

Statement of Women Concerned About the Global Crisis

Population control policies are driven by manipulative motives, to reduce the numbers of the poor in Africa. Asia and Latin America and poor. non-white populations in” Northern” industrialised countries.

Problems of economic development and environmental degradation are blamed on the numbers of people in the so called Third World” while dominant consumption patterns are not on the agenda for discussion and are not questioned.

Destructive Industrialisation processes and technologies are depleting renewable and non renewable resources of the planet at a tremendous pace.

Increasing national and global resources are being diverted towards militarisation. with the continuing vested interest of armament industries in encouraging and supporting local and international conflicts.

The debt problem, the IMF/ World Bank conditionalities and the imposition of structural adjustment policies, have systematically undermined the provision of social services and have led to increasing poverty and the death of large numbers of people especially children.

In order to achieve population control goals, new provider controlled, longer term, irreversible contraceptives

with tremendous potential for abuse are being developed. promoted and imposed on women. Population control policies, research and implementation at the international and national levels is male dominated. As a result women become sites of experimentation and are

Women’s fertility is seen as the central problem and they are held responsible for solving problems of development and the environmental crisis in which we find the world today.

exposed to considerable health risks from use of harmful contraceptives.

Therefore we believe that there cannot possibly be a feminist population policy.

The real issues of the present global crisis are the unsustainable economic growth

model which generates and sustains an unequal and unfair system of exchange and allocation of resources between and within nations.

The existing and growing focus on population as the major problem results in the diversion of resources from the meeting of the basic needs of millions of people all over the world

[This was drafted by a group of women from different countries who met at 7th International Women’s Health Meeting held in Kampala, Uganda during September, 1993. This paper was circulated at a workshop on population for further discussion. While major economic points were raised in this paper, the drafting body and the suggestions from the participants included the recognition to the demands for women’s right for safe contraception methods and facilities to be provided to all the women around the world irrespective of the class, race and socio-economic positions.

This paper is more focused on raising the economic and political concern women have all over the world for their own situation and for the entire world. Women must be united to change the present world economic system that is creating misery to all.]