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Statement submitted by WOOMB International, 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

WOOMB International supports the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, which will in particular address the needs of women around the world. For more than sixty years we have worked to achieve these goals by the teaching of the Billings Ovulation Method® of natural fertility regulation.

Goal # 3 — Good Health and Wellbeing

Teaching girls and women to regulate their fertility naturally using the safe, simple and effective Billings Ovulation Method® ensures that their health is protected from the harmful effects of chemical contraceptives and interventionist reproductive techniques. They are given knowledge of their bodies which ensures they can regulate their fertility and monitor their reproductive health throughout their reproductive lives.

Goal # 4 — Quality Education

Quality education begins with knowledge about oneself from which flows self-esteem and empowerment. Teaching girls and women about the Billings Ovulation Method® ensures that they are empowered to control their own fertility and freed to pursue their dreams without the manipulation of their bodies inherent in contraception and assisted reproductive technologies.

Goal # 5 — Gender Equality

Men have always been assured of the power to control their own fertility, but women, particularly in developing nations, have been subjected to State-sanctioned programs of forced fertility control. Teaching women and girls the Billings Ovulation Method® ensures their equality with their male counterparts at least in this vital area of their lives, which gives them the strength to then seek equality in other areas.

Goal # 5 — Clean Water and Sanitation

Studies have shown that excess use of contraception has resulted in higher levels of synthetic oestrogen in waterways that has resulted in damage to crops and fish stocks and therefore to humans drinking the water. Use of the Billings Ovulation Method® to control fertility can eradicate the need for chemical contraception.

Goal # 8 — Decent Work and Economic Growth

Women who can control their fertility using the Billings Ovulation Method® with no harmful effects on their health are empowered to seek decent work to improve the economic status of their families. This is of particular importance in countries where too often young girls are forced into the sex-trade to support their families.

Goal # 10 — Reduced Inequalities

Why is it that, in developing nations, States and corporations are free to impose draconian fertility control programs on girls and women which they would

never dream of doing in developed nations? These women have the same inherent dignity and rights as their sisters in richer countries and deserve the same respect. Teaching them the Billings Ovulation Method® ensures that they are empowered to choose in the same way that more affluent women take for granted.

Goal # 17 — Partnership for Goals

WOOMB International stands ready to partner with any State or institution in bringing the Billings Ovulation Method® to women and girls anywhere in the world. We currently have programs in more than 40 countries — see <http://www.woombinternational.org/global-outreach/billings-ovulation-method%E2%84%A2-affiliated-teaching-centres-worldwide.html>
