## 3) RESOLUTION ON CONTINUING EDUCATION Proposed by the Philippine Association of University Women

The 26<sup>th</sup> Conference resolves:

that concerns about child abuse, child labour, sexual and economic exploitation of women, obscenity and pornography, and HIV/AIDS be subjects for continuing education and involvement of university women in social issues.

Supporting statement:

- 1. Child abuse and child labour develop and nurture inhumanity among adults who have been given the task by God to care for His little ones. These lead to children's lack of faith in themselves and lack of power to create a better future. Child abuse and child labor steal away children's most important period in life, their childhood, which is the wellspring and foundation of a secure and humane society.
- 2. Sexual and economic exploitation of women, obscenity and pornography reduce women, who are the mothers of generations, into commodities who merely exist for male pleasure. They are even branded as the cause of man's downfall. Life and the world are female and male and no one has the right to exploit another. A dynamic partnership between women and men must be established if the world is to achieve meaningful social transformation.
- 3. HIV/AIDS is the scourge of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and all peoples must be awakened to the evils it causes. Above all, they must know that stopping it is within their power primarily by disallowing their moral values to break down.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

4) RESOLUTION ON PROMOTING VIOLENCE-FREE FAMILY LIFE Proposed by the New Zealand Federation of University Women

The 26<sup>th</sup> Conference resolves:

that all NFAs promote the development and implementation of programmes that address the problem of domestic violence with particular reference to the human rights of women and girls and that these programmes be concerned specifically with:

- demanding legislation and adequate resources to prevent domestic violence and to protect the victims;
- encouraging research by governments, universities and private institutions into the incidence, causes, nature and effects of family violence;
- 3. addressing the social conditions that lead to family violence;

- raising awareness through the media, seminars and study programmes of the increasing levels of violence against women and girls;
- ensuring that, because of the widespread and increasing incidence of family violence in many societies, education for the peaceful resolution of conflict is included in school curricula at all levels;
- 6. developing and supporting strategies whose effectiveness is proven in breaking self-perpetuating patterns of family violence.

Supporting statements:

Clear mandates for ensuring violence-free family life are enshrined within United Nations Conventions. Statements of common positions from regional meetings and from national conferences reinforce the need for strategies to promote conflict resolution within the family. In this fiftieth anniversary year of the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration of Human Rights of particular relevance are:

- 1. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, Article 19.1. requires that "States Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of mental or physical violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parents (or any other person who has the care of the child)." Article 19.2 requires the establishment of appropriate social programmes for the prevention of abuse and treatment of victims."
- 2. The United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women Article 5 states "States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to: (a) to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view to achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the superiority of either of the sexes or the stereotyped roles for men and women."
- 3. The Beijing Platform for Action paragraph 112 states: "Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms."
- 4. The Asia-Pacific Watch Meeting in Chandigarh 9-11 January 1998 statement of common position in its preamble demands "the full realisation of the rights of women, equal status of women in fact and law, and equal participation in decision-making within the family and other arenas, male and female responsibilities for the harmonious and healthy upbringing of the child in an environment free of intra-family discrimination of the girl child conducive to the realisation of her rights.
- 5. This resolution reaffirms IFUW Resolutions 8.12 (1992 No 19) and 8.15 (1995 No 18) regarding violence against women, however a) extending them specifically to include girls, and b) focusing on family violence.