Comments on CEDAW ON TRAFFICKING by Margaret Owen Director widows for peace through democracy

Conflicts have vastly increased the numbers of widows of all ages, including many child widows ( the consequence of forced child marriage to older men) of and half-widows, (wives of the missing). In many countries, even in peace times, widows of all ages suffer extreme discrimination and abuse and without basic rights, are the poorest of all poor women and most vulnerable to trafficking, as are their daughters., due to poverty. Conflicts exacerbate their plight, displacing them. Widows and their children predominate in refugee and IDP camps, as migrants and asylum seekers. They are greatly at risk of falling victim to the traffickers, to sexual slavery, so called temporary marriages, and to forced prostitution.

We would ask the Committee to consider adding where appropriate widowhood, widows and their daughters, to certain paragraphs and to add “marital status” to the criteria for disaggregated data

SUGGESTED ADDITIONS

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…intersecting forms of discrimination … add widows including child widows, wives of the missing

D 18 obligation to identify women and girls subjected to multiple forms of discrimination

Add including widows, child widows, wives of the missing

D 21 ….key resources add inheritance,

Add to child and early marriage “ leading to child widowhood”

25 b

 Statistical methodologies add marital status