
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

HONORING THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF ACTION ON THE OCCASION OF ITS
FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY AND URGING THE UNITED STATES TO RE-
COMMIT TO THE ERADICATION OF GLOBAL POVERTY AND GENDER
INEQUALITY.

1 WHEREAS, the United Nations International Conference on
2 Population and Development was held from September 5 to 13,
3 1994, in Cairo, Egypt and the consensus that was reached at the
4 conference is widely referred to as the "Cairo Consensus"; and
5

6 WHEREAS, during this two-week period, world leaders, high
7 ranking officials, representatives of non-governmental
8 organizations and United Nations agencies representing one
9 hundred seventy-nine countries reached consensus on a sixteen-
10 chapter Program of Action that set out a series of recommended
11 actions on population and development, including those that lead
12 to sustained economic growth within the context of sustainable
13 development, protection of the integrity of the family,
14 combating HIV/AIDS, protecting the health of adolescents, and
15 closing the gender gap in education; and
16

17 WHEREAS, fifteen principles emerged from the International
18 Conference on Population and Development as follows:
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20 (1) Principle 1 states that all human beings are born free
21 and equal in dignity and rights, including all the
22 rights and freedoms of the Universal Declaration of
23 Human Rights, and have the right to life, liberty, and
24 security of person;
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26 (2) Principle 2 calls on all states to ensure that all
27 individuals are given the opportunity to make the most
28 of their potential, since human beings are at the



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1 center of concerns for sustainable development, and
2 they are the most valuable resource of any nation;
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4 (3) Principle 3 states that the right to development is a
5 universal and inalienable right and an integral part
6 of fundamental human rights, and the human person is
7 the central subject of development;
8

9 (4) Principle 4 calls for advanced gender equality and
10 equity and the empowerment of women, and the
11 elimination of all kinds of violence against women.
12 The human rights of women and the girl-child are an
13 inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of
14 universal human rights;
15

16 (5) Principle 5 states that population-related goals and
17 policies are integral parts of cultural, economic, and
18 social development, the principal aim of which is to
19 improve the quality of life of all people;
20

21 (6) Principle 6 identifies sustainable development as a
22 means to ensure human well being. States should
23 reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of
24 production and consumption and promote appropriate
25 policies in order to meet the needs of current
26 generations without compromising the ability of future
27 generations to meet their own needs;
28

29 (7) Principle 7 calls on all states to cooperate in the
30 essential task of eradicating poverty as an
31 indispensable requirement for sustainable development;
32

33 (8) Principle 8 states that everyone has the right to the
34 enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of
35 physical and mental health and that states should take
36 all appropriate measures to ensure universal access to
37 health-care services, including those related to
38 reproductive health care, family planning, and sexual
39 health;
40

41 (9) Principle 9 states that the family is the basic unit
42 of society, and as such, should be strengthened. In
43 different cultural, political, and social systems,
44 various forms of the family exist;



- 1
2 (10) Principle 10 states that everyone has the right to
3 education, which shall be directed to the full
4 development of human resources, and human dignity and
5 potential, with particular attention to women and the
6 girl-child;
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- 8 (11) Principle 11 calls on states and families to give the
9 highest priority to children. The child has the right
10 to the highest attainable standards of health and the
11 right to education;
12
- 13 (12) Principle 12 calls on states receiving documented
14 migrants to provide proper treatment and adequate
15 social welfare services for them and their families,
16 and to ensure their physical safety and security,
17 bearing in mind the special circumstances and needs of
18 countries, and, in particular, those of developing
19 countries;
20
- 21 (13) Principle 13 states that everyone has the right to
22 seek and enjoy in other countries asylum from
23 persecution. States have responsibilities with
24 respect to refugees, as set forth in the Geneva
25 Convention on the Status of Refugees;
26
- 27 (14) Principle 14 calls on states to consider the
28 development and population needs of indigenous people,
29 to recognize and support their identity, culture, and
30 interests, and enable them to participate fully in the
31 economic, political, and social life of the country,
32 particularly where their health, education, and well-
33 being are affected;
34
- 35 (15) Principle 15 requires that, in the context of
36 sustainable development and social progress, sustained
37 economic growth be broadly based, offering equal
38 opportunities to all people. All states should
39 recognize their common but differentiated
40 responsibilities and the developed countries
41 acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the
42 international pursuit of sustainable development; and
43



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1 WHEREAS, a review of progress since the Cairo Consensus has
2 provided growing evidence that the International Conference on
3 Population and Development agenda is practical and realistic and
4 that, despite all obstacles, it is being put into practice; and
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6 WHEREAS, the review included reports on national
7 implementation efforts, global expert meetings, and an
8 international forum at The Hague, culminating in a special
9 session of the United Nations General Assembly from June 30 to
10 July 2, 1999, which identified key actions needed for further
11 progress; and
12

13 WHEREAS, demographic factors, such as today's unprecedented
14 numbers of young people, aging populations, urbanization, and
15 international migration, are crucial to plans for alleviating
16 poverty, providing basic social services, ensuring food
17 security, conserving resources, and protecting the environment;
18 and
19

20 WHEREAS, in the years after the Cairo Conference, many
21 countries have adopted new development policies incorporating
22 population concerns, nearly half have reviewed their policies on
23 population and development, and more than a third have updated
24 policies to be consistent with the goals of the International
25 Conference on Population and Development; and
26

27 WHEREAS, furthermore, two thirds of countries have
28 introduced policy or legislative measures to promote gender
29 equality and the empowerment of women; and
30

31 WHEREAS, nearly all countries in Latin America have
32 introduced policy measures, legislation, or institutional
33 changes to protect women's rights; and
34

35 WHEREAS, more than half of Asian countries and a number of
36 African countries have acted to protect women's rights in areas
37 like inheritance, property, and employment; and
38

39 WHEREAS, a number of countries have taken steps to
40 increase's men's responsibility for their sexual and
41 reproductive behavior and social and family roles;
42



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1 WHEREAS, much more significant progress remains to be made
 2 to fully implement the goals of the International Conference on
 3 Population and Development Program of Action; now, therefore,
 4

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 6 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 7 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature hereby
 8 honors the International Conference on Population and
 9 Development Program of Action on the occasion of its fifteenth
 10 anniversary and urges the United States to re-commit to the
 11 eradication of global poverty and gender inequality; and
 12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary General of
 15 the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations
 16 Population Fund, the President of the United States, the
 17 Honorable Barbara Lee, Representative from California, and
 18 members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.
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OFFERED BY:

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Barbara Lee

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JAN 15 2010

