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## American Model United Nations General Assembly Third Committee

GA Third/II/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Third Committee

The General Assembly Third Committee,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Considering United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4), Quality Education, which aims to increase the number of qualified teachers,

Reaffirming SDG 4.6, ensuring that all youth and a sustainable proportion of adults of all genders achieve literacy and numeracy,

Recognizing disparities in access to quality education for women and indigenous peoples, especially for Indigenous women,

Emphasizing the right of indigenous peoples to practice and revitalize their culture as written in Article 11 of the United Nations Declaration on the Right of Indigenous Peoples, and building off of Article 14 of the same document that indigenous peoples have the right to educate in their own language,

Acknowledging that states have multiple official and/or indigenous languages,

Fully aware that States hold sovereignty and unique existing education infrastructure,

Noting that native speakers know their languages best and understand the importance of preserving that knowledge,

Stressing that access to childcare in order to pursue this education is a barrier and women are often caretakers,

Emphasizing UN Women's efforts in promoting women's empowerment through the establishment of Early Childhood Development Centers (ECDs) that provide educational childcare,

Deeply concerned by the fact that, according to UNESCO's Institute for Lifelong Learning, an estimated 754 million youth and adults are illiterate, two thirds of which are women,

Recalling resolution 77/192 that outlines that literacy of life is a human right that should be accessible to all,

- 1. Suggests the prioritization of educator training programs which stress the incorporation of bilingualism within the classroom;
- 2. Moves for Member States to invest more in educational programs such as the one proposed as well as promoting proficiency standards in reading, writing, numeracy and related topics;
- 3. Encourages Member States to support the education of women with the purpose of becoming teachers capable of working in multilingual classrooms through optional partnerships with nongovernment organizations (NGOs) such as but not limited to the Standard Research Institute, Room to Read, and Minority Rights Group International to undertake the logistics and funding of this training;
- 4. Supports educators to teach in their native tongue as well as an official language to cultivate cultural preservation for future generations and incentive literacy within youth so that they may invest in society;
  - 5. Recommends participating localities within Member States to provide instruction in:

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- (a) One or more indigenous or secondary language relevant to the locality, member state, or individual school;
  - (b) One or more official language of participating states;
- (c) General instruction in literacy and proficiency in reading, writing, numeracy and other related skills;
  - 6. Asserts that member states will retain autonomy within the proposed program:
- (a) Participating states have the authority to choose whether or not to participate in the proposed program;
  - (b) Participating states hold the right to set specific criteria for selection of grant recipients and standards for the education they receive;
  - (c) Suggests the creation of an independent body by each member state to oversee the funding and execution of this program within individual countries;
    - 7. Advises Member States to prioritize the uplifting of multilingual educators;
  - 8. Strongly asks all willing and able Member States to work alongside UN Women to further expand their program that establishes ECDs in rural and disadvantaged areas to provide support for children under a woman's care in order to allow them to pursue fields outside the home;
  - 9. Encourages states to allow the United Nations Development Program in coordination with the United Nations Development For Women and the Children's Fund to conduct research analysis by reporting every other year tracking of attendance, retention, and educational markers over time to gauge how well daycare programmes, such as the ECDs, are performing in different Member States and determine areas of greatest need for this and other child care initiatives;
  - 10. *Urges* the international community to adopt multilingual educational access programs in primary and secondary education;
- 11. Calls upon member states to commit to global literacy initiatives through United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization' Global Alliance for Literacy and various NGO programs such as the ones previously mentioned.

Passed, Yes: 66 / No: 1 / Abstain: 15

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