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Representatives from Dianova, the Dialogue Institute and the PPSEAWA at the Commission on the Status of Women 2018

Gender Equality

Position Paper

Empowering Women for Global Development

The empowerment of women is a prerequisite for the full and sustainable development of nations. Women and girls make up half the world's population, and their access to quality education and participation in the professional world are closely linked to economic, social and cultural development. The World Bank has thus stated "no country, community, or economy can achieve its potential or meet the challenges of the 21st century without the full and equal participation of women and men."

Dianova therefore believes that it is essential to reorganize labour markets and redistribute resources equitably in order to achieve women's empowerment and equality. These steps are also required to end poverty and engage in sustainable development that benefits everyone. Such measures include ensuring equal pay for equivalent work, decent maternity leave, flexible working arrangements for mothers, and accessible childcare. We must also achieve gender parity in management positions.

Empowering women empowerment can effectively protect them from informal, unstable and underpaid jobs. Ultimately, given its essential role in achieving gender

equality, women's empowerment is also one of the foundations of stable economies. It is also way to meet international commitments in to promote development and human rights. Moreover, empowering women also improves the lives of everyone - women, men, families and whole communities.

Women & Addictions

Substance abuse is one of the major causes of violence against women. Addictions make women more vulnerable to physical and sexual abuse, exploitation and psychological abuse. Similarly, the public health implications of drug abuse affect vulnerable women more. Providing basic education in public, sexual, reproductive and maternal health can reduce the vulnerability of women in the face of addictions. Promoting addiction prevention programs also serves to protect women.

We know that access to information and education, as well as community support is critical to preventing addictions. This access and support promote gender equality, reduce violence against women and enhance their contribution to their families, communities and society. These measures by extension can directly help vulnerable women who suffer abuse or lack access to educational and

employment. Information, education, and support keep women from becoming addicts or resorting to selling drugs.

Treating addictions: Dianova considers it essential to combat discrimination and facilitate access to women's rehabilitation programs. Programs must consider the specific needs of women - for example, those with dependent children. Mothers should be offered individualized treatment, monitoring and reintegration programs. Finally, it is important to promote research on issues related to women, addictions and development. Such investigations will help us achieve an up-to-date view of the connections between these themes and to address increasingly difficult challenges.

Women & Migration

The world is currently confronting upheavals and numerous challenges posed by the largest flow of forced migration since the Second World War. This is a difficult situation for all migrants, but especially for women and

other minority groups.

Pre-existing vulnerabilities reach unbearable proportions for women who live in conflict zones and are forced to flee. Women are at risk of violence, human trafficking, exploitation and sexual assault, abuse and discrimination in their home countries. They then face many additional challenges when conflicts force them to undertake dangerous passages or to settle in transit or refugee camps.

Despite current efforts to meet the specific needs of female migrants, it is crucial to invest more in these efforts. It is also essential to invest more effectively in protecting and empowering women and girls. Dianova therefore believes that governments, the private sector and civil society organizations should work together to identify needs. These stakeholders should then implement national and bilateral policies and measures to protect women and ensure more effective management of female migration.

