

28 – 31 March 2021

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) NMUN Simulation*



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United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Committee Staff

Director	Andrew Marriott
Chair	Lorenzo Manganelli

Agenda

- I. Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States
- II. Increasing Youth Leadership and Participation in Society

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNFPA/1/1	Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States	Adopted by acclamation
UNFPA/1/2	Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States	Adopted by acclamation
UNFPA/2/1	Increasing Youth Leadership and Participation in Society	Adopted by acclamation

Summary Report

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States
- II. Increasing Youth Participation and Leadership in Society

The session was attended by representatives of 18 Member States and no Observers. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of “Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States”.

By the end of the first session on Monday, the Dais received a total of two working papers containing proposals that covered a wide range of sub-topics like the expansion of medical services and healthcare infrastructure, access to sexual and reproductive health, education, child marriage, and discrimination. The debates and discussions were collegial throughout the meeting and delegates collaborated effectively throughout all the sessions. The small nature of the committee allowed all delegations to be heard from and for interested delegations to speak frequently and emphasise the vital nature of the topic.

On Tuesday, after three review sessions, the two working papers had been approved as resolutions by the Dais, none of which had amendments. The committee adopted both resolutions following voting procedure and adopted both by acclamation. The committee flow and discussion were overall of a high standard, with the efficient and inclusive discussions allowing the committee sufficient time to address the second topic.

In the second session on Tuesday, the body began addressing the topic of “Increasing Youth Leadership and Participation in Society”. The delegates once again came together and submitted a single working paper representative of the whole body, including topics focused on things like child marriage, the political participation of youth, and the role of youth in the COVID-19 response. After it was adopted as a draft resolution in the final session, the committee moved into voting procedure and adopted it by acclamation. The cooperation and diplomacy throughout all committee sessions reflected the body’s dedication to addressing the topics at hand.



Code: UNFPA/1/1

Committee: United Nations Population Fund

Topic: Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations (1945),

Noting that Article 16 and 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) echo the nature of this document, affirming that men and women have equal rights to create a family and to have access to a high standard of medical care and social services,

Reasserting the UNFPA's understanding that access to family planning is fundamental to advancing gender equality and empowerment, which aids in reducing poverty,

Acknowledging the statistical decrease cited by the UN Maternal Mortality Estimation Report in 2019 that notes infant and maternal mortality rates within vulnerable communities have decreased due to the increase in the availability of medical resources to provide adequate prenatal and postnatal care,

Recalling the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action as a basis for advancing human well-being that places the human rights of individuals at the forefront of discussion and focus,

Recognizing the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), including SDG 3 and Target 3.7 regarding universal access to contraceptives, and other family planning methods,

Reaffirming SDG 5, in empowering all vulnerable populations, including women and girls living in rural areas,

Considering the risks which COVID-19 poses to the distribution of family planning methods, and the significant setbacks which it may cause in the pursuit of SDGs, especially towards SDG 10, the reduction of inequality, and SDG 15, a sustainable human presence on the land,

Emphasizing the need for access to family planning resources and medical services for developing countries and rural communities,

Reaffirming the United Nations' desire to preserve the autonomy of developing states,

Deeply Disturbed by the potential loss of healthcare workers from COVID-19 fatigue and the setbacks in family planning which may result from the loss of healthcare workers after the Coronavirus pandemic,

Understanding the influence of religion and other local cultural values that can cause stigmas that restrict access to family planning,

Fully bearing in mind the cultural differences in regard to access to family planning can be addressed with an acknowledgment of cultural sensitivity, and education on the many forms of family planning resources,

Highlighting that family planning includes contraceptive measures as well as prenatal and postnatal care to reduce infant and maternal mortality rates,

1. *Promotes* the presence of local government-run networks of mobile family planning clinics in less-serviced rural areas coordinated by Member States' national governments with the logistical support of the UNFPA and all willing NGOs;
2. *Invites* volunteer graduating medical and nursing students to train local community health workers with providing direct support to individuals and families and build trust within communities as part of the aforementioned mobile clinic program, under the supervision of health professionals, by:
 - a. Educating the aforementioned workers on the main contraceptive methods and their benefits and drawbacks as well as basic training such as IUD insertion;
 - b. Tasking community workers with providing counsel on available contraceptive methods to best fit each individual's personal needs and with reaching out to community leaders to improve awareness of family planning;
 - c. Tasking community workers to reaching out to more vulnerable individuals, including but not limited to adolescent girls and women susceptible to violence;
 - d. Ensuring that community workers communicate to assisted men and, especially women, that family planning is a universal right to create a more solid base for assistance and help-seeking;
3. *Supports* the strengthening of the UNFPA Supplies Program's supply chains and broadening the range of available contraceptive products, including but not limited to increasing:
 - a. Community-based distribution of contraceptive services through community health workers and other volunteers to prevent unnecessary travel to clinics in urban areas;
 - b. The use of long-acting and reversible contraceptives to reduce costs, risks of misuse, and unintended ineffectiveness for women;
 - c. The access to self-administered contraceptives via syringe supply as supported by WHO research; including the training of community practitioners to provide individual training as to the use of these contraceptives;
4. *Stresses* the importance of public-private partnerships and government involvement to ensure the stability of family planning services;
5. *Recommends* Member States to prioritize the involvement of community leaders in developing countries, especially religious leaders, through open and inclusive dialogue and programs on a national and local level to destigmatize aspects of family planning by:
 - a. Raising awareness regarding Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and the significant influence of these individuals in discouraging the practice;
 - b. Increasing participation of both male and female leaders to effectively educate both gender groups;
 - c. Pushing for open discourse from male and female community leaders in addressing religious and local attitudes toward family planning methods;
 - d. Supporting actions developed by local branches of international organizations to guarantee a higher standard of living for families;

6. *Further recommends* that all Member States carry out the implementation of equal access to healthcare across ethnic groups by establishing clear national guidelines for fair access to family planning with the help of NGOs and global partnerships such as Family Planning 2020 and the International Planned Parenthood Federation in advisory capacities, with aims to:
 - a. Include family planning as a part of Primary Health Care services;
 - b. Promote educational programs for healthcare workers to be empathic and recognize their stigmas towards marginalized patients;
 - c. Ensure that healthcare workers present exhaustively the advantages and disadvantages of different contraceptive methods;
 - d. Promote programs that allow for ethnic groups underrepresented in the healthcare professions in local regions;
7. *Establishes* a research and recommendation taskforce under the UNFPA to guide the retention of healthcare employees during and after pandemic situations, as well as to provide recommendations for policies that would help retain and train healthcare workers in family planning, allow for family planning services to be provided during pandemic situations, and to encourage the establishment of contactless and safe family planning provision during and after the COVID-19 pandemic which will be:
 - a. Held under the UNFPA and comprised of well qualified multinational, unbiased professionals who would be contracted or hired through and answer to the UNFPA, working and creating reports to address issues put forth by willing Member States;
 - b. Funded by voluntary contributions from Member States, and in cooperation with relevant academic institutions and facilities;
8. *Stresses* the importance of empathetic patient-provider relationships in family planning education through pre-existing training material during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, creating a confidential, positive, and trusting environment that can lead to more helpful and personalized family planning services;
9. *Recommends the expansion of* current UNFPA efforts to provide further supplemental and educational training to providers and patients in countries seeking to reduce gender-based violence through healthcare and family-planning linked services, working in conjunction with family planning providers and currently existing facilities in the region;
10. *Promotes* the inclusion of men in education and discussions on safe birth control methods including more in-depth Sexual and Reproductive Health education.



Code: UNFPA/1/2

Committee: United Nations Population Fund

Topic: Promoting Access to Family Planning in Developing States

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), in particular Article 16 which states “men and women of full age have the right to marry and found a family”,

Viewing with appreciation Article 10 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), which aims at granting the widest possible protection and assistance to families,

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979), which addresses barriers to family planning by requiring that countries eliminate discrimination against girls and women in all areas,

Emphasizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015), specifically SDG 3 (good health and well-being) and SDG 5 (gender equality), which address reducing global maternal mortality, increasing universal access to sexual and reproductive health care, and ensuring rights to reproductive and sexual care,

Alarmed by the estimates by UNFPA and Avenir Health showing that the COVID-19 pandemic negatively influences access to family planning, with a 10% decline in the use of short- and long-acting reversible contraception in low-income countries, which may result in additional 15 million unintended pregnancies in 2020 and 2021,

Recognizing that a variety of health services exist that can be utilized to advance family planning in developing countries, including temporary and permanent contraceptive methods, sexual and reproductive health programs, and education,

Supporting the partnership of the UNFPA with other international and regional organizations, such as the UN Development Fund for Women, the UN Sustainable Development Group, and the H6 partnership,

Convinced of the need for data collection in order to identify the main areas of need in developing countries in the context of family planning, as mentioned in the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021,

Affirming the significance of increased cooperation and communication of Member States with both the UNFPA and the World Health Organization (WHO) in order to implement frameworks addressing the multi-faceted topic of expanding family planning and reproductive health services,

1. *Encourages* multilateral partnership through the establishment of centralized centers of employment with the collaboration of the developed Member States of the executive council of UNFPA, in cooperation with interested NGOs working in developing nations, to support the local population to increase universal access to sexual and reproductive health care through finding sustainable careers and financial independence by:
 - a. Implementing additional development assistance in the form of expertise shared through an educational program of people trained in areas concerning family planning, such as health-care specialists, certified sex educators, and family counsellors of developed nations who will aid in instructing citizens of developing nations to work in this specific area of family planning and invest in a sustainable long-term system of knowledge reproduction;

- b. Encouraging the development and reinforcement of midwifery systems and education to protect mother and child before, during, and after childbirth through:
 - i. Affirming that the incorporation of interventional medicine is essential in order to provide rapid access to emergency obstetrical care;
 - ii. Strengthening of the midwifery system as a form of encouraging safe child births and preventing death during childbirth for both mother and child;
 - iii. The encouragement of the midwifery system as a method of community specific care that aids in increasing access to safe and effective contraceptives, ending gender-based violence, and offering reproductive services in developing countries;
 - c. Empowering local communities to become financially stable and increasingly independent in their execution of family planning programs through:
 - i. The enhancement of local population's skill in the area of family planning services aimed at enabling them to find a job in the sector, in order to ensure assistance and safe health care;
 - ii. The promotion of policies aimed to build an inclusive model of economy based on the reconciliation of economic growth with social integration, paying specific attention on the inclusion of women and young girls, in order to achieve real gender equality and reduce gender-based discrimination;
 - iii. Increasing multilateral collaboration with willing NGOs and pharmaceutical companies active in the promotion of family planning services through the adoption of innovative financing mechanisms able to reduce the cost of production of contraceptives;
2. *Recommends* Member States increase the diversity of channels used to inform women of reproductive age and their partners about several methods of contraception to demolish barriers of misinformation and make a difference in developing countries through:
- a. Increasing awareness of contraceptive methods and resources and sexual education information through, among others, radio, social media, and artistic campaigns;
 - b. Providing educational training in schools and community centers to local schoolchildren, community leaders, and interested citizens on sexually transmitted infections (STIs), family planning services, and contraceptive options to empower them to act as leaders and spread awareness within their communities;
 - c. Utilizing UNFPA peer-to-peer mentor services, such as the Y-PEER program and accompanying Peer Education Toolkit materials, within schools and childcare facilities to educate young persons, especially young persons with disabilities, on sexual and reproductive health, rights, and services;
3. *Encourages* collaboration between developed and less developed Member States to better optimize their health care systems through the use of information and communication technology (ICT) by:
- a. Facilitating virtual, multilateral bi-annual conferences held in developing nations with centers of employment and organized by the competent authority in order to share

breakthrough research, new medical techniques and procedures, and first-hand knowledge to address topics such as reducing maternal mortality rates and fetal deaths;

- b. Enabling free, international online access to reliable, relevant, affordable, and high-quality information on health, with a focus on sexual and reproductive health, in appropriate languages for citizens and healthcare professionals alike, by partnering with willing NGOs, such as Translators Without Borders, to translate such documents;
 - c. Further developing affordable, realistic, virtual simulations for healthcare professionals to further develop their knowledge and training on sexual and reproductive patient care and procedures through the implementation of the UNFPA Minimum Initial Service Package best practices;
4. *Endorses* a response to the effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic which has decreased equitable access to quality sexual and reproductive services, including maternal and child health, by:
 - a. Calling upon Member States to prioritize the availability of services such as contraceptive counseling, prenatal, and postnatal care to be offered through telemedicine;
 - b. Providing and delivering sanitary kits through the UNFPA Supplies Programme including informational pamphlets on family planning services, condoms, basic hygiene products, and menstrual products to young women and children to strengthen social distancing measures and quarantine;
 - c. Increasing the use, production, and distribution of clean delivery kits through the UNFPA Supplies Programme to increase safety during childbirth when access to hospitals and clinics is unavailable during quarantine;
5. *Suggests* that Member States widen access to reproductive health services, where appropriate, to work towards SDGs 3, 4, and 5, contributing to the well-being of families, specifically young women and children, and decreasing the rates of preventable sexual diseases within developing nations by:
 - a. Expanding access to STI testing and screenings;
 - b. Taking into consideration the significance of HPV vaccination in females and young girls specifically to prevent cervical and other cancers;
 - c. Promoting and educating patients on long lasting or permanent, sustainable options for birth control aside from oral and emergency use contraceptives, such as IUDs, vasectomies, and tubal ligation;
6. *Urges* fellow Member States to partner with NGOs to empower young women and girls by:
 - a. Collaborating with international organizations such as Pathfinder International, Family Planning 2020, and the forthcoming Family Planning 2030 when developing broad frameworks;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to further partner with local organizations with regional knowledge of the cultural and religious backgrounds when addressing the needs of the areas in which they function;

7. *Recognizes* the importance of data collection in the context of family planning in less developed countries in order to identify areas in need by:
 - a. Inviting Member States to offer their financial aid to data-oriented institutions, such as the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Statistics Division;
 - b. Reminding the Member States of the UNFPA Population Data Thematic Fund and its role in tracking unmet need for family planning;
 - c. Inviting developing Member States to collaborate with such institutions to enable the gathering of information;
8. *Reminds* Member States of their obligations towards girls and women to promote their equal rights and to eliminate discrimination against them in all areas, as described in the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979), which will greatly contribute to the fulfillment SDGS 4, 5, and 10;
9. *Welcomes* Member States to develop plans of action with the WHO by joining its Country Cooperation Strategy (CCS) in order to advance collaboration between the WHO and the UNFPA and create personalized frameworks that address nation specific healthcare needs, by:
 - a. Developing sexual and reproductive adolescent health strategies and policies where appropriate;
 - b. Integrating the Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT) into reproductive health programs;
 - c. Expanding family planning services to vulnerable populations such as those living in rural areas and migrant population groups.



Code: UNFPA/2/1

Committee: United Nations Population Fund

Topic: Increasing Youth Leadership and Participation in Society

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),

*Guided by the four key points of the *Convention on Rights of the Child* (1989), including non-discrimination, devotion to the best interests of the child, the right to life, survival, and development, and respect for the views of the child,*

Affirming the sovereignty of the Member States and the importance of preserving cultural values and acknowledging that youth leadership roles within societies will be unique to each Member State,

*Reaffirming the role of the *2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development* (2015), especially SDG 2 on Zero hunger, SDG 3 on Good Health and Well Being, SDG4 on quality education, SDG 5 on Gender Equality, SDG 8 on Decent Work and economic growth, SDG 10 on Reduced inequalities, SDG 13 on Climate action, and SDG 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong institutions,*

*Realizing that as per the *World Youth Report 2030*, 85% of the youth live in developing countries and many have less reliable access to quality education, and acknowledging the additional discrimination that youth face due to their age, limited skills, and knowledge,*

Welcoming initiatives promoting youth civic engagement, such as the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Multimedia Initiative for Youth Civic Education, and the UN Youth Delegate Programme,

Reaffirming the importance of including youth in decision-making on all levels, as well as their will to participate, as demonstrated through international movements such as School Strike for Climate Change,

Acknowledging the intrinsic importance of access to technologies and the Internet for youth participation on national and international stages to improve educational and digital infrastructure to ensure that no adolescent or young adult is excluded from formal political and social debates,

Recognizing the work done by the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth in addressing both the rights and needs of young people,

Appreciating the collaboration between the UNFPA and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the 2016 Global Program to End Child Marriage,

*Upholding General Assembly Resolution 54/263, the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child prostitution, and Child Pornography* (2000), which notes that the sexual exploitation of youth and human trafficking of youth is detrimental to ensuring and upholding human rights,*

Taking into account the differences in the economic and environmental nature of communities, from industrial to agrarian, and the need to tailor youth economic empowerment programs to the needs and capacities of said communities,

Realizing the rising need to provide services that promote positive mental health among youth especially during and after the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Encourages* Member States to increase youth participation in the response of COVID-19 pandemic and the strengthening of local economies, through:

- a. The collaboration between Member States and the private sector to develop local associations and start-ups managed by youth entrepreneurs to deliver medicine, rapid tests, sanitizer, food, and necessities to the most affected and vulnerable social groups to help them to overcome the difficulties caused by social isolation;
 - b. Awareness campaigns on the appropriate use of COVID-19 prevention material through social media, radio, and public safety announcements in drugstores and other local businesses;
 - c. The involvement of youth personnel in the COVID-19 vaccination campaign and inclusion of youth in the promotion of education programs through:
 - i. Encouraging Member States to include graduating medical and nursing students, as well as other students within the health sector, in national vaccination efforts;
 - ii. Supporting activities like “Life Skills Education Initiative” in a way to face the new educational needs presented by the COVID-19;
 - iii. Encouraging youth community leaders in methods of spreading awareness on, vaccine information, and combating medical misinformation within their communities;
2. *Invites* the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth to consider assisting Member States in promoting accessibility to a national unified interdisciplinary job-seeking platform created and administered by national governments to improve youth employment, by:
- a. Encouraging the creation of such platforms to include instructional guides and workshops to inform youth about how to create and build their resumes;
 - b. Requiring job listings for youths to be screened for their safety and wellbeing and to minimize the publication of scams;
 - c. Suggesting this platform to facilitate job searching for youth;
3. *Encourages* Member States to invest funds and capital that would allow universities and other academic institutions to provide scholarships, internships, and programs to the younger generations, guaranteeing their meaningful inclusion in the economic aspects of society;
4. *Endorses* the end of child marriage, which places young girls into early maternity leading to a higher risk of complication during pregnancy and childbirth, by:
- a. Providing girl-centered investments to empower young girls through information and health services;
 - b. Insisting that these investments reach rural and high conflict areas where most child marriages occur;
 - c. Ensuring that young girls stay in school and receive proper education;
 - d. Noting existing laws against child marriage, such as the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (1989) and the *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women* (1979);

5. *Encourages* Member States to support work being done by voluntary organizations and NGOs such as Women and Law in Southern Africa, which work to contribute to the sustained well-being of women and girls through action-oriented research in the socio-legal field and advocacy for women's rights to promote the involvement of these groups in civil society by:
 - a. Providing legal advice to youths and women in need;
 - b. Educating women and girls of their rights;
 - c. Working within communities to increase gender sensitivity;
6. *Recommends* that Member States partner with universities and other academic institutions to ensure that students are employable after graduation by:
 - a. Supporting professional development requirements alongside academic requirements in schools to integrate students into their communities and provide practical training before graduation through:
 - i. Work-study education programs funded by interested public universities, colleges, and other technical programs;
 - ii. Community service programs developed by public academic institutions through their partnerships with local communities;
 - b. Promoting advising and mentorship programs in local schools to determine students' next steps after graduation and encourage participation in the workforce or further education;
7. *Suggests* expanding UNFPA's Action for Adolescent Girls initiative to provide educational support for young girls as it works to prevent childhood marriage and childhood pregnancy through:
 - a. Increasing the number of Member States included in the program to target a larger population of young girls;
 - b. Providing educational programs and sexual and reproductive programs from the UNFPA and partner NGOs to young girls to lengthen their time in formal education;
8. *Recommends* Member States to improve accessibility to the Internet via technology such as RACHEL servers, which provide access to educational and professional material through hotspot connections on a local basis, in collaboration with partners such as UNESCO and UNDP, by:
 - a. Supporting the implementation of electronic recycling programs in which donations can be refurbished and sold at subsidized prices to students to increase access to technology and the Internet;
 - b. Promoting student-led, electronic repairing and repurposing projects which increase technical and engineering skills among students and promote peer-to-peer learning and leadership;
9. *Recommends* the inclusion of young women and girls into the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math by:

- a. Encouraging governments and international NGOs such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Faculty for the Future to provide scholarships to women pursuing degrees in STEM, grants and fellowships to those engaging in research projects;
 - b. Implementing computer coding classes in schools and extracurricular activities for girls beginning at the primary school level to increase the number of young women in computer science and information technology;
 - c. Hosting national and regional science fairs and conferences for young women in STEM to showcase and stimulate interest in scientific research;
10. *Supports* the creation of a political education program that allows students from the Member States to learn about their respective governments and their respective systems and operations as well as their national legislative framework, and their international relations by:
 - a. Implementing governance projects, such as the UNDP's *Loy9 Initiative*, to reach youth with key information about governmental institutions and civic participation through multimedia intervention content and live events at schools;
 - b. Offering extra-curricular simulations on the operation of multiple levels of government and legislative assemblies;
11. *Invites* Member States to increase youth involvement in decision-making processes with government officials and legislative bodies, by:
 - a. Inviting the general public population of youth to facilitate and participate in virtual and in-person roundtable discussions in which youth are emboldened to voice their opinions on upcoming and existing national legislation and sustainable development progress;
 - b. Proposing the creation of national and regional youth councils to participate in national development plans with government officials and legislative bodies, whose members would be selected via a raffle system;
 - c. Supporting the development of open-dialogue panels within legislative bodies in which youth can ask questions on policymaking and propose suggestions on legislation;
12. *Encourages* the implementation of international and regional youth discussion forums (both online and in-person), with the help of international NGOs such as One Young World and local organizations, to bridge cultural divides between different Member States through:
 - a. Funding the forums through donations and contributions by the host Member State, which be on a rotating basis;
 - b. Establishing international youth diplomacy programs in which youth learn about international government structures, processes, and how to increase effective multilateral cooperation;
 - c. Supporting international student exchanges to promote international synergy;
13. *Invites* governments and private entities to increase online campaigns to increase youth voter turnout through:

- a. Creating radio broadcasts, newspaper campaigns, and television advertisements that provide sources of information for political candidates, campaign values, polling locations, and dates;
 - b. Providing instructional guides for first-time voters and youth with learning impairments to inform youth of how to fill out, complete, and submit voting ballots;
 - c. Building social media campaigns according to each Member State's technological capabilities;
14. *Recommends* that Member States encourages employers to allow vacation days for the political commitments of youth in national youth councils and other political programs;
15. *Invites* youth of Asian-Pacific Member States to participate in opportunities that align with SDGs and give a great experience for their futures to prevent unemployment that leads to poverty, such as Youth Co: Lab's calls for social inclusion and leadership in youth while providing them with workplace experience while working with governments, private organizations, schools, and youth organizations;
16. *Encourages* Member States to support work being done by voluntary organizations and NGOs such as Women and Law in Southern Africa, which work to contribute to the sustained well-being of women and girls through action-oriented research in the socio-legal field and advocacy for women's rights to promote the involvement of these groups in civil society by:
 - a. Providing legal advice to youths and women in need;
 - b. Educating women and girls of their rights;
 - c. Working within communities to increase gender sensitivity.