QUESTION OF: CREATING AWARENESS ON THE ABUSE OF COSMETIC SURGERY TO ENSURE HEALTH SAFETY AND IDENTITY

The General Assembly,

Deeply concerned by the existing pressure on people to fit in the global beauty standards through cosmetic surgery which is further stressed by media and patriarchy, compelling people to accept the associated risks,

Further deploring that cosmetic surgery may lead to or act as the result of Body Dysmorphic Disorder (BDD) and poor self-esteem which is detrimental to the mental health of the patient and further worsens the issue instead of addressing it,

Fully aware that social media has contributed to the expansion of the cosmetic surgery industry with the widespread of beauty trends influencing the youth around the world making them more vulnerable to cosmetic surgery,

Noting with concern that there exist many potential risks to the surgeries, unknown to a large fraction of the patients undergoing them, including scarring and bruising, hematoma, nerve damage, infection and organ failure amongst others,
Alarmed by the lack of hospitals, medical equipment and hygiene in many underdeveloped countries which impairs the medical capabilities of the doctors and endangers the patients’ lives,

Deeply conscious that due to the exorbitant costs of cosmetic surgery in developed countries, there is a rise in unlicensed cosmetic surgeons carrying out surgeries illegally at a cheaper rate while compromising on the health and safety of the patients,

1. **Strongly recommends** a restriction on advertisements, banning those which trivialise cosmetic surgery, exploit women’s insecurities and focus more on the sale of a commodity than on the medical treatment;

2. **Invites** help from international bodies and NGOs to provide support to create awareness about the abuse of cosmetic surgery by means of sensitisation campaigns and support groups, aiming at correcting the cultural mind-set;

3. **Expresses its conviction** that counselling should be implemented in all secondary schools to prevent youngsters from taking hasty decisions and allow them to overcome any body-image issue;

4. **Encourages** a culture where mental health is promoted so that people can address their health issues and recover;
Commission : Health and Population
Sponsors : Bolivia, Brazil, Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Korea, Egypt, Greece, Japan, Peru, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Ukraine, Syria

5. **Recommends** sending petitions to various multinationals such as Apple, Google, Amazon and Microsoft to exclude any cosmetic surgery applications, including games targeted at children, from their application stores;

6. **Endorses** the importance of post-operative care which prevents infection after surgery;

7. **Strongly suggests** banning the use of professional photo editing tools in advertisements that create a false image and encourage people to accept their natural beauty than the image created by media;

8. **Emphasizing** that medical professionals should maintain a briefing session about the potential risks associated with the surgery, using graphical methods such as pictures, to maintain maximum transparency;

9. **Further declaring** that training should be given to all medical specialists to ensure the use of proper sanitary hygiene and maintenance of cleanliness at their workplace;

10. **Appeals** to the World Health Organisation and the government to boost the construction of hospitals and prioritize the provision of better health care for citizens;
11. **Further recommends** laws to ban cosmetic surgery below the age of 18 allowing only genuine cases and ensuring that any doctor defying this law shall be liable to heavy fines;

12. **Strongly supports** the reinforcement of existing policies to prevent uncertified doctors from carrying out illegal surgeries and endangering the patient’s health.