**STATEMENT- ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN DIVORCED IN THE GDR**

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**66. Session CEDAW**- 21. FEB. 2017 - 4-5 pm

**Barbara Riechert, Chairperson of the Assoc.** Speaker Marion Böker

* The Association asked the CEDAW committee to comment their case and determine if it is a gender discrimination under Art. 1, Art. 2 (f), Art. 11 . (e), Art. 16 (c) or not and if so
* The Association calls on the CEDAW to urge the German Government to eliminate their discriminations in the pension rights and all other which are follow up discriminations as they are consequences of the above mentioned violations of the Convention
* The Association requests the CEDAW Committee to urgently recommend the German Government to implement special temporary measure (s) as it is outlined in the Convention in Article 4.1. to end their discrimination without delay in regard of the very high ages and the 27 years of suffering of the remaining victims
* The Association reminds the CEDAW Committee that the German Government shall as such implement the a temporary special measure as it had on the table of the Interministerial Working group of the Federal Women's Ministry and Labour and Social Ministry in 2003: a virtual calculated pension based on the real work years and jobs the women have in their account and on their former guaranteed DGR pension scheme and pay the higher pension immediately to them tax financed since the whole pension law shall not be touched and resolved; another solution would be to give them, cased on this virtual calculation additional pension equivalents.
* The Association asks the Committee to remind the German Government that the Constitutional Court in 2003 rejects the case of the women when they demanded that the solution shall be defined within the German general pension scheme and pension institution and law; but in the same judgment the German Constitutional Court said, that the injustice can be solved by a political solution as a temporary special measure would be
* How and when the German Government wants to create what kind of final justice outside of the pension system, but political, to eliminate the targeted women's discrimination and violation of their human rights as enshrined in the CEDAW
* The CEDAW might point out to the German Government that the full range of German NGOs of the CEDAW Alliance called on the German Government for the immediate ending of the pension undervaluation of those affected, which has been proven to be unjust for more than 26 years since the unification treaty by all sides and by three decisions of the upper house of the German parliament, and its replacement with a just solution. The pensions of the women divorced in the GDR finally need to reflect their life’s achievements: 40 working years and care work
* The Association listed a number of CEDAW articles which are violated in the targeted women's case and proved that they are discriminated against their former husbands and that they are discriminated on ground of gender and heritage: Why did the German Government continuously argued in letter to the Associations and why many members of the Government when still Members of parliament were of the opinion that injustice had been directed against them, but did never protect or rehabilitated them in their pension rights ?
* When will the German Government be ready to protect the women divorced in the GDR as any other German women?
* The Association request the CEDAW Committee to urge the German Government to implement a solution for their members and all targeted women since only than they can prove accountability in compliance with the Basic law, the CEDW and Human Rights in general: if not, it proves that women are state parties' targets for human rights violations far beyond their own generation of women