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August 19, 2026

Ms. Sima Bahous, Executive Director, UN Women

Ms. Diene Keita, Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund

Excellencies,

As Mexican Federation of University Women, we share GWI's position and its concerns regarding the proposed merger of UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

We believe that the distinct mandate of each organization could be weakened by such a merger and that issues specifically concerning women's rights and gender equality could receive less attention, potentially being overshadowed by other areas addressed by UNFPA, such as population and demographic issues, family planning, and sexual and reproductive health and education.

We are also concerned about the broader political context surrounding both organizations. In particular, the Trump administration has expressed strong opposition to UNFPA, reflecting the position of conservative groups in the United States that have accused the Fund of supporting or promoting abortion internationally. Against this backdrop, we fear that merging UN Women and UNFPA could further weaken both institutions and, in the longer term, potentially jeopardize their continued existence.

For this reason, we strongly believe that UN Women and UNFPA should remain separate entities. Each has a distinct and important mandate and carries out specialized work within its respective area of expertise. Preserving their institutional independence is essential to ensuring that women's rights, gender equality, and sexual and reproductive health and rights continue to receive the specific attention and resources they require within the United Nations system.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Patricia Galeana
Founder President

Dr. Mirella Feingold
Executive President