



American Model United Nations

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

UNESCO/II/7

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Literacy

SUBMITTED TO: The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

SUBMITTED BY: United States, Iceland, Peru, Turkey, Costa Rica, Denmark, Portugal, Israel, Spain, Sweden, Sierra Leone, Poland

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

1 *Recalling* its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the
2 ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, and the
3 International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, in order to reach all
4 six Education For All Goals,

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6 *Recalling also* the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Member
7 States resolved to ensure that children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will have equal
8 access to all levels of education by the year 2015,

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10 *Acknowledging* the activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the
11 Education For All, and further acknowledging the need to accelerate efforts in order to
12 meet the basic needs of people of all age groups, in particular girls and women,

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14 *Fully believing* in assessments like the Adult Literacy and Life Skills Survey, the
15 Literacy Assessment and Monitoring Programme (LAMP), and the Literacy Initiative for
16 Empowerment (LIFE),

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18 *Reaffirming* that a basic education is crucial to nation-building,

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20 *Realizing* that women comprise roughly half the world's population,

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22 *Realizing also* that, in many cultures, the mother is the primary caregiver,

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24 *Recognizing* that adults who are not literate cannot teach children and
25 grandchildren to read and write, creating a situation in which a greater number of
26 individuals are in need of assistance,

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28 *Deeply concerned* about the persistence of the gender gap in education,

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- Alarmed* that 64% of the world's illiterates are women,
- Fully alarmed* by the female population literacy rate, which stands at 77% worldwide while the world total population literacy rate stands at 82%,
- Supporting* UNESCO/II/4, which calls for the establishment of Literacy Education Training Sites (LETS),
1. *Takes note* that consistent programs with quantifiable objectives are a necessity in order to ensure true education for all;
 2. *Recalls* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization should take a coordinating role in stimulating and catalyzing the activities undertaken at the international level within the framework of the Decade in a manner that is complementary to and coordinated with the ongoing process of Education for All;
 3. *Regrets* that there have been only three LIFE regional planning meetings to date to discuss and refine the proposed Guidelines for LIFE Needs Assessment;
 4. *Fully encourages* Member States to attend LIFE regional planning meetings to be held in January 2007 to further refine the proposed Guidelines for LIFE Needs Assessment;
 5. *Requests* that, in combination with UNESCO/II/4, UNESCO will make distinct efforts for the inclusion of women in the regional, subregional, and local levels in order to ensure universal literacy;
 6. *Further requests* that efforts be made by UNESCO to identify placement of LETS in areas which women are able to access with safety and relative ease;
 7. *Dedicates* itself to full gender equality at all levels of education.

Passed, Yes: 16 / No: 4 / Abstain: 11