



Oral Statement
Human Rights Council 48th Session
Item 3
Economic Social and Cultural Rights
General Debate

Make Mothers Matter would like to reiterate the critical importance of women and girls' economic, social and cultural rights everywhere in the world but particularly, in Afghanistan right now, where recent events may impede those rights: "Work, education and political participation is every Afghan woman's right".

We must all stand in solidarity with women and girls in Afghanistan for their rights, among them the right to education and the right to participate in economic and public life.

As an Afghan mother we recently interviewed said: "We are someone, not no one".

We call for – in the longer term - conditioning International Aid on the upholding of Afghan women's human rights, in particular the realisation of every girl's right to education.

We also fully support the High Commissioner's plea for the set-up of a "fact finding mission" to assess the compliance of this conditionality and its progress.

The UN must offer special protection for women and girls' rights.

We at Make Mothers Matter will continue to #RaiseAPen to raise awareness on this specific issue, and we invite you all to join our campaign.

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Make Mothers Matter believes in the power of mothers to make the world a better place, advocating for their recognition and support as changemakers. Created in 1947, MMM is an international NGO with no political or religious affiliations, transparently voicing the concerns of mothers at the highest level: the European Union, UNESCO and the United Nations (general consultative status).