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and welcoming also the initiative taken by the Secretary-General in 2008 to launch the multi-year campaign “UNiTE to End Violence Against Women”,

*Taking note* of the outcome of the 2008 high-level meeting on HIV/AIDS,

*Recalling* all previous resolutions on this subject,

*Reaffirming* that prevention, treatment, care and support for people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS are mutually reinforcing elements of an effective response that must be integrated into a comprehensive approach to combat the epidemic, and recognizing the need to ensure the respect, protection and fulfilment of human rights in the context of HIV and AIDS,

*Recognizing* that populations destabilized by armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, including refugees, internally displaced persons and, in particular, women and children, are increasingly vulnerable to HIV infection,

*Deeply concerned* by the increased vulnerability to HIV infection faced by women and girls living with disabilities resulting from, inter alia, legal and economic inequalities, sexual and gender-based violence, discrimination and violations of their rights,

*Deeply concerned also* that the global HIV and AIDS pandemic disproportionately affects women and girls and that the majority of new HIV infections occur among young people,

*Concerned* that the vulnerability of women and girls to HIV is increased by their unequal legal, economic and social status, including poverty as well as other cultural and physiological factors, violence against women and girls and adolescents, early marriage, child and forced marriage, premature and early sexual relations, commercial sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation,

*Concerned also* that HIV infection rates are at least twice as high among young people, especially young and married women, who do not finish primary school as among those who do,

*Concerned further* that women and girls are more vulnerable to HIV and have different and unequal access to the use of health resources for the prevention of HIV infection and treatment of and care and support for people living with HIV and affected by AIDS,

*Stressing* that the HIV and AIDS pandemic, with its devastating scale and impact on women and girls, requires urgent action across all internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in all fields and at all levels,

*Stressing also* that gender equality and the political, social and economic empowerment of women and girls are fundamental elements in the reduction of their vulnerability to HIV and are essential to reversing the pandemic,

*Expressing its concern* that the HIV and AIDS pandemic reinforces gender inequalities, that women and girls are disproportionately affected by the pandemic, that they are more easily infected, especially at an earlier age than men and boys, that they bear the disproportionate burden of caring for and supporting people living with and affected by HIV and AIDS and that they become more vulnerable to poverty as a result of the pandemic,



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inclusion in national development plans, including poverty reduction strategies and sector-wide approaches, where they exist, as a necessary strategy for fighting the HIV and AIDS pandemic and mitigating its impact on the population, which could result in more relevant and cost-effective interventions with greater impact;

9. *Urges* Governments to strengthen initiatives that would increase the capacities of women and adolescent girls to protect themselves from HIV infection, principally through the provision of health care and health services, including for sexual and reproductive health, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, and that integrate HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support and include voluntary counselling and testing, including through prevention education that promotes gender equality within a culturally and gender-sensitive framework;

10. *Urges* Governments and other relevant stakeholders to address the situation faced by girls caring for people living with or affected by HIV and AIDS,

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for women and girls, and to collect data on treatment disaggregated by age, sex, marital status and continuity of care;

17. *Requests* Governments to promote and provide equal and equitable access for all persons, throughout their life cycle, to social services related to health care, including education, clean water and safe sanitation, nutrition, food security and health, education programmes and social protection schemes, especially for women and girls living with or affected by HIV and AIDS, including prevention and treatment for opportunistic infections and other HIV-related diseases;

18. *Calls upon* Governments to intensify efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and girls in relation to HIV and AIDS, including through challenging gender stereotypes, stigmatization, discriminatory attitudes and gender inequalities, and to encourage the active involvement of men and boys in this regard;

19. *Stresses* that women and girls should be empowered to protect themselves against violence and that, in this regard, women have the right to exercise control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including their sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence;

20. *Calls upon* all Governments and the international donor community to integrate a gender perspective in all matters of international assistance and cooperation and to take measures to ensure that resources commensurate with the impact of HIV and AIDS on women and girls are made available, in particular in funding provided to national HIV and AIDS programmes designed to promote and protect the human rights of women and girls in the context of the epidemic, to promote economic opportunities for women, including to diminish their financial vulnerability and their risk of exposure to HIV, and to achieve the gender-related goals set out, inter alia, in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS;

21. *Calls upon* Governments to integrate HIV prevention, voluntary counselling and voluntary testing of HIV into other health services, including sexual and reproductive health, family planning, maternity and tuberculosis services, as well as the provision of services for the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections in the mother-to-child transmission services for pregnant women living with HIV;

22. *Encourages* the continued collaboration among the Secretariat and co-sponsors of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and other international organizations with a view to their continuing to scale up efforts to reduce the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, in particular in the context of emergency situations and as part of humanitarian efforts, and their actively seeking the achievement of results for women and girls, and also encourages the integration of the mainstreaming of a gender perspective throughout their work;

23. *Welcomes* the decision of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to scale up a gender-sensitive response to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in order to address the vulnerabilities of women and girls to HIV infection;

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24. *Requests* the Secretariat and co-sponsors of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and other United Nations organizations responding to the HIV and AIDS pandemic, as well as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, to mainstream a gender and human rights perspective throughout their HIV- and AIDS-related operations, including policy, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and to ensure that programmes and policies are developed and adequately resourced to address the specific needs of women and girls;

25. *Calls upon* Member States to accelerate action on women, girls, gender equality and HIV, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;

26. *Recommends* the development and use of gender analysis, the harmonization of data, and the development and refinement of indicators as part of the process to update the core indicators on HIV and AIDS for the reporting system for the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, to help measure women's and girls' inequalities in the context of HIV;

27. *Encourages* the United Nations to continue to support national monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in the context of the "three ones" principles; to enable the production and dissemination of data on HIV/AIDS in line with the

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infection and reproductive ill health, in full partnership with young persons, parents, families, educators and health-care providers;

32. *Calls for* enhanced efforts by all relevant actors to include a gender perspective in the development of HIV and AIDS programmes and policies and in the training of personnel involved in implementing such programmes, including by focusing on the role of men and boys in addressing HIV and AIDS;

33. *Encourages* Governments and all other relevant actors to promote funding, both domestically and externally, and to support and expedite action-oriented research leading to affordable, safe and effective methods controlled by women to prevent HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, including use of microbicides and vaccines, and research on strategies that empower women to protect themselves from sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, and methods of care, support and treatment for women of various ages, and to promote their involvement in all aspects of such research;

34. *Encourages* Governments to increase the provision of resources and facilities to women who find themselves having to provide care and/or economic support for those infected with HIV or affected by the pandemic and to address the challenges faced by the survivors and caregivers, in particular children and older persons, as well as to ensure the balanced sharing of the provision of care by both men and women;

35. *Emphasizes* the negative impact of HIV-related stigma, especially for women and girls, in seeking and accessing HIV and AIDS programmes, and urges Governments to develop and implement policies and programmes designed to eliminate HIV-related stigma and discrimination, so as to ensure that the dignity, rights and privacy of people living with HIV and affected by AIDS, in particular women and girls, especially in the context of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, are protected;

36. *Urges* Governments to continue to promote the participation and the significant contribution of people living with HIV, young people and civil society actors, in particular women's organizations, in addressing the problem of HIV and AIDS in all its aspects, including promoting a gender perspective, and to promote their full involvement and participation in the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of HIV and AIDS programmes, as well as in creating an enabling environment for combating stigmatization;

37. *Urges* Governments, the donor community and relevant entities of the United Nations system to prioritize programmes addressing the specific needs of women and girls in HIV response, to ensure resources to support the development of capacities of women's organizations for HIV and AIDS programme development and implementation, and to streamline funding procedures and requirements that will facilitate resource flows to community-level services;

38. *Also urges* Governments, the donor community and relevant entities of the United Nations system to ensure that gender-equality implications are a key component of research, implementation and evaluation of new prevention methods and that such new prevention methods are part of a comprehensive approach to HIV prevention that protects and supports the rights of women and girls;

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