



**Statement of Requests on International Women's Day, 8 March 2019**

**By Women Network**

International Women's Day, which is annually held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, is the day when women gather together to commemorate the power of women and to fight until they achieve the 3-eight system that is the standard of work around the world: working for 8 hours; learning for 8 hours, and; relaxing for 8 hours and to show the power of women to insist the right to define their own future.

Although women today are working as an important force in every occupation group, some occupations require them to work more than 15 hours with unjust wages which are unequal to men. Some types of women's jobs are also seen as jobs that do not create economic value for the family, such as housework, childcare and care of family members. Instead, they were seen as the jobs that women had to do because it was a duty as a mother, daughter or wife. As a result, women actually have to work more than 8 hours without time to relax and study to develop themselves. These reflect that the standard of 3-eight system is still not in practice. It causes the effects on physical and mental health; moreover, it results in insecurity and unsafety of working women, women who are mothers, daughters, wives and family members.

In addition, participation of all groups of women is neglected from all sectors involved, from community level to country level. When the women rise to exercise their rights to protect themselves and communities in management of environmental resources and development, they are not only excluded from participating in decision on the said matter but also are threatened and prosecuted for legal proceedings. Discrimination on hiring women who live with HIV continues to occur. Disabled women still lack facilities that are basic rights on physical aspect and systems, which are supportive to disability and access safety. Respecting the rights to the body of the women has not been in a concrete practice.

Therefore, on the occasion of International Women's Day, 2019, the Women Network therefore wishes to submit the following demands:

1. The state must implement the welfare state by providing subsidies for all children from 0-18 years.
2. The state must stop discrimination by eliminating both physical and systemic barriers, create access to women with disabilities in all dimensions, especially promotion of education at the highest level.
3. The state must stop discrimination against women living with HIV.
4. 4. The state must strictly enforce laws to punish employers who do not comply with labor laws, especially payment of equal wages between female and male employees.
5. The state must abolish the Act on Suppression of Prostitution.
6. The state must protect every female human rights activist.
7. The state must provide that women can safely terminate pregnancy in all cases.
8. The state must allow women to participate in formulation of various policies at all levels, at least 50 percent.