Oral Statement: CSW59 “Beijing+20”

Presented by the International Association of Democratic Lawyers and the Member Organisations of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women to the participants of the 59th Commission on the Status of Women:

Considering the political declaration of CSW59 2015;

Considering the urgency of unrestricted implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the UN Member States;

Considering in particular Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 dealing with women in armed conflicts;

Considering the Synthesis Report of Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon: “The Road to Dignity 2030”;

Convinced that all forms of violence, especially violence against women and girls, must be eliminated in order to guarantee universal Human Rights;

The Member Organisations of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women:

Support the Report and the SDGs aiming to achieve a world of equality and respect for Human Rights for all nations;

Emphasize in particular SDG 5: “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls” as critical to mainstreaming gender equality in the achievement of all of the SDGs;

Demand a wholistic approach to achieving equality, to include, in addition to the goal on gender equality, SDG 1: “End poverty in all its forms everywhere”; SDG 4: “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all” and SDG 16: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.” These goals are prerequisites for achieving all of the other SDGs.
Expect UN Member States to fully implement CEDAW and consider creating a new internationally-binding legal instrument to eliminate all forms of violence against women.

Call upon Member States to provide adequate funding and resources to ensure that the SDGs are achieved.