

# | *Final statement* |

We, women of faith gathered in the event “**Women Makers of Human Fraternity,**” on the occasion of the International Women's Day, organised by the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO/UMOF), in collaboration with the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue, receive the document of two religious leaders who love the world and all the human beings concretely and fraternally, the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Ahmad Al-Tayyeb and His Holiness Pope Francis, signed in Abu Dhabi on February 4, 2019: “**Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together**”.

We see this unique document as a motherly embrace to humanity and as a starting point for our journey together. The text emphasises the rights of women, children, young people, but above all of the whole human family, declaring: “The pluralism and the diversity of religions, colour, sex, race and language are willed by God in His wisdom, through which He created human beings.”

We agree:

- to promote the spiritual, human and social values expressed in the above-mentioned document and too often stifled in our consciences by the individualism and materialism in which we live, embodying them in concrete actions, recognising that *the first and most important aim of religions is to believe in God (...) [who] has granted us the gift of life to protect it and helping the poor, the destitute, the marginalized and those most in need* for the construction of a true human civilisation;
- to protect the institution of family and to foster spaces and projects, together with representatives of politics, the media, the economy, education, science and the arts, committing, together with the new generations, to ensure that religions should never incite hatred nor justify violence and war, showing true mutual respect;
- to deepen, within ourselves, merciful love and courageous faith, so that it may give us the strength and creativity to eliminate the new forms of slavery that exclude and marginalise so many children, women and men in our societies, *wasted away from poverty and hunger, denouncing an unacceptable silence on the international level;*
- to update our feminine capacity to be bearers of life and guardians of our Earth, strengthening the encounter between people of cultures and civilisations from East and West, North and South of the world, so that *each can be enriched by the other's culture through fruitful exchange and dialogue.*

That said, we, **women of faith, agree, from our different religious perspectives, to educate ourselves and others for a more fraternal humanity. We therefore launch an appeal to all believers, women and men, but also to all those who desire to live together in justice and peace, to join in this agreement,** an expression of social friendship and mutual respect.

Rome, March 3, 2020

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Iranian Theologian

**Rev. Elena Seishin Viviani**  
Italian Buddhist Union

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