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**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”**

**Statement submitted by Ten by Three, 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.

**Commented [A1]:** Insert the official name of your organization here; All other elements of the cover page need to stay unchanged.

\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

## Statement

### Justice by Design, Making Rights Usable

Ten by Three submits three key ideas. Access to justice is real only when women can use it. Economic independence is the legal enabler of that use. A tested 10 × 3 approach delivers dignity based, intergenerational results that align with the Commission on the Status of Women, seventieth session, 2026, priority theme on access to justice.

For many women, legal rights remain out of reach because poverty blocks the path to filing fees, land registration, redress, and participation in decision making. In the past, some empowerment models unintentionally required women to diminish themselves, physically, emotionally, and financially, in order to qualify for support. Justice requires dignity.

Justice by Design, as we define it, aligns legal pathways, market entry, and women's income so that rights become usable in daily life. This alignment connects courts, land and asset titling, safe marketplaces, and inclusive procurement with women owned enterprise creation. Our 10 × 3 implementation uses dignity wages, benchmarked at 2.5 times fair trade rates, and supports three independent enterprises per participant.

Over more than twenty years of practice, this approach has graduated 9,200 women from extreme poverty, sustained 3,000 active artisans, and generated approximately 150,000 streams of income. Each enterprise produces, on average, four additional income streams in its community.

Economic independence enables legal action. With reliable income a woman can pay a filing fee, secure or defend a land title, refuse a coerced marriage, and take her seat where decisions are made. This supports the priority theme on access to justice and the review

theme on participation and the elimination of violence. This commitment includes women in rural and informal economies, women with disabilities, and those affected by crisis or conflict.

We propose four measures for agreed conclusions and implementation.

1) Fair price, paid on time. Use dignity price benchmarks as guidance in evaluation, not as administered prices. Where public contracts are used, require payment within fifteen days, or the nearest legally permitted standard, with automatic interest thereafter.

2) Women to market pathways. Add a women owned vendor flag, simplify onboarding, enable micro lots for first time suppliers, and list women made goods in a national catalogue.

3) Direct income and enterprise multipliers. Ensure payments go directly to women's bank or mobile money on verified delivery and invoice match. Support models where each earner builds three enterprises, with light touch verification and peer mentorship. Publish a simple public dashboard each quarter showing on time payment rates, enterprises started and sustained, and other outcomes for women and girls.

4) Law and market alignment. Reform property and inheritance laws and guarantee market entry through licensing access, collateral alternatives, and registries that recognize women owned firms. A right without a route is not a right.

Ten by Three stands ready to collaborate with interested Member States at their request, including pilots that align legal pathways and market access with the 10 × 3 approach. Countries expressing interest include Uganda, Ghana, and India.

Prioritize dignity based, evidence backed models that convert legal rights into lived justice. Finance formulas that work, so that access to justice becomes attainable for all women and girls.