



STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMANDS OF THE WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN IN THE YEAR 2000



The President of Nike owns US \$4.5 billion in assets, including an annual salary of US \$1 million. An Indonesian woman working in one of the many sub-contracting firms throughout the world earns the equivalent of US \$360 per year. She would have to work for 15 centuries to have the same salary as the President of Nike.

Women represent half of the world's population and toil for 2/3rds of the world's working hours. Women earn only 1/10th of the world's income and own less than 1/100th of the world's wealth.

DEMAND 1 AGAINST POVERTY

The delegates of the AEU Federal Women's Conference, Melbourne, 30th September and 1st October 2000, demand that the United Nations and its Member States take concrete measures to:

ELIMINATE poverty and **ENSURE** a fair distribution of the planet's wealth between the rich and the poor and between women and men, girls and boys.

Violence against women means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. Violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women and their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Violence against women is universal reality that is a consequence of historically unequal relations between women and men. Violence arises from a patriarchal system that has, and still, exerts control over women's lives.

Violence effects all women and girls regardless of race, culture, creed and sexuality.

Violence can come in many forms and affects both the physical and psychological well-being of women and its forms may be subtle.

DEMAND 2 AGAINST VIOLENCE

The delegates of the AEU Federal Women's Conference, Melbourne, 30th September and 1st October 2000, demand that the United Nations and its Member States take concrete measures to:

ELIMINATE violence against women and girls and **ENSURE** equality between women and men, girls and boys.

And finally

The delegates of the AEU Federal Women's Conference, Melbourne, 30th September and 1st October 2000, endorse the statement from the Australian World March of Women 2000, National Committee.

In the spirit of reconciliation, the women working together in Australia for the World March of Women in the Year 2000, wish to acknowledge the anguish of the stolen generations and the pervasive impact of previous policies of white Australia which continue to affect all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to this day. In particular, we wish to convey to the stolen generations our firm stand in support with you... We deeply regret the hurtful and blind statements on the part of our Prime Minister and the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs. **We are sorry.**