1. Ratification of International Conventions

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Considers deplorable that only a limited number of countries have ratified the Conventions and Recommendations, adopted by the International Agencies. Among those specially related with Human Rights, and not yet adopted are: “Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination”, “Prevention and Punishment of Genocide”, “Political Rights of Women”, “Abolition of Slavery”, “Discrimination in Education”, “Discrimination in Employment and Occupation”.

In this Year of Human Rights, the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom,

Asks its National Sections to investigate which International Conventions their respective Governments have not yet ratified, and to bring pressure on them to do so.

2. Chemical and Biological Warfare

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Deeply concerned and appalled by the immorality, inhumanity and diversion of the nations’ resources into the research, production and use of chemical and biological weapons resulting in incalculable destruction,

Realizing that these weapons can be produced, transported and used cheaply and secretly,

Urges all Sections to inform and arouse public opinion to press for:
(1) Immediate cessation of all forms of chemical and biological warfare,
(2) Cessation of research in and production of all forms of chemical and biological weaponry, and
(3) Destruction of all existing stockpiles of these weapons.
Calls upon the governments of the world to cease the research in and the manufacture of chemical and biological weaponry, and to destroy existing stockpiles, and

To abide by the provision of the Geneva Gas-Protocol of 1925, which bans the use of chemical and biological weapons, and the U.N. Resolution of 1966 which reaffirms the provisions of this protocol.

3 Foreign Bases

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Fully realizing that foreign military bases are a source of fear and mistrust, of grave tension and threats to the peace between nations, with serious infringement of the human rights of the indigenous people, especially in such a flagrant case as Okinawa which serves as the most important advance base for military operations in Viet Nam,

Urges the United Nations to take steps to bring about an International Agreement for the immediate removal of all foreign military bases and the withdrawal of personnel and equipment to the home country.

4. Uses of the Sea-Bed

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Aware of the enormous potentialities for good and ill to mankind contained in the Sea and the Sea-bed.

Welcomes the initiative taken by the Government of Malta to request the General Assembly of the United Nations to draw up a Treaty ensuring that the uses made of the contents of Sea and of the Sea-bed be for peaceful purposes only for the interests of all mankind,

Recognizing the urgency of preventing the appropriation by national powers or private corporations of parts of the ocean floor and of forestalling the use for any military purpose,

Urges the Ad Hoc Committee to study the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-bed and the Ocean floor behind the limits of National Jurisdiction, to consider the prompt establishment of an International Agencies within the structure of the United Nations to assume sole jurisdiction over the Sea-bed and the Ocean floor as trustee for all nations, with power to control economic, commercial and technical factors beyond those which are not exercised through United Nations Conventions, and to decide how to use any profits for the benefit of all mankind.
5. Greece

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Deeply Concerned with the daily violation of Human Rights in Greece,

Express satisfaction that at the request made by the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands this problem has now been submitted to the Commission on Human Rights of the Council of Europe,

Deplores the interference by any Power in the affairs of Greece through the sending of money and arms,

Calls upon all Governments to refrain from delivery of military supplies.

6. Population Problem and Human Rights

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Having worked for peace within and between populations groups and nations ever since its foundation, has always realized that peace means not only no-war but also the possibility for each individual and society to develop in accordance with the principles formulated and generally accepted in the UN Declaration on Human Rights

The rapid acceleration of population growth is one of the obstacles to such development.

The Congress

Welcome the interest in family planning, in all its aspects, by the United Nations and its Agencies, and

Urges the members of all National Sections to cooperate with those bodies whose task it is to prepare constructive projects for family planning.

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom should take up work for an enlightened public opinion on population policy, as one of the most urgent tasks, in the context of Freedom from Hunger Program.

7 Viet Nam

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Is profoundly DISTRESSED by
(1) The escalating savagery of the war in Vietnam,
(2) The continuing pretense and irrelevance of the Paris Talks, which can only be fruitful when the U.S halts unconditionally the bombings of North Vietnam, so that actual peace talks can begin,
(3) The fact that the bombing of North Vietnam, announced as halted has actually increased in among,

And therefore urges the President of the United States immediately to halt all bombing of North Vietnam, simultaneously initiate a cease-fire-unless-fired-upon in the South, state its willingness to negotiate with all parties concerned, including the NLF, for implementation of the principles of the Geneva Accords including the withdrawal of U.S. and other foreign troops and international guarantees of the demilitarization and self-determination of the South.

8 Second United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Concerned at the failure of the Second United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New Delhi, February 1968, to arrive at an agreed plan of action,

Compliments the Conference Chairman, the UNCTAD Secretary-General and Heads of Delegations for their concerted efforts towards commonly agreed solutions,

Emphasized the urgent and imperative need for a anon-discriminatory system of preference for the non-traditional exports of the developing countries,

Urges the developed nations to soften the terms of aid and made all loans long-term and interest free,

Calls on the women in the developed countries to impress upon their governments the need for more broad-based economic cooperation with the developing countries.

9. European Security Policy and Developing Countries

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Convinced that the European military blocs of NATO and the Warsaw Pact ought to be dissolved, because they support a dangerous military terror balance which is not in conformity with the development of the world,

Agrees that the political aim ought instead to be an European security policy guaranteeing frontiers and sovereignty, leading to a dissolution of all Political blocs
Urges that the UN Guarantees of the neutrality of small countries would enable these more freely to work for a gradual disarmament.

Further it is felt that such a policy would increase the changes of a positive dialogue between the ideologies and stimulate a joint and positive collaboration with the developing countries so that this rapidly increasing global problem could be led into more constructive channels based on mutual confidence.

10 Middle East

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Considering that a permanent peace can be established only through the cooperative efforts by both sides in the Middle Eastern conflict, the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom,

Urges on all the Powers concerned to take immediate steps, either through direct contact of through the representative of the Secretary General of the U.N or any other third party acceptable to both sides, to negotiate a peaceful settlement, based on the reciprocal recognition of the sovereign independence of all the States concerned,

We Express the Earnest hope that all the states in the Middle East, in order to avert further bloodshed, will substitute cooperation for belligerency, and thus ensure to all of them within the framework of a just and enduring peace, secure and recognized frontiers, freedom of navigation through international waters, free access for all faiths to their Holy Places and a solution, with international support and help, of the refugee problem,

We Urge the great Powers to encourage immediate steps towards such a peace, and to undertake appropriate means to ensure its permanence on the basis of the resolution of November 22nd, 1967, unanimous adopted by the Security Council which defined the principles, which it should embody,

We are Convinced that the United Nations will contribute both to the negotiations of such a peace, and to the implementation of its provisions, all the resources and support at its disposal.

11. Crisis in Czechoslovakia

The Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, meeting at Congress, August 1968,

Deeply Distressed at the crisis that has arisen in Czechoslovakia,
Reaffirms its belief in the principle of self-determination and its firm conviction that military intervention in the internal affairs of another country, for whatever reasons, is never justified,

Expresses its sympathy with all people’s concerned, and

urges the withdrawal of all foreign troops as a first step towards peaceful settlement through negotiations.