

Madam Chair, Distinguished delegates, Miss Caricom International Foundation extend our appreciation to you on your continued contribution to the Commission on Social Development.

At this Bureau of the 62 Commission for social Development Miss Caricom, addresses a matter of utmost importance - achieving social justice by improving public sanitary conditions for women and girls to prevent rape and molestation. This issue strikes at the very core of our commitment to gender equality, human rights, and sustainable development.

Women and girls faced the alarming reality of being exposed to sexual violence due to inadequate public sanitary facilities. They need a safe environment from sexual assault, harassment, and other forms of gender-based violence. A sense of safety, dignity, and overall well-being is necessary to encourage their ability to participate fully in social, economic, and political spheres.

The importance of ensuring proper sanitary conditions cannot be overstated. It is not only a fundamental human right but also a necessity for healthy lives and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We must allow women and girls physiological needs in public planning and resource allocation.

To tackle this issue comprehensively, we must adopt a multi-faceted approach. Governments and policymakers must prioritize the development of gender-sensitive public sanitary facilities. This includes ensuring that public spaces provide safe, adequate, and accessible, well-lit restroom facilities for women and girls, especially in marginalized and remote areas, to prevent incidents of sexual violence.

We must invest in comprehensive educational campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of proper sanitation and hygiene practices so women and girls can protect themselves and demand their rights to safe and sanitary facilities.

It is crucial to encourage collaboration between governments, civil society organizations, and relevant stakeholders to develop innovative solutions to address this issue effectively and create REFORMS.

In conclusion, Miss Caricom International Foundation together with partners have continued to fight for better public sanitation for all people, with the objective of achieving social justice by enhancing safe public SANITARY conditions. We urge the United Nations and its member states to prioritize this issue and allocate the necessary resources and attention to safeguard the dignity and well-being of women and girls worldwide. Together, let us foster a world where

no woman or girl fears for her safety or faces the risk of rape and molestation because of inadequate sanitation facilities.

Thank you.