Letter dated 27 June 1975 addressed to the President of the World Conference of the International Women's Year from the Head of the Delegation of Israel

I have the honour to include a statement on behalf of my delegation expressing our position on the participation of representatives of the so-called Palestine Liberation Organization in this Conference.

I should be grateful if you could have the aforesaid statement circulated as a document of the Conference.

(Signed) (Mrs.) Zina Haram
Head of the Delegation of Israel
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ISRAEL

The views of the delegation of Israel on the participation of representatives of the so-called "Palestine Liberation Organization", in whatever capacity, in the work of the United Nations, have been made abundantly clear a number of times in the statements of the representatives of our country in the General Assembly of the United Nations and in other forums.

In brief, the presence and participation by representatives of the P.L.O. in the work of any United Nations organ or conference, is contrary to both the letter and the spirit of the United Nations Charter and the general principles of International Law.

It is enough to glance at the Purposes and Principles enshrined in the Charter to realize the absurd situation created by the participation of the P.L.O. in the work of the United Nations or of any body under United Nations auspices.

The avowed objectives of the P.L.O. are to destroy Israel, to deprive its people of their independence, sovereignty, self-determination and equality with other nations.

An organization such as the P.L.O., which deliberately sets out to murder children in schoolbuses and in their homes or in the markets, should not be permitted to participate in the deliberations of this Conference.

In these circumstances, the delegation of Israel wishes to place on record its strongest protest and objection to the participation in the work of this Conference of representatives of the P.L.O.

Mexico City, 27 June 1975
Message from N. Podgorny, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR

On behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and on my own behalf I greet the participants in the World Conference and wish it success in its work.

The proclamation of 1975 as International Women's Year is regarded in the Soviet Union as an important international event bearing witness to the broad recognition of the role and responsibility of women in society and their growing contribution to the struggle for peace and international co-operation. The Soviet people hold dear the humane ideas underlying the celebration of International Women's Year - the securing of genuine equality of women in the economic, political and cultural life of their countries and the all-round enhancement of their role in strengthening peace and consolidating relations of friendship and co-operation among peoples. Many generations of revolutionaries of our country fought for the triumph of those ideas, and the Great October Socialist Revolution made a reality of the age-old dream of toiling women for freedom and equality of rights.

Socialism, having freed the masses of working people from exploitation and oppression, made it possible for the first time in history for millions of women to take an active and creative part in social and political life, in the development of industry, science and culture and in the administration of the State. The securing of social and legal guarantees of equality for women and the creation of optimum conditions enabling women harmoniously to combine full equality and broad participation in the life of society with the raising of their children is an important element of the State policy of the Soviet Union.

International Women's Year coincides with an outstanding event in the life of the Soviet people and of all progressive humanity - the thirtieth anniversary of the victorious conclusion of the great fight against fascism. The memory of the exploits of the ardent women patriots who, heroically unsparing of their own lives, fought on the battlefronts, in the partisan detachments and in the units of the resistance movement will abide forever. The Soviet people, who bore the brunt of the
struggle against the Nazi aggressors during the years of the Second World War, appreciate very highly the contribution of women to the defeat of fascism. Humanity will never forget the sacrifices which women endured for the sake of the great victory and the burdens which they bore in the period of post-war reconstruction.

There can be no doubt that your representative forum, like the World Congress to be held in Berlin in October of this year in celebration of International Women's Year, will help to attract the attention of Governments and world public opinion as never before to the unsolved problems of the status of women in society. This is very important, because in many countries discrimination against women in various fields persists. The World Conference has the weighty task of working out recommendations which will contribute to the realization of the lofty purposes inspiring the decision to proclaim International Women's Year.

Allow me to express my conviction that the Conference in Mexico will give a new impetus to the struggle for the liberation and true equality of women and to the still broader participation of women in solving the historic problems of our time connected with the consolidation of peace and international security, disarmament and the national and social liberation of all peoples.

Moscow, The Kremlin
19 June 1975