNac- (National Youth Coalition), Argentina
64. Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, USA
65. Riverdale Women's Immigrant Centre (Canada)
66. Sahiba Sisters Foundation, Tanzania
67. Sisters In Islam, Malaysia
68. Social Watch
69. Soroptimist International, USA
70. SOS hotline for women and children victims of violence, Belgrade, Serbia
71. Taboo, Zrenjanin, Serbia
72. Voice of Difference, Serbia
73. WAND, USA
74. WiLDAF/FEDDAF, West Africa
75. WOMANKIND Worldwide, UK
76. Women's Center, Uzice, Serbia
77. Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights
78. Women's Health and Rights Advocacy Partnership, Malaysia
79. Women in Reform Judaism, USA
80. Women in Black, Belgrade, Serbia
81. Women In Europe for a Common Future (WECF)
82. Women for Women's Human Rights- New Ways, Turkey
83. World Federalist Movement, USA
84. Youth Coalition