

WRITTEN STATEMENT TO THE FINAL SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY 269 NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

This statement is made on behalf of 269 non-governmental organisations. It cannot be made on behalf of all non-governmental organisations because we have no authority to do so.

During the 60 years of the Commission on Human Rights, non-governmental organisations have played, in the words of the General Assembly, "an important role at the national, regional and international levels, in the promotion and protection of human rights". Unfortunately the arrangement made for their participation in the final session of the Commission through a single statement does not allow this important role to be reflected. Non-governmental organisations are very diverse, reflecting the variety and multiplicity of human experiences. They have brought to the Commission the voices of the voiceless and of victims of violations throughout the world. That diversity and those voices cannot be encapsulated in a single statement. With disappointment and a sense of loss, we note that they are missing from the final session of the Commission.

We have decided therefore not to make a single non-governmental statement to assess the work of the Commission. We cannot accept that this is an appropriate way to proceed now or in the future and we urge States to acknowledge this.

We look forward positively to the establishment of the Human Rights Council. We remind all States of the terms of the recent General Assembly resolution which committed the future Human Rights Council to "ensuring the most effective contribution" of non-governmental organisations to its work "based on arrangements ... and practices observed by the Commission".

Signed by,

Action Canada for Population and Development, Canada  
Adalah, the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights in Israel, Israel  
Adivasi Unnayan Kendra (Centre for Indigenous Peoples Development), Bangladesh  
Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization  
Agir Ensemble pour les Droits de l'Homme, France  
AIN O SALISH KENDRA (ASK), Bangladesh  
Al Haq, Palestine  
All Nepal Peasants' Association, Nepal  
Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI), Indonesia  
Alliance Rights Nigeria, Nigeria  
Amnesty International, United Kingdom  
Anglican Consultative Council, Switzerland  
Anti-Racism Information Service, Switzerland  
Arab Commission for Human Rights, France  
Arab Lawyers Union  
ARC International, Switzerland/Canada  
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Thailand  
Asia Partnership for Human Development (APHD), Thailand  
Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), Thailand  
Asian Legal Resource Centre, China  
Asociación Pro Derechos Humanos de España, Spain  
Association for Prevention of Torture, Switzerland  
Association for World Education, Switzerland  
Association of Humanitarian Lawyers, Switzerland  
Association of World Citizens, Switzerland  
Australian Council for International Development, Australia  
Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, Australia  
Bahá'í International Community, Switzerland  
Banader Community Council, Somali, Germany  
Bureau of International Solidarity (BIS) of Marist Brothers, Italy  
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, Canada  
Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, Canada  
Casa Alianza, Honduras  
Center for Women's Global Leadership, USA

Centre de conseils et d'appui pour les jeunes en matière de droits de l'Homme, Switzerland  
Centre for Conflict Studies, Nepal  
Centre for Human Rights and Development (CHRD), Mongolia  
Centre for Organisation Research & Education, India  
Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE), Switzerland  
Centre québécois de formation pour les jeunes en matière de droit humain, Canada  
Centro de Derechos Humanos "Miguel Agustín Pro Juárez", Mexico  
Centro de Derechos Humanos Agustín Pro-Juarez, Mexico  
Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas, Brazil  
Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales (CELS), Argentina  
Centro para la Defensa del Consumidor, El Salvador  
Christian Life Community of the Philippines, Philippines  
CLAT-Nederland Solidarity with trade unions in Latin-America, Netherlands  
Collectif Inter - Associatif pour la Réalisation des Activités Scientifiques et Techniques Jeunes au Cameroun, Cameroon  
Colombian Commission of Jurists, Colombia  
Combined Legal Services Group, Australia  
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, India  
Comunidad Homosexual Argentina (CHA), Argentina  
Conectas Direitos Humanos, Brazil  
Conference of Non-Government Organisations, Switzerland  
Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, USA  
Consejo Indio de Sud America (Indian Council of South America), Peru  
Consultative Council of Jewish Organisations, United Kingdom  
Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos, Peru  
Corporación Humanas - Centro Regional de Derechos Humanos y Justicia de Género, Chile  
CRD (The Network of Chinese Human Rights Defenders), China  
Creating Resources for Empowerment in Action, India  
CRIN, Child Rights Information Network, United Kingdom  
Dana and Qadisiyah Local Community Cooperative, Jordan  
Defence of Children International, Palestine Section, Jerusalem  
Derechos Humanos del Centro de Asesoría Laboral del Perú, Peru  
Dominicans for Justice and Peace, Switzerland  
Earth Peoples - Indigenous Peoples Information sharing circle, USA  
Earthjustice, Switzerland  
ECPAT International, Thailand  
Egale Canada, Canada  
Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, Egypt  
EIP- Association mondiale pour l'école instrument de paix, Switzerland  
El Centro de Derechos Humanos Fray Bartolomé de Las Casas de Chiapas, Mexico  
El Colectivo de Abogados "Jose Alvear Restrepo" de Colombia, Colombia  
European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA), Germany  
Europe-Third World Center (CETIM), Switzerland  
FEDFAM, Argentina  
Federation Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme, France  
Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas Inc. (FAWCO), Netherlands  
Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants, Switzerland  
Femmes Africa Solidarité, Senegal  
Fisheries Union of Bengkulu, Indonesia  
Fondation Daniel Mitterrand, France  
Foodfirst Information and Action Network (FIAN), Germany  
Foro Ciudadano de Participación por la Justicia y los Derechos Humanos, Argentina  
Forum for Indigenous Perspectives and Action, India  
Forum Human Rights, Germany  
Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action, Australia  
Foundation Solidarity in Partnership for One World in Diversity, Germany  
Franciscans International, Switzerland  
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Germany  
Georgian Association of Women in Business, Georgia  
Global Alternate Information Applications, India  
Global Network for the Prevention of Torture, Bangladesh  
Global Rights, USA  
Global Welfare Association (GLOWA), Cameroon

Greek Helsinki Monitor, Greece  
Haut Commissariat d'Intervention Générale, Cameroon  
Homosexuelle Initiative (HOSI), Austria  
Human Development and Peace Campaign, Nepal  
Human Lactation Center, USA  
Human Rights Advocates, USA  
Human Rights Center "Citizens against Corruption", Kyrgyzstan  
Human Rights Center of Azerbaijan, Azerbaijan  
Human Rights Council of Australia, Australia  
Human Rights Monitoring Institute, Lithuania  
Human Rights Watch, USA  
Human Rights Without Frontiers, Nepal  
Humanity for Orphans, Youth and Widows Initiatives, Kenya  
ILGA Europe, Europe/Belgium  
IMPARSIAL, the Indonesian Human Rights Monitor, Indonesia  
Indonesia Legal Aid and Human Rights Association, Indonesia  
Indonesian Legal Aid Society Association, Indonesia  
Indonesia's NGO Coalition for International Human Rights Advocacy, Indonesia  
Information Monitor (INFORM), Sri Lanka  
Institute for Planetary Synthesis, Switzerland  
Inter-American Center for Human Rights, USA  
International Alliance of Women, Austria  
International Alliance of Women, Switzerland  
International Association for Religious Freedom, United Kingdom  
International Association for the Defense of Religious Liberty, Switzerland  
International Association Initiatives of Change, Switzerland  
International Association of Charities, Belgium  
International Association of Democratic Lawyers, France  
International Association of Schools of Social Work, Ethiopia  
International Association of the Universities of the Third Age, France  
International Campaign for Tibet Europe, Netherlands  
International Commission of Jurists – Danish section, Denmark  
International Commission of Jurists, Switzerland  
International Council of Women, Switzerland  
International Educational Development, Switzerland  
International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic, Religious, Linguistic and Other Minorities (IFPRERLOM), USA  
International Federation of Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture, France  
International Federation of Business and Professional Women, Thailand  
International Federation of Social Workers, Switzerland  
International Federation of University Women, Switzerland  
International Federation of Women Lawyers, Finland  
International Fellowship of Reconciliation, Netherlands  
International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, Austria  
International Humanist and Ethical Union, United Kingdom  
International Initiative for Visibility of Queer Muslims, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, Switzerland  
International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples, Switzerland  
International Lesbian and Gay Association, Belgium  
International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR), Japan  
International NGO Forum On Indonesian Development, Indonesia  
International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, Switzerland  
International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation, USA  
International Progress Organization, Austria  
International Protection Center, Russia  
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture (IRCT), Denmark  
International Save the Children Alliance, Switzerland  
International Service for Human Rights, Switzerland  
International Volunteerism Organization for Women Education and Development (VIDES), Italy  
International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRAP) Asia Pacific, Malaysia  
International Working Group on Sexuality and Social Policy, Brazil  
International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations, Switzerland  
Inter-religious International Federation for World Peace, Switzerland

Iqra Foundation, India  
Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation, Japan  
Justiça Global, Brazil  
KAREK, Kyrgyzstan  
Kingsford Legal Centre, Australia  
Korean Sexual-Minority Culture and Rights Center, Republic of Korea  
La Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos, Peru  
La Junta Directiva Regional del Foro de Mujeres del Mercosur, Paraguay  
L'Association Mondiale pour l'Ecole Instrument de Paix, Switzerland  
Law and People, Kyrgyzstan  
Law Association of Zambia, Zambia  
Law, Human Rights and Justice (HAK) Association, Timor Leste  
Legal Advisory Office for Popular Organisations (GAJOP), Brazil  
Legal Aid Office of Bengkulu, Indonesia  
Legal Aid Society of Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan  
Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany (LSVD), Germany  
Liberty Victoria (Victorian Council for Civil Liberties), Australia  
Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisemitisme, France  
Lutheran World Federation, Switzerland  
Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, USA  
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc, USA  
Medical Women's International Association (MWIA), Germany  
Mercy International Association, USA  
MINBYUN-Lawyers for a Democratic Society, Republic of Korea  
Minority Rights Group, Greece  
Mouvement contre le racisme et pour l'amitié entre le peuples (MRAP), France  
Mouvement Lao pour les Droits de l'Homme, France  
Movimiento Nacional por los Derechos Humanos de Guatemala, Guatemala  
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services Secretariat, Australia  
National Association of Community Legal Centres, Australia  
National Women's Lobby & Rights Group, Malawi  
Nederlands Juristen Comité voor de Mensenrechten, Netherlands  
Nepal Bar Association, Human Rights Committee, Nepal  
Nepal International Consumers Union, Nepal  
Nord-Sud XXI, Switzerland  
NSW Aboriginal Lands Council, Australia  
Odhikar, Bangladesh  
Order of Discalced Carmelites, Italy  
Organisation for Non-patriarchal Inter-faith Dialogue Logos, Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Organisation Mondiale Contre La Torture, Switzerland  
Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR), Palestine  
Pan Pacific and South East Asia Women's Association International, Switzerland  
Pax Christi International, Belgium  
Pax Romana, Switzerland  
People Who, USA  
People's Movement for Human Rights Learning, USA  
Philippine Coalition for the International Criminal Court, Philippines  
Physicians for Human Rights, USA  
Planetary Association for Clean Energy (PACE), Canada  
Prison Fellowship International, Switzerland  
ProGay Philippines, the Philippines  
Pusat Komus Community Communication Centre, Malaysia  
Rede Nacional Feminista de Saúde, Direitos Sexuais e Direitos Reprodutivos, Brazil  
Reporters Without Borders/Reporters sans frontières International, Switzerland  
Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, South Africa  
Rights Australia, Australia  
Romanian Independent Society of Human Rights, Romania  
Rural Initiatives in Sustainability and Empowerment, Pakistan  
Russian Research Center for Human Rights, Russia  
Safe Water for Africa Community Initiative, Nigeria  
Save Bombay Committee and Prakruti, India  
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Italy  
Sekretariat Anak Merdeka Indonesia (SAMIN), Indonesia

Shen Yang Ai Zhi Yuan Zhu Center for Health and Education, China  
Shimin Gaikou Centre (Citizens' Diplomatic Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), Japan  
Siberian Human Rights Network "Rights Society", Russia  
Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, USA  
Socialist International Women, United Kingdom  
Society for Human Assistance and Development, Pakistan  
Society for Threatened Peoples International, Luxemburg  
Soka Gakkai International, Japan  
Soroptimist International, United Kingdom  
Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM), Malaysia  
Sudan National Committee on Traditional Practices, Sudan  
Susila Dharma International, United Kingdom  
SVG-Human Rights Association, St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
Think Centre, Singapore  
Tibetan Women's Association of Ontario, Canada  
Transnational Radical Party, USA  
UN Watch, USA  
Unescocat - Unesco Centre of Catalonia, Spain  
Union Farmers of Bengkulu, Indonesia  
Union Internationale des Avocats, Belgium  
Universal Esperanto Association, Netherlands  
Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization, the Netherlands  
Women for Contemporary Society Association, Moldova  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Switzerland  
Women's International Zionist Organization, Israel  
Women's UN Report Network, USA  
Women's World Summit Foundation, Switzerland  
Women's Federation for World Peace International, Switzerland  
Women's Federation for World Peace International, USA  
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - Australian Section, Australia  
World Blind Union, Spain  
World Council of Churches, Switzerland  
World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women, USA  
World Federation of Occupational Therapists, Austria  
World Federation of the DeafBlind, Denmark  
World Federation of United Nations Associations, Switzerland  
World Forum of Civil Society Networks (UBUNTU), Spain  
World Movement of Mothers, France  
World Student Christian Federation. Switzerland  
World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations, France  
World Union of Progressive Judaism, Switzerland  
World Vision International, Switzerland  
World Young Women's Christian Association, Switzerland  
Worldwide Organization for Women, USA  
Yayasan Tanpa Batas, Indonesia  
Zi Teng, Hong Kong SAR, China  
Zonta International, USA