

DECLARATION ON THE ELIMINATION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



1. "Domestic violence" (definition): *all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur with the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim.*

2. Domestic violence causes far more pain than the visible marks of bruises and scars. It is devastating to be abused by someone that you love and think loves you in return.

3. Domestic violence does not only happen to adults. Forty percent of girls age 14 to 17 report knowing someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend, and approximately one in five female high school students reports being physically and/or sexually abused by a dating partner.

4. We can all take responsibility for helping to bring about change, and keeping our friends and colleagues safe from domestic violence.

5. Domestic violence speaks many languages, has many colours and lives in many different communities.

