POLICY RESOLUTION 8 – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, ALSO KNOWN AS GLOBAL GOALS

Proposed by: Canadian Federation of University Women
Seconded by: Federacion Mexicana de Universitarias

The 33rd Graduate Women International General Assembly resolves that:

National Federations and Associations (NFAs) urge their respective governments to uphold their commitments to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, also known as Global Goals, both with their countries and internationally, to ensure that the established targets of these goals are accelerated and achieved before 2030, by, including but not limited to,

1. Increasing its Official Development Assistance (ODA) to 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) as adopted by a resolution of the UN General Assembly in 1970, and
2. Ensuring that any country/state receiving aid a) Is involved in the planning and delivery of identified aid b) Is accountable for their adherence to the implementation of the SDG’s c) Guarantees that women have leadership roles within the process;
3. Implementing achievable, realistic plans of action, that have been developed in conjunction with local jurisdictions, Indigenous nations and civil society, that are published and promoted; and
4. Developing mechanisms to ensure accountability for money spent and progress achieved, both nationally and internationally.

Suggested Plan of Action

1. NFAs should partner with other NGOs and human rights organizations to support and facilitate advocacy campaigns to support the achievement of SDGs.
2. NFAs should write to their local government representatives and United Nations organizations about the need to uphold the SDGs.
3. NFAs should encourage academic research and write backgrounders on their local governments’ successes or failures in adopting SDGs.

Supporting Statement:

The Sustainable Development Goals outline 17 goals with 169 associated targets that are the successor to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. These goals include targets to end poverty, hunger, promote healthy lives, and empower women and girls. On September 25, 2015, the 193 countries of the United Nations, adopted Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This Agenda included the Means of Implementation, the Follow-up and the Review for 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their targets.

The SDGs cover the Millennium Development Goals, but with more robust targets, including energy, economic growth, industrialization, cities and human settlements, oceans, land and ecosystems. The
MDGs were aimed at the poorest nations, but the SDGs are far more comprehensive, setting goals and targets that affect even wealthy nations.

Sustainable development has been a major world concern since the Brundtland Commission report, Our Common Future, in 1987 first defined it as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” The goals and targets of the SDGs will provide the world with a roadmap to success, with this being tracked by civil society organizations such as ours as well as the United Nations through the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), and the signing nations themselves.