STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR HOME ECONOMICS**

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Home economists consider it an essential part of their work as educators to help families to live in homes, quarters, towns, and cities that constitute a truly human environment. Today, it is not enough to only improve existing conditions, but it is also necessary to plan for a constantly growing population. We know that in thirty years, the population of the world will probably double.

If it is a public responsibility to take the necessary measures to provide for citizens houses and apartments in sufficient quality and quantity, it is the duty of specialized educators to instruct on the management of one's surroundings in order to make it more comfortable, and convenient, more sanitary and esthetically pleasing, no matter what may be the income of the family.

Home economists believe that the importance of their work in this area is not sufficiently understood by responsible political and economic authorities of different countries. They think that their role as advisers on matters of habitat, of its construction and equipment, could be more clearly taken into account. Of course, this problem could be avoided if home economists worked in the offices of urban planners and architects, in the different commissions charged with town and area planning, in the various councils at the level of the community, the state, and the country.

Home economics remains essentially a female profession. Its members bring to their work a professional competence and the natural understanding of women on how best to plan housing for daily living.

In developing countries, in the poor sections of large cities, our specialists could, through organized action, improve considerably the conditions of life by teaching people how to better utilize their resources. Again, it is necessary for governments to accent the need of including in their plans of action a greater number of home economists who specialize in social work and to budget for this staffing need. It is not necessary to have highly sophisticated equipment to live in a salubrious manner, in an adequately agreeable surroundings, and to allow human beings to develop to their fullest potentials.

Home economists believe that in all the politics of housing, in no matter what part of the world, several important measures should be considered:
- Avoid uncontrolled growth of the large urban centres
- Avoid overcrowding too great a population into small space
- Refuse to permit gigantism in construction
- Arrange for as much green space and open air as possible in the big cities
- Respect natural sites
- Respect traditional architecture—even that at the lowest level; the typical house of each region often represents the fruit of long experience and of the optimal norm for the region concerned
- Rehabilitate certain ancient materials used in building without neglecting products of modern technology and industry
- Take into account, as much as possible, the needs of all the members of a family in order to assure a home that conforms to standards of hygiene, to psychological health, and to morale of the family.

We ask that each nation give the highest priority to seeking adequate legislative measures in order to:
- Abolish slums and shanty towns
- Not neglect the problem of transportation and the means of travel between places of living and those of work
- Never lose concern for esthetic considerations, because the beautiful is not incompatible with the inexpensive.

Home economists, for their part, reaffirm that they place themselves at the service of human community and claim nothing except to assist, to the limits of their capacities, in the organization of a new world economic order which might permit a better distribution of resources and, by the same token, better conditions of life for all men.