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entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and
peace for the twenty-first century”

Statement submitted by Institut Jules-Destrée, 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

Together for equality and Millennium2025 She4Innovation for women's economic leadership

1. Together for Equality!

The Millennium2025 Women & Innovation Foundation, of the Destrée Institute recently published the book, *Ensemble pour l'égalité!*, written by Marie-Anne Delahaut with a foreword by Ms. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO. The 600-page colour illustrated book takes readers on a journey, offering foresight on international networks and concrete action for women's empowerment and gender equality, stocktaking 2007-2015 and Objective 2025.

The main aim of the book "Ensemble pour l'égalité!" is to propose an operational method for foresight and concrete actions that can be replicated by future generations of girls and boys. The idea is to raise awareness and to spur them to action by giving them the tools to help to achieve gender equality.

The tangible action taken by Millennium2025 Solidarity-Women and Millennium2025 She4Innovation and the elements detailed in the book are illuminating examples. The book also includes contributions from members of the Millennium2025 international network of male and female volunteer researchers on issues such as women and e-Health, solidarity with women in vulnerable situations, innovation, the intelligence platform and the specific problems faced by women in Benin, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mauritania.

Details can be found online at http://www.millennia2015.org/MA_Delahaut_Ensemble_pour_egalite.

2. "Millennia2025 She4Innovation" international working group

The mission of the Millennium2025 Women & Innovation Foundation (http://www.millennia2015.org/Fondation_Millennia2025) is to examine strategies that would improve equality and solidarity, while respecting cultural and linguistic diversities. It also works to implement the findings of the international volunteer researchers' network as part of its foresight process. The Foundation recognizes and values women and girls as global leaders of development and societal change.

Millennia2025 is tasked with continuing the identification and implementation of innovative projects related to current and future trends of gender equality, access to education at all levels, justice, diversity and economic empowerment with a view to building peace.

Of the six strategic axes (SA) for society stemming from the Millennium2025 Action Plan for women's empowerment and gender equality, the new international working group Millennium2025 She4Innovation has chosen four: SA-1 Justice, SA-2 Empowerment, SA-5 Education and Equality, and SA-6 Economic Power. These will form the basis for innovative action in line with the needs and values of women and girls by 2025.

In building networks for these tasks, the Foundation has established a link between its work and the United Nations sustainable development goals for 2030 and is focusing on four of the associated Goals: Goal 4, pertaining to quality education;

Goal 5, pertaining to gender equality; Goal 8, pertaining to decent work and economic growth; and Goal 16, pertaining to peace, justice and strong institutions.

Millennia2025 She4Innovation is a new initiative which aims to invite interested individuals or groups to explore the four selected goals, using the Millennia2025 Intelligence Platform as a tool for an open women's innovation network.

New, responsible and sustainable solutions in line with the sustainable development goals are urgently needed for current and future generations of humankind. Women and girls are particularly encouraged to express their views and ideas as part of this undertaking.

Millennia2025 She4Innovation encourages a new concept of knowledge for women and girls under the four targeted "driving forces", in the hope of bringing about new concrete actions to address global issues.

3. The Millennia2025 She4Innovation foresight survey: We invite you to participate!

The survey draws a parallel between the Millennia2025 Strategic axes, or SAs, (www.millennia2015.org/Strategic_Axes) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals* (<http://www.undp.org/content/undp/fr/home/sdoverview/post-2015-development-agenda.html>).

=> Keyword: Education

Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

SA-2: Help improve women's personal and collective possibilities in terms of freedom of movement and decision, quality of life, education, training and employment.

=> Keyword: Equality

Goal 4. Gender Equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SA-5. Give girls the same rights as boys in education and training, opening up all fields of study, and to involve them in common projects.

=> Keyword: Justice

Goal 16. Peace, Justice and strong institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

SA-1: Improve respect and protection of women's physical, moral and psychological integrity. Enhance legal capacity for women and ensure non-impunity for aggressors.

The process that led us to combine the three strategies and Goals suggests that economic leadership (Goals 8 and 6) is the most innovative solution that must be developed by women for the future of women and girls.

* Translator's note: Again, this should be the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

=> Keyword: Economic leadership

Goal 8. Decent work and economic growth: promote sustained and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

SA-6. Increase women's access to high-quality socioeconomic activities that combine performance, efficiency, equity, sustainability and social responsibility.

The international survey consists of four combinations: participants may choose to answer one or several questionnaires. Participants in the survey will be included in further discussions based on the responses. The results of the survey will be analysed and sent to participants for their comments.

The survey draws on the key words to summarize the context and analysis of each issue — She4Education, She4Equality, She4Justice and She4Economic-Leadership.

4. Main questions

Question 1 — Definition of the issue

Define and explain the title of this issue based on your specific context (country, region, community, etc.) and from a woman's perspective.

Question 2 — Retrospective assessment

How has the issue influenced — or not — women's empowerment over the last 10 (or 20) years?

Question 3 — Current and emerging trends

How has the issue affected women's daily life in your country, region or community, and their involvement in ongoing development and progress?

Question 4 — Uncertainty and discontinuities

To what extent can elements of the issue halt women's empowerment and their active contribution to building the future we want?

Question 5 — Possible developments

How will this issue change the progression of women's empowerment and their role in society in 2025?

Question 6 — Emerging issues

What are the relevant emerging issues for women? What have they to lose or gain?

Question 7 — Concrete proposals

Provide concrete proposals illustrating the interest in addressing this issue in hypotheses or alternatives for the future.

(Why should this issue be given priority in such projections or alternatives?)

Question 8 — Sources, bibliography and links

List the sources of information, bibliography and any useful links you have used. Please send the documents, images or videos to delahaut.marie-anne@millennia2025.org.

Statistics and personal information are requested in order to strengthen the international network of voluntary Millennia2025 researchers. Thank you for your participation. Comments and suggestions welcome.

The entire corpus of work and surveys are available online at http://www.millennia2015.org/Femmes_pour_Innovation (in French) and <http://www.millennia2015.org/She4Innovation> (in English).
