ENGLISH, ESPAÑOL, FRANÇAIS

Loving God,

We gather in prayer today to lift up the experience of women and girls who are treated as less than, who are refused opportunities, and whose voices are unheard. We pray for every woman and girl who has been minimized, overlooked, devalued, or feels unheard. May You heal their hearts from past and current experiences.

We pray that society will recognize the innate equality of the genders. We pray for a world that will recognize how women are created perfectly and equally in Your image. May You help every girl to see herself as You see her, and not through the eyes of those who have misplaced her value.

*Let us pause for a moment of silence to remember the women and girls in our community who are treated as less than or unheard.*

We pray for the strength and perseverance to create more just societies, where gender does not initiate rejection, violence, or oppression. We pray for every woman who has lost her fight, her courage, or her voice to recurring uphill battles. May You fill her with peace, joy, and the determination to keep going.

We pray that our work will contribute to the empowerment of women and girls and ensure equality for all people. We pray for women and girl advocates, supporters, and leaders in organizations who actively work to make a difference in advancing equality for all women and girls. May You grant them the wisdom to soften the hearts and change the mindsets of policymakers and society.

*Let us take a moment of silence to remember the women and girls in our community who fight for women’s rights, who have risked standing alone, who have stepped forward to lead the march for justice.*

*When you are ready, we invite you to speak the names of these women leaders and girl advocates aloud. Lift their names up in this space so that we may offer our collective gratitude.*

God, we thank You for all of these women whose names we have offered up today. We also thank You for all of the women and girls whose faces and names are unknown, yet whose work helps to fulfill Your vision of peace on Earth.

Help make us instruments of that peace – may our collaboration advance the empowerment of women and girls and ensure the rights and dignity of all Your Creation.

Amen.

Dios amoroso,

Nos reunimos hoy en oración para elevar la experiencia de las mujeres y niñas que son tratadas como menos, a las que se les niegan oportunidades y cuyas voces no son escuchadas. Oramos por todas las mujeres y niñas que han sido minimizadas, ignoradas, devaluadas o que no se sienten escuchadas. Que Tú sanes sus corazones de experiencias pasadas y presentes.

Rezamos para que la sociedad reconozca la igualdad innata de los géneros. Te pedimos por un mundo que reconozca que las mujeres han sido creadas perfecta e igualmente a Tu imagen. Que ayudes a cada niña a verse a sí misma como Tú la ves, y no a través de los ojos de quienes han desvalorizado su valor.

*Hagamos una pausa de silencio para recordar a las mujeres y niñas de nuestra comunidad que son tratadas como menos o que no son escuchadas.*

Pidamos fuerza y perseverancia para crear sociedades más justas, en las que el género no sea causa de rechazo, violencia u opresión. Te pedimos por cada mujer que ha perdido su lucha, su coraje o su voz en batallas recurrentes y cuesta arriba. Que Tú la llenes de paz, alegría y determinación para seguir adelante.

Rezamos para que nuestro trabajo contribuya al empoderamiento de las mujeres y las niñas y garantice la igualdad de todas las personas. Oramos por las mujeres y niñas defensoras, partidarias y líderes de organizaciones que trabajan activamente para marcar la diferencia en el avance de la igualdad para todas las mujeres y niñas. Que Tú les concedas la sabiduría necesaria para ablandar los corazones y cambiar la mentalidad de los responsables políticos y de la sociedad.

*Hagamos un momento de silencio para recordar a las mujeres y niñas de nuestra comunidad que luchan por los derechos de la mujer, que se han arriesgado a quedarse solas, que han dado un paso al frente para encabezar la marcha por la justicia.*

*Cuando estén preparados, les invitamos a pronunciar en voz alta los nombres de estas mujeres líderes y niñas defensoras. Levantad sus nombres en este espacio para que podamos ofrecer nuestra gratitud colectiva.*

Dios, te damos gracias por todas estas mujeres cuyos nombres hemos ofrecido hoy. También te damos gracias por todas las mujeres y niñas cuyos rostros y nombres son desconocidos, pero cuyo trabajo contribuye a hacer realidad tu visión de paz en la Tierra.

Ayúdanos a convertirnos en instrumentos de esa paz - que nuestra colaboración promueva el empoderamiento de las mujeres y las niñas y garantice los derechos y la dignidad de toda Tu Creación.

Amén.

Dieu d'amour,

Nous nous réunissons aujourd'hui dans la prière pour évoquer l'expérience des femmes et des jeunes filles qui sont traitées comme des moins que rien, qui se voient refuser des opportunités et dont la voix n'est pas entendue. Nous prions pour chaque femme et chaque fille qui a été minimisée, négligée, dévalorisée ou qui ne se sent pas entendue. Puisses-tu guérir leurs cœurs des expériences passées et présentes.

Nous prions pour que la société reconnaisse l'égalité innée des sexes. Nous prions pour un monde qui reconnaîtra que les femmes sont créées parfaitement et également à ton image. Puisses-tu aider chaque fille à se voir comme Tu la vois, et non à travers les yeux de ceux qui ont dévalorisé sa valeur.

*Accordons un moment de silence pour nous souvenir des femmes et des jeunes filles de notre communauté qui sont traitées comme des moins que rien ou qui ne sont pas entendues.*

Nous prions pour la force et la persévérance nécessaires à la création de sociétés plus justes, où le genre n'est pas à l'origine du rejet, de la violence ou de l'oppression. Nous prions pour chaque femme qui a perdu son combat, son courage ou sa voix dans des batailles difficiles. Puisses-tu la remplir de paix, de joie et de la détermination de continuer.

Nous prions pour que notre travail contribue à l'autonomisation des femmes et des filles et garantisse l'égalité pour tous. Nous prions pour les défenseurs des femmes et des filles, les sympathisants et les dirigeants des organisations qui travaillent activement à faire progresser l'égalité pour toutes les femmes et les filles. Puisses-tu leur accorder la sagesse nécessaire pour adoucir les cœurs et changer les mentalités des décideurs politiques et de la société.

*Prenons un moment de silence pour nous souvenir des femmes et des jeunes filles de notre communauté qui luttent pour les droits des femmes, qui ont pris le risque de rester seules, qui se sont avancées pour mener la marche vers la justice.*

*Lorsque vous serez prêts, nous vous invitons à prononcer à haute voix les noms de ces femmes leaders et de ces jeunes filles défenseurs des droits de l'homme. Élevez leurs noms dans cet espace afin que nous puissions leur exprimer notre gratitude collective.*

Dieu, nous te remercions pour toutes ces femmes dont nous avons prononcé les noms aujourd'hui. Nous te remercions également pour toutes les femmes et les filles dont les visages et les noms sont inconnus, mais dont le travail contribue à la réalisation de ta vision de la paix sur terre.

Aide-nous à devenir des instruments de cette paix - que notre collaboration favorise l'autonomisation des femmes et des filles et garantisse les droits et la dignité de toute ta création.

Amen.

**General Links:**

**JCoR website / sitio web de JCoR / sítio web da JCoR:** https://jcor2030.org/

**Follow us on Twitter and Facebook:** @JCoR2030

**Síguenos en Twitter y Facebook:** @JCoR2030

**Siga-nos no Twitter e no Facebook**: @JCoR2030

**Subscribe to the JCoR monthly bulletin:** <http://eepurl.com/gZ7SV9>

**Suscríbase al boletín mensual del JCoR:** <http://eepurl.com/gZ7SV9>

**Subscrever o boletim mensal JCoR**: <http://eepurl.com/gZ7SV9>

**UN Links:**

**JCoR SDG lab recordings:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCn9XbsSrmQ&list=PLni2W4q3h8HPXoGBMtCl6EOYJtv6jjR5U>

**Grabaciones del laboratorio JCoR ODS:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCn9XbsSrmQ&list=PLni2W4q3h8HPXoGBMtCl6EOYJtv6jjR5U>

**Registos do laboratório JCoR ODS:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCn9XbsSrmQ&list=PLni2W4q3h8HPXoGBMtCl6EOYJtv6jjR5U>

**SDG Summit**: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>

**Cumbre sobre los ODS**: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>

**Cimeira dos ODS**: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/SDGSummit2023>

**LAC Links:**

**Join JCoR-Mesoamerica Virtual Meeting on 15 August:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84234509291>

**Enlace Conexión ZOOM del Encuentro Regional Virtual de JCoR-Mesoamerica (15 de agosto):** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84234509291>

**Participe da Reunião Virtual JCoR-Mesoamerica em 15 de agosto:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84234509291>

**Zambia Links:**

**Zambian government's VNR report:** <http://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2023/VNR%202023%20Zambia%20Report_0.pdf>

**Recording of Zambian government's VNR presentation at UN:** <https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1k/k1kszg2g9y?kalturaStartTime=2143>

**Email JCoR-Zambia Coordinator to indicate your interest in contacting Zambian government in response to their recent SDG progress report:** Sr. Kayula Lesa (kayulask@gmail.com)

**India Links:**

**Indicate your interest in participating in a JCoR workshop in Madhya Pradesh or Gujarat, India by completing this form:** <https://forms.gle/aNS8gzD7wc7M2DLo9>

**Watch JCoR-CRI-ICWM Gathering in Solidarity with Manipur and Victims of Violence aw hEverywhere:** <https://youtube.com/live/P0IMqoARODg>

All of the announcements we will be sharing today may also be found in the upcoming issue of JCoR’s monthly bulletin. The August bulletin will be sent out next week, so if you have not yet signed up to receive it, we will drop a link in the chat box, and you can sign up today. This is the most comprehensive resource we offer, detailing JCoR’s UN and regional events as well as opportunities for you to engage in advocacy and join us in acting for justice.

***UNITED NATIONS***

* **Recordings of JCoR SDG Lab:**
  + Throughout the 2023 High-Level Political Forum (July 10-20), JCoR hosted a series of virtual discussions showcasing Catholic Religious and their partners’ perspectives on progress towards the SDGs (specifically SDGs 6,7,9,11, and 17). Recordings of each of these conversations are now available for viewing on our YouTube Channel (in English, French, Portuguese, and Spanish). Click on the link, which will appear in the chat box shortly, in order to access the playlist.
* **SDG Summit**
  + The upcoming SDG Summit will take place on 18-19 September 2023 in New York. This two-day event marks the halfway point in terms of the deadline to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and is expected to reignite a sense of hope and enthusiasm, calling for urgent action to accelerate progress toward achieving the SDGs.
  + JCoR is working on producing a short information sheet on the summit and how you can participate. We expect it to be ready to post on the website by early September.

***LATIN AMERICA & the CARIBBEAN***

Summary of what will be shared by one of LAC Coordinators (Deivis):

In order to continue listening to the voices of the Latin American and Caribbean region and walking together in a Synodal Church towards Systemic Change and Political Advocacy, JCoR-LAC has been organizing virtual meetings region by region. Our network for the Andean/Amazonian region met in May followed by the Caribbean network in June and the Southern Cone's network in July. The next virtual regional meeting will be for Mesoamerica on 15 August at 16:00 (Colombia Time). All Sisters, Brothers, priests, and their partners in mission from Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama are welcome to participate in this open meeting.

***ZAMBIA***

Summary of expected sharing from Zambia Coordinator (Sr. Kayula):

The Zambian government was one of 39 national governments to present a "Voluntary National Review" (VNR) report (i.e. SDG progress report) before the UN community at this year's High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. (Links to the government's written report and recordings of their presentation before the UN are being shared in the chat box.) Several members of the JCoR-Zambia network participated in an effort by Zambian civil society organisations to collaboratively study and critique the government's report. In an effort to help keep the government focused on and invested in SDG implementation between now and the next time they report at the global level, some of the members of this civil society group have expressed an interest in following up on the report immediately. They want to attempt to communicate with the Zambian government in order to relay their critiques and recommendations in relation to the government’s report. If you are a Zambian or currently in ministry in Zambia, and you would be interested in participating in such an initiative with other members of the JCoR-Zambia network, contact our Zambia Coordinator, Sr. Kayula Lesa. We are sharing her email address in the chat box.

***ZIMBABWE***

Summary of expected sharing from Zimbabwe Coordinator (Sr. Sarudzai):

In late June, JCoR-Zimbabwe convened a workshop on peacebuilding and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions). This topic was selected in anticipation of Zimbabwe’s national elections, which will be held later this month. In recent years, elections in Zimbabwe have been a time of violence, and they have suffered from low voter participation and widespread doubt about the validity of the results. JCoR-Zimbabwe wants to help address these challenges by sowing messages of non-violence and the value of election participation in the communities where Religious are living and working. With those goals in mind, the peacebuilding workshop included sessions on

* + SDG 16 and how to analyze the available data on the status of Zimbabwe's progress toward achieving it,
  + addressing the needs for personal and communal healing in order to create societal peace, and
  + concrete ways to promote a culture of peace in our homes, parishes, and places of ministry.

A key outcome of the workshop is that a group of 25 women and men Religious have taken the necessary steps to serve as official election observers and to promote their respective communities' participation in a peaceful and democratic election process for the national elections. One part of the group is actually attending a training for election observers in Bulawayo today.

***INDIA***

* Summary of expected sharing from West India Coordinator (Brinelle):
  + We are still planning to hold a second workshop on rights-based advocacy in relation to the SDGs in the Jhabua area of Madhya Pradesh as well as a workshop for Gujarat in either Boroda or Ahmedabad. Please continue to follow our newsletters and social media to learn the exact dates and locations of these workshops as soon as they are confirmed. In the meantime, you may indicate your interest in participation by completing the form we are sharing in the chat box.
  + JCoR-West India recently endorsed an open letter to the Indian Supreme Court in support of the legal appeal of a survivor of sexual violence. She is appealing the early release of those convicted for assaulting her.
* Summary of expected sharing from South India Coordinator (Anita):
  + In June, JCoR-South India continued its collaboration with the national [Conference of Religious of India](https://crinational.org/) (CRI) and the Indian chapter of Talitha Kum ([AMRAT](https://www.talithakum.info/en/members/570/amrat-talitha-kum-india)) in offering another workshop in leadership for gender justice, this time in Bangalore, Karnataka. The programme highlighted SDG 5 (gender equality); Indian policies related to sexual harassment, and CRI's new [Grievance Response Cell](https://www.globalsistersreport.org/news/q-sr-maria-nirmalini-her-first-year-leading-indias-catholic-religious).
  + In early July, JCoR-India also collaborated with the Conference of Religious of India and the Indian Christian Women's Movement to host an online gathering in solidarity with victims of violence around the world, especially the people of Manipur, who continue to experience tremendous communal violence. The gathering included prayers, songs, and reflections from peace activists and people of faith from India, the UN community, and other corners of the globe. We have a recording of the gathering on JCoR's YouTube channel. We will place a link in the chat box.

**Notes:**

* Uzma, Pakistan -
* Sr. Samina, Pakistan - Concerned about young girls and boys,the threatening of families and communities, due to religious affiliation. Harassment taking place due to religious affiliation.
* Sr. Rachel Tembo, Zambia - Program aimed at empowering women and girls, focused particularly on human trafficking. Addressing the risk of especially the girl child. Project showcasing voices of girl survivors of trafficking on local radio stations, to raise awareness and empower other girls through the new awareness of what has been happening in their communities. Also held an event focusing on SDG 13 and climate change, specifically the issue of tree planting. Hope to have a workshop on tree planting before the end of the year. They are targeting the parishes to promote and replicate this activity. A suggested recycling program to reuse water bottles, the young people are trying to work on this.