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COUNCIL OF THE
W.I.D.F.
Vienna
20.12.52.

RESOLUTION ON THE CONVENING
OF THE WORLD CONGRESS OF WOMEN

The Council of the Women's International Democratic Federation meeting in Vienna on December 20th 1952 decides to convene the World Congress of Women in June 1953 in Denmark.

This Congress will be the Congress of all women; it will reflect their interests, their aspirations regarding their rights, the well-being of their peoples, the happiness of their children and a peaceful and secure life.

It will unite them:

FOR THE WINNING AND DEFENCE OF THEIR RIGHTS
FOR THE PROTECTION OF THEIR CHILDREN AND HOMES
FOR A PEACEFUL WORLD !

It will discuss the strengthening of the fight for the winning and defence of the rights of women as mothers, workers, citizens. It will sum up the activities of the women's movement in defence of children, of their homes and peace and will set the tasks for the development of these activities.

The Council calls upon our national organisations immediately to commence preparations for this Congress and widely to popularise the Appeal convening it, which it has addressed to the women of the whole world.

It recommends them actively to support and carry out the decisions of the Congress of the Peoples for Peace, in particular that which demands the signing of a Peace Pact between the 5 Great Powers.

It calls upon them to unite millions of women and to draw them into support for the preparation of the World Congress of Women in order to ensure its success and so that its preparation and its work contribute to the broadening of the women's democratic movement.

The winning and defence of their rights concern all women. The Council considers it necessary to address each woman so that she can make her contribution to the preparation of the World Congress of Women, to approach all women, whether organised or not, and to involve all prominent women, trade union and co-operative organisations, organisations and movements which fight for peace and women's rights.

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All women, who want to be able to express their will for peace, understand that it is necessary for them to play an ever-increasing part in the economic, social and political life of their countries and that, to this end, they must demand their full rights.

They are demanding their political and civil rights: the right to vote and to be elected, the right of association and expression, the right to education, the rights of the married woman, the rights of the mother in relation to her children;

They are demanding their social and economic rights: the right to work and to full employment, the right to a salary, the right to adequate purchasing power, the right to professional training, to entry into all professions with the possibility of promotion, to equal payment for equal work, industrial legislation, the introduction of progress in the countryside, the establishment and development of social security and social services (maternity homes, hospitals, nurseries, school canteens) etc.

In the colonial and dependent countries and all other countries where women are deprived of all, or almost all their rights, they will act untiringly to obtain them. They will draw in the women to demand their political, economic and social rights; they will demand the protection of mother and child, the recognition of the right of women to education, their right to work and protective industrial legislation, in carrying forward, along with their peoples, the fight for national independence.

In the countries where the rights recognised by the Constitutions are insufficiently respected, they will demand the application of the law and the implementation of new laws, as well as measures guaranteeing their application.

In those where women enjoy full rights, they will prove worthy of these rights by their still more active participation in the development and prosperity of their countries and in the defence of peace.

To this end the Council recommends to the national organisations:

— to launch a wide campaign of discussion and investigation regarding the conditions and demands of women;

— to expose the various theories which tend to exclude women from the economic, social and political life of their countries;

— to organise thousands of meetings, to collect signatures to petitions, to multiply all actions which will mobilise public opinion and enable them to place demands before governments and parliaments;

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- to make special efforts to reach out to large numbers of working and peasant women and to organise national, regional and local conferences in industry, agriculture and amongst other categories of women workers, in co-operation with the trade union and peasant organisations, drawing in all women and women's organisations;

- to organise national, regional and local committees which will facilitate the involving of still greater numbers of women in the defence of women's rights, in solidarity actions towards the women who are fighting for their rights, for national independence and for peace;

- to develop the feeling of mutual trust and understanding between women, to fight against misleading information, calumnies and lies;

- to continue and intensify activities for the defence of children; consistently to support the activities of national and local children's committees, and help in the creation of new committees, and to give full support to the carrying out of the decisions of the International Conference in Defence of Children.

The Council calls upon all our national organisations and upon all women, to make the planning and celebration of March 8th 1953 an important step in the preparation of the World Congress of Women.

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Adopted unanimously.

So that all women may be represented at the World Congress of Women, it is necessary that the national delegations to this Congress include women of different professions, from town and country, different opinions, beliefs, and social backgrounds; that where possible they should be elected and mandated from meetings, conferences and gatherings.

Every initiative must be taken (collections, sales of stamps, badges, bazaars and fetes etc.) to provide the means of sending large delegations to the Congress.

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TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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