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Altrusa International
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Armenian International Women’s Association
Associated Country Women of the World
Baha’i International Community
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
International Alliance of Women (IAW)
International Association of Women in Radio and Television
International Council of Women
International Federation for Home Economics
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres (IFS)
International Federation of University Women
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United Nations Association of the United States of America
Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund
World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
World Union for Progressive Judaism
World Young Women’s Christian Association
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In the course of three decades, UNIFEM’s efforts in more than 100 countries, from Liberia to Afghanistan, have touched the lives of countless women. UNIFEM has helped raise awareness of gender-based violence, and helped women speak up against it. It has promoted women’s political participation, and worked for their economic empowerment. It played a key role in the passage of Security Council resolution 1325, which placed firmly on the agenda the needs of women in societies in armed conflict, while creating a political framework for women’s role in peacebuilding. We join women around the world in offering thanks and best wishes to UNIFEM on its 30th anniversary.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan & Mrs Nane Annan

UNIFEM is a long-standing and trusted friend. The organization stood with Liberia’s women in the lead-up to the election, supporting, contributing, encouraging. The help it gave to Liberia testifies to the importance of a strong women’s fund at the United Nations. Women, my strong constituency, tell me that they want the same chances that men have. They want to be literate. They want their work recognized. They want protection against rape. They want clean water that won’t sicken and kill their children. I pray this can happen. The women of Liberia and the women of Africa from all walks of life share their trust and confidence in our ability to succeed. I know that UNIFEM will be there for the long journey.

H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President, Republic of Liberia

The transformation that has taken place in the lives of Afghan women over the past four years is owed to the resilience and determination of Afghan women and men, and to the valuable support they have received from the international community. I thank UNIFEM and all other international organizations without whose help this global effort to empower the Afghan women would not have succeeded.

H.E. Hamid Karzai, President, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Humanity will never truly advance unless it ceases treating women, as well as the challenges they face, casually - often catering to them and their needs only for the sake of political expediency (when requiring the women’s vote at election time, for example) and not because it understands that women have rights and aspirations equal to those of men. If only we can realize that simple point, and react to it accordingly, it would stand as the first notable, great achievement of the twenty-first century. To support UNIFEM is tantamount to moving humanity decisively in that direction.

H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra’ad Zeid Al-Hussein, Ambassador, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Chair, UNIFEM Consultative Committee

United Nations Development Fund for Women
UNIFEM

30 Years of Challenge
Years of Change

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