

The comments are the first reactions individually made, by members of the ExCom. So it is not a group position. As the Second Draft of the Manifesto is for discussion, as the document of reference, the lines where some amendments are suggested are numbered, so anyone can contrast these suggestions with it.

In each section, members are urged to read the Manifesto Draft and discuss it. In every section it will be the job of the IB members to encourage the discussion, gather comments or suggestions and send them back to the convenor or the Political Content Working Group of the 2015 Congress, Regina Birchen: regbirchem@earthlink.net

Comments from Adilia Caravaca.

Below are my **additions in orange**. What I suggest to eliminate will have **gray shade**. In some cases in parenthesis, a short **explanation in purple**. Starting in line 150, finishing in line 581.

150.- To establish respect and co-operation between people of diverse phenotype;
151 and habitat, culture and belief system, ability, age and sexuality, recognizing
152 our diversity as a human wealth, not a cause for hatred, division, **inferiorization** and
conflict.

To learn, teach and practice non-destructive relations between human beings•154
155 and the plants and creatures of Earth's biosphere **and resources**, in order to ensure
the health
156 and habitability of the planet and eliminate environmental causes of conflict. **(to
include minerals, rivers, and various resources that are vital to sustain the equilibrium of
planet and livelihood of First Peoples)**

210 ambitions that foster militarization worldwide. The power relations of class, **race**,
nation and
211 gender together keep war on the boil. **(adding race makes the text coherent with
other parts in which it has been included and of course makes it visible a key element of
power hierarchies that has prevailed for centuries)**

229. Gross inequalities also exist between individuals and households, and
230 worldwide this wealth gap is increasing. Currently [the richest 1% of adults own 40%
231 of global assets.] Class/**race** domination and exploitation are therefore major sources
of
232 unrest. But 'structural violence' is **cultural**, political as well as economic, and another
huge
233 disparity is in people's recourse to human rights, sixty-five years after the Universal
234 Declaration.

Part of our effort is currently directed to
261 getting these resolutions fully implemented at national and international level. **We**
critically analyse and monitor its implementation, to ensure it is not used to co opt women
in militarist agendas. To this
262 end we share information through our Peace Women programme and website.

291 UN fora to educate diplomats, and officials **and the public** in the interests of returning
the UN to its
292 original principles, to make it truly a guarantor of world peace with justice

billion]. Production has grown even faster: gross world product is [around \$80 trillion
356 today, forty times that of 1920.] **While the gap between rich and poor in the world**
increases as result of globalized economic policies. The 19th century empires have
disintegrated, but

The 19th century empires have disintegrated, but
357 **cultural**, economic and military domination of some countries by others perpetuates
358 colonialism.

374. are commissioned and deployed. Drone aircraft are already **in use and clearly taking**
civilians lives. **a visible menace.** But

387 militias - that weapons do their deadly work. States, National and multinational
corporate ambitions for control of territory,
388 markets and populations will continue to be a serious threat, p

432 exploitative relations and divisive class, and other **oppressive systems** it entails.

487 humans and animal stock. It is not essentialist romancing but material evidence that
488 suggests many women have a sense of functional bonding with, and responsibility
489 towards, other life forms. We shall need to **highlight its importance and social**
value and to bring this logic into play increasingly in our
490 work for sustainability and peace.

509. The patriarchal sex-gender/race and economic world **system order** that continues to
prevail worldwide has

510 damaging effects on society even **beyond the subordination** and abuse of women.

511 This world system Patriarchy is a power system, shaping and holding individuals and
institutions in a

512 vicious hierarchy – a rank ordering between men, and a positioning of men over

513 women and other **men inferiorized by this system, with violence.** **Male supremacy** This
system functions day to day, and is sustained from one historical

514 period to the next, **it is deeper harmful** by the social construction of women and men
in dichotomous

515 gender identities. The **two** sexes, necessarily differentiated biologically, are

516 needlessly set further apart by the distribution to one and the other of distinctive

517 qualities, roles and responsibilities with the effect that neither sex is fully
518 human. (there are debates about more than 2 biological sexes, so it maybe better to avoid
519 numbers here)

529 whether among internal interest groups or with external 'enemies'. Patriarchy as a
530 system of power relations is intricately intersected with systems of economic class
531 power, and of politico-national power, all three founded on violence. Together they
532 structure our institutions and shape our lives. Together they condemn us to live in a
533 continuum of violence that spans home, community, workplace and war zone.

541 This world gender system has to change. It is foundational in feminist thought that
542 biology is not destiny, that gender and race differences are is to a
543 large extent socially constituted,

543 culturally produced. We can choose how our boys are reared and educated, how our
544 young men are socialized, the behaviours for which our adult men are rewarded.
545 These can and must be the subject of conscious and explicit policy.

Important One aspects of

546 WILPF's work for peace, therefore, along with the struggle for a new economic order,
547 and for responsibility and co-operation in the nation-state system, will be a feminist
548 struggle for transformation of the sex-gender order; and ending race discrimination.

Meeting such future challenges will call for ever more effective organizing. We
573 need a growing membership in local branches, building into more and stronger
574 national sections. We need to be tireless in fund-raising to gather ample resources to
575 support a strong international secretariat and sections. ¶ They must be staffed by
576 politically-educated
577 and practically-skilled women, capable of responding creatively to the insights coming
578 from the grassroots, linking and amplifying the Sections' activities, representing them
579 at international level, and in turn enriching activists with information, resources and
580 political links. In turn as well, at national level, qualified activists and members can
581 gather knowledge and put into action campaigns and resolutions of UN as well as others
582 issued by WILPF or partner organizations. We must be at the cutting edge of information
583 technology, so that, as
584 we profit from every new mechanism for outreach and mobilization, the websites and
585 blogs of which we are proud today will seem quaint and old-fashioned in comparison.

Comments from Martha Jean Baker:

I have read the coloured draft and I think it is very good for the space available. I do wonder if we should point out the disparity between, e.g. CEO salaries, and including their bonuses, and the average worker in the company and how this ratio varies from country to country creating and perpetuating inequality on several levels?

I did not see any mention of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and its ground-breaking gender based crimes that are covered by it. Since the founding of WILPF, the recognition of the existence and potential of international law has grown immensely and the ICC

represents a leap forward in this but still has a long way to go. There is no satisfactory international mechanism to arrest people who have been indicted by the ICC (and it needs to move its prosecutions out of Africa) and there is no peaceful way to effectively enforce the violation of international law by state actors or insurgents. We should support the growth of international law and work to make it more well recognised and effective.

And do we want to say that as much as we welcome and try to promote the 'women, peace and security' resolutions we would like to see mechanisms for measuring and enforcing these important resolutions and the direction they hint at for the future.

Line 290, add Geneva.

The congress is no longer triennial, but must be held at least every 4 years. (line 322)

At line 394 do we want to say 'conflict and war?'

At line 467, when fracking is mentioned should we not add that a side effect of that is the excess use and pollution of water?

Line 590, should we say something like, that in doing so we can add our perspective of gender and peace?

I personally do not like the expression 'global south.' When I have talked to people who come from areas that might be thought to fit what is meant by that they have not been comfortable with that and have said they prefer being referred to as 'developing' or something else. And Australia and New Zealand women have commented to me, in that context, 'where does that leave us?' Can we not find a way to rephrase that?

To repeat, I think this is well written and readable and very good on the whole.

Martha Jean Baker

Comments by Ila Pathak

Dear friends,

I am positively impressed by the Manifesto. A very well done job.