



**Human Rights Council 58<sup>th</sup> Session**  
ID with the Independent Expert on foreign debt, other  
international financial obligations and human rights  
Oral Statement

Make Mothers Matter welcomes this important yet sobering report and fully supports its recommendations.

However, we would like to emphasize the need to integrate a gender perspective across all the interconnected issues highlighted in the report.

The climate and debt crises both disproportionately impact women, particularly by increasing their already disproportionate share of unpaid care work. In addition, inadequate taxation systems and illicit financial flows both significantly undermine governments' ability to invest in social protection, public infrastructure, and essential services — all of which are crucial to support women with caregiving responsibilities, especially mothers.

To achieve meaningful and sustainable progress, governments must adopt a gender- and care-responsive approach to policymaking, including in climate mitigation and adaptation strategies. A just transition must place care at its centre to ensure that women — and the children they care for — benefit equitably.

Moreover, systemic transformation is urgently needed to address the root causes of climate change and economic inequality. It is time to move away from an economic model fixated on GDP growth and short-term profits for a few — one that disregards environmental destruction and devalues unpaid care work. Instead, we must reshape our economies to prioritize human rights, the well-being of people and the planet, and the sustainability of life itself. This requires recognizing and redistributing unpaid care work — and supporting the people behind it.

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