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STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023 ON 8TH MARCH

International Women's Day is an important day for Lazarus Union as our organization is committed to equal rights for women and men. We believe that every person has the right to be treated equally and respected, regardless of their gender.

Historically, International Women's Day dates back to the struggles women waged in the early 1900s to win women's suffrage, achieve better working conditions and fight discrimination and inequality. These struggles and their associated achievements have paved the way for today's generations of women who enjoy freedoms and rights that their predecessors fought for.

In today's society, there are still many challenges and obstacles for women, be it in terms of education, workplace equality, political representation or violence against women. On average, women earn less than men, they are more likely to be victims of violence and discrimination, and often have fewer opportunities to be in leadership positions or active in politics. It is also important to emphasize that women who belong to minorities or marginalized groups often face even greater difficulties.

We at the Lazarus Union support the efforts of the global UN-sustainability goal 5 (*achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*) to eliminate these inequalities and to strengthen women in all areas of life.

International Women's Day is an opportunity for us to celebrate women's achievements and to highlight the ongoing challenges they face. It is also an opportunity to show solidarity and support for women and to commit ourselves to continue fighting for gender equality.

As a UN NGO, with general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), working to promote peace, freedom and justice, it is imperative for us to work for gender equality. We believe that a just and inclusive society can only be achieved through active advocacy for women's rights. International Women's Day is an opportunity to raise awareness of these important issues and inspire us all to work for a better future for women and men alike