**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY PROCLAMATION 2020**

**Celebrating intergenerational champions for gender equality**

**Whereas,** since its inception through the Charter of the United Nations, the first international agreement to affirm the principle of equality between women and men, the United Nations has been engaged in a decades-long effort to eliminate gender inequalities that included the creation of the Commission on the Status of Women through Security Council Resolution 11(II) in 1947, the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women in 1979, the Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security in 2000, and the establishment of International Women’s Day in 1975; and

**Whereas,** International Women’s Day presents an ideal opportunity to reflect on past struggles and progress made, recognizes that much remains to be done to improve the status of women and girls, considers ways to address present challenges, and reaffirms our commitment to advancing gender equality and unleashing the potential of future generations of women.

**Whereas,** the United Nations has helped create a historic legacy of internationally-agreed strategies, standards, programs, and goals to advance the status of girls and women worldwide and continues to stand with girls and women around the world as they fight to overcome the injustices they face; and

**Whereas,** in the words of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, “Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls is the unfinished business of our time, and the greatest human rights challenge in our world,” and the participation of women as equal partners with men in the political and economic arenas is key to accelerating the achievements of the sustainable development goals, peace, security, and full respect for human rights.

**Whereas,** UN Women has declared the theme for 2020 is “I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women’s Rights” to mark the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and to celebrate intergenerational champions for gender equality.

**Whereas,** the [insert Chapter/Division name] is committed to shaping a better future by promoting human rights and equality for all, as women’s participation makes peace agreements stronger, societies more resilient, and economies more vigorous;

**Whereas,** the [insert Chapter/Division name] recognizes that gender equality is a human right inextricably tied to justice, freedom, and peace; and pledges to take action to stand up for the rights of women and girls and play the crucial role of civil society in leading global action on gender equality.

**Whereas,** the citizens of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_should participate in all activities related to International Women’s Day;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officially proclaim March 8, 2020 as

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY**

In witness whereof, I have set my hand and caused the seal of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to be affixed on this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the year 2020.

Seal

Signature