GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers has the honour to present to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women its written contribution to the general discussion on girls’/women’s right to education (article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women).

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers reaffirms that the right to education is a fundamental human right, as consecrated in article 26º of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, articles 13º and 14º of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, articles 5º and 10º of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and articles 28º and 29º of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers considers the women and girls education as the most powerful tool in order to obtain Empowerment of Women and Gender Equality, and consequently to combat Gender Violence.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers reaffirms that in order to attain the Millennium Goals, namely nº2 and 3, it will require the total eradication of all discrimination towards Women and Girls and their total participation in all decision making process.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers regards as essential, in order to achieve the Millennium Goals, namely nº2 and 3, that sexism and all kind of gender
bias and stereotypes related to the traditional roles of women and men should be eradicated from all educational programmes.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers thinks, consequently, that Equality and its values should be taught since childhood, in every school degree, as Education for Equality is the major instrument to fight Gender Violence.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers believes that it is the establishment of conditions to an economic, social and cultural development everywhere in the world, which will make possible the exercise and enjoyment of all the Human Rights for Women and Men in Liberty and Equality.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers thinks that all States should take all appropriate measures in order to guarantee that all professors, at all educational degrees, must have an instruction on Women Human Rights, Equality and, in the countries with a strong immigration, knowledge of the different cultures.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers recalls that, as recommended by CESCR General Comment n°13, it is the responsibility of each State to ensure that the Public Education must be available, accessible, acceptable and adaptable.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers thinks that every State should assure a protected environment to all schoolgirls, in order to promote and defend their safety from any sort of attacks or violence.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers considers that every State should promote a compulsory non religious teaching through the allocation of grants tailored to the needs of a quality education, namely a specific budget for the Education of Girls.

The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers considers, also, that all States should take all appropriate measures in order to guarantee a mandatory girl’s school attendance, especially in cases of pregnancy, aids or extreme poorness, and that must be given to girls the same opportunities to access and to gain scholarships and educational grants.
The International Federation of Women in Legal Careers esteems that the visibility of the Girls' Education should be guaranteed through systematic fractionation of statistical gender indicators.

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