

CitizenGO Foundation  
Paseo de la Habana, 200  
28036 Madrid, Spain

22 April 2019

Her Excellency Koki Muli Grignon  
Deputy Permanent Representative  
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations  
866 U.N. Plaza [REDACTED]  
New York, NY 10017

Your Excellency,

CitizenGO Foundation launched an online petition from 26 February 2019 to 22 March 2019. The petition was made available on our website, CitizenGO.org, for members of the public to sign in one of the possible 12 languages: English, French, Spanish, German, Italian, Polish, Russian, Dutch, Portuguese, Croatian, Slovak, and Hungarian. Each time the petition was signed on our platform, our automated system sent an email or message to the target of the petition. For a version of this petition, you were the target of the petition for around 36 hours from mid-day 20 March 2019 to late-day 21 March 2019. Of the 158,938 petition signers, our system indicates that you received around 3,000 messages from petition signers back in Kenya and around the world.

CitizenGO Foundation created, promoted, and circulated this petition alone, as a sovereign entity, without the help of any other organization but specifically to mention without the help of the Center for Family & Human Rights (C-Fam). We have a team of people who work diligently and professionally within the United Nations system, European Parliament, Organization of American States, and various national assemblies across five continents, including the Parliament of Kenya. Our work is made possible solely from the grassroots, our 10.2 million members worldwide, who sign and share our petitions. During the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), we did not rely on C-Fam to act. It came to our attention that C-Fam was blamed as one of the organizations responsible for the petition, so we wanted to rush to clear up that they had absolutely nothing to do with the petition or our actions at CSW. We wish to make this letter available to the Kenya Mission to the United Nations, your fellow Deputy Permanent Representatives, as well their respective Missions to clear the name of C-Fam on this matter.

The purpose of this online petition was to give our members and the public the ability to reach their delegation to the United Nations and other key decisionmakers of CSW. Your Excellency, as the co-facilitator of the Final Outcome Document, you were considered as someone of significant influence. Our goal as an organization was to carry the voices of women and girls from towns and villages outside of Nairobi and make them available to the Foreign Ministry and the Kenya Mission to the United Nations. As the petition states, we fundamentally believe that women and girls want their UN Missions to focus on initiatives that promote clean water, eradicating hunger and poverty, and better healthcare strategies, rather than controversial language that divides Members States in the UN system.

Our team working at CSW became very concerned when they heard reports from the negotiations that you were upset by the petition. When we were told that you were overwhelmed by the petition responses, we removed you as the petition target. Please allow me to be clear that CitizenGO is not in the business of harassing, intimidating, threatening, or bullying anyone. We are very sorry about how this resulted and the pain that this action has caused you. We never intended for you or anyone to feel this way from responses on our platform. CitizenGO Foundation is a new NGO that is finding ways to give a voice to

