

China Women's Development Foundation (CWDF)

Submission to UN UPR of China

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1. CWDF is very concerned about the third circle of universal periodical review of the UN Human Rights Council. This report focuses on comments and suggestions on Chinese women's charity.

2. We notice that Chinese government lays emphasis on charity development. Since 2012, the central government has distributed RMB 200 million special funds each year to support social organizations' participation in social services. The Chinese government actively promoted the enactment and implementation of the *Charity Law* in 2016.

3. We are pleased to see that the Chinese government has given strong support to women's charity and achieved remarkable results in women's health improvement, poverty alleviation, entrepreneurship and environmental protection through charities.

4. We are pleased to see that the Chinese government is committed to improving women's health through charities. Since 2009, with strong support of the Chinese government, the

National Health and Family Planning Commission and All-China Women's Federation jointly launched the Free Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer Screening Program for rural women. In order to help solve treatment problem for rural impoverished women and prevent their families from turning and returning to poverty due to illness, the All-China Women's Federation won the support of Ministry of Finance and employed central special lottery public welfare fund and established Special Relief Fund for Poor Mothers with Cancer in CWDF in 2011 to supplement the Program of Assistance to Rural Poor Mothers with Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer. Rural impoverished women with invasive breast cancer and IIB cervical cancer can get RMB 10,000 yuan per person from the program.

5. The Health Express for Mother refers to special ambulances providing free medical services to women in poor areas. The Project won the "China Charity Award." In 2013-2017, a total of about RMB 120 million yuan and 919 medical vehicles were donated, benefiting 40.25 million people. Through implementation of the project, people in remote and poverty-stricken areas receive various forms of health services including health education, gynecological examination, transfer of pregnant and lying-in women, disease relief, primary physician training and capacity-building for women and children services. It greatly facilitates medical institutions such as hospitals and clinics to reach remote villages for disease

screening and diagnosis. It plays a unique role in reducing the incidence of gynecological diseases, maternal and infant mortality, and improving life quality of impoverished women.

6. China attaches importance to creating healthy and safe natural environment and upholds green, coordinated and sustainable development, which brings favorable conditions for the well-being and development of women. Access to tap water in rural areas increased from 55.2 percent in 2000 to 76.4 percent in 2013, and water quality compliance rate and water supply security have been greatly enhanced. Women's production and living environment are improved markedly. The unique role of women in ecological and environmental protection has become increasingly prominent.

7. In line with the national strategy of poverty alleviation and sustainable development, CWDF launched a charity project mainly focusing on "Water Cellars for Mothers" in remote and drought-affected areas in order to safeguard women's health and reduce the burden of production and life. From 2013 to 2017, RMB 135.39 million yuan had been invested to build 224 centralized water supply projects, 6751 rainwater harvesting pits and 498 safe school drinking water facilities, benefiting 1.147 million people.

8. Regarding rural women's development, the Chinese government actively promoted women's entrepreneurship and helped rural women get out of poverty through technical

training and financial support. The situation of women in poverty is improved remarkably. In 2016, the rural poverty population in China decreased by 14.42 million, of which half are women.

9. CWDF actively carries out the women's entrepreneurship charity project “@HerBusiness Plan” and “Postal Parcels for Mothers”. From 2013 to 2017, the two projects contributed a total of RMB 324 million, reaching 1.12 million beneficiaries. @Her Entrepreneurship Program promotes rural women's participation in economy, improves production and lifestyles, achieves self-improvement, builds credibility and market awareness, as well as shares the fruits of reform and opening up. Postal Parcels for Mothers Project plays a positive role in improving people's livelihood, raising satisfaction of poor mothers, and helping those in need. At the same time, the postal sectors across the country have given full play to the express channels to support the delivery of postal parcels for mothers. Women's federations at all levels have included the project into local poverty alleviation work, which brings about remarkable results.

10. We believe that the progress of Chinese women's charity makes a special contribution to the harmonious development of society and economy.

11. We believe that women are participants, contributors and beneficiaries of philanthropy. We suggest that the Chinese

government should pay more attention to the needs of women in development of philanthropy and enhance policy support and financial support.