

Attachment 7b

**INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN
ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES**

Equal Rights – Equal Responsibilities
Droits Egaux – Responsabilités Egales

ACTION PROGRAMME 2018-2020

Adopted at the XXXVII Congress, Nicosia, Cyprus, October 2017

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLE

Women's rights are human rights.

Human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The International Alliance of Women (IAW) affirms that full and equal enjoyment of human rights – as laid down in treaties, conventions and declarations – is due to all women and girls. The IAW maintains that a prerequisite to securing those rights is the universal ratification and implementation without reservation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). IAW and its members urge governments to ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.

The 2030 Development Agenda of the UN aims to transform the world. Gender equality and women's empowerment are recognised as a precondition to this transformation and as part of the SDG goals.

The IAW calls on its members to monitor the fulfilment of all these commitments and to hold governments accountable for their realisations. The IAW faces dramatic new challenges to its goal of achieving equal rights and equal responsibilities for women due to a violent backlash against women's human rights in recent years.

We call on governments, the private sector, international financial institutions and our members to work for a macro-economic model that does not put profits over the interests and needs of people in particular of women, and promotes a culture of peace, justice and respect for human rights.