



**Global South Coalition**  
For Dignified Menstruation

## News Advisory

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## Join Conference (Hybrid) to Commemorate 4<sup>th</sup> International Dignified Menstruation Day on December 8, 2022

**Kathmandu, Nepal** (September 1, 2022) As governments loosen COVID-19 restrictions around the world, menstruators are going back to school and work, all while attempting to manage their menstruation, perimenopause and menopause. On the occasion of International Dignified Menstruation Day (IDM Day) on December 8, 2022; all stakeholders and activists are invited to join The Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation (GSCDM)/Radha Paudel Foundation, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and partners in helping to advocate for the recognition of this day by Governments and UN Agencies globally. Let us promote #DignifiedMenstruation for women, girls, transgender men, and non-binary people throughout life cycle of them who menstruate!

Menstruation is an inevitable and menstrual discrimination is social construct that has been practicing across the globe manifested in various names, forms and magnitude. Menstruators have been facing various forms of social, political, economic and ecological consequences with immediate and long term throughout their life cycle. In many cases, menstrual discrimination is not only a form of gender-based violence (GBV) but also co-occur to other forms GBV e.g., child marriage (GSCDM, 2022). In order to change the narratives on menstruation, the 'dignified menstruation' is an innovative and holistic approach to combat the menstrual discriminatory perceptions and practices for achieving overarching goal of gender equality. Dignified menstruation is tool for prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, improvement of Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and promotion of human rights, which is the missed opportunity globally.

IDM Day on December 8 is being increasingly recognized worldwide and was first launched by advocates in 2019 to highlight the importance of dignified menstruation that emancipate all menstruators in all diversities to claim their rights at home, school, community and everywhere. On the occasion of 4<sup>th</sup> IDM Day, GSCDM and its partners and network members will be organizing Virtual Conference with the demand to United Nations' General Assembly to pass the resolution to recognize December 8 as IDM Day, a 14<sup>th</sup> day of UN's 16 days Activism. IDM 2022 will be marking with the theme "Dignified Menstruation For Ending Child Marriage" because menstrual discrimination is the missing driver for child marriage globally.

- **WHAT:** Commemoration of 4<sup>th</sup> International Dignified Menstruation Day
- **WHEN:** Thursday, December 8, 2022
- **From: 11:00 am onwards:** Conference (hybrid) with the participation of women, girls, advocates, policy level people and partners/donor representatives from the global south for joint advocacy on dignified menstruation.
- **WHERE:** Kathmandu, Nepal (venue to be decided and it accommodates virtual participants)
- **WHO:**
  - Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation (GSCDM) and it's members (from more than 50 countries)
  - Radha Paudel Foundation (RPF) (secretariat for GSCDM)
  - AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and [Girls Act](#)

**NEWS DESK NOTE & VISUALS:** There will be an GSCDM booth exhibition to display and distribute educational materials which are produced by partners too.

### Statements related to menstruation made by public and policy level figures and activists:

- “Dignified Menstruation is everyone’s responsibility” said **Mr. Parbat Gurung**, Former Minister, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen.
- “Menstrual Discrimination is a gender-based violence, it is crime as our constitution” said **Hon. Niru Devi Pal**, Chair of the Women, & Development Committee in the House of Representatives, Nepal.
- “Menstrual Discrimination is the crime and punishable according to the law” said Hon. Krishna Bhakta Pokhrel, Chair for Law, Justice and Human Right Committee, House of Representative, Nepal.
- “As long as we allow stigma and taboos to exist around periods, people who menstruate will be labeled as ‘other’ and held back from reaching their full potential,” said **Loretta Wong**, Deputy Chief of Global Advocacy and Policy, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF).
- “A substantial percentage of the global population menstruates – and we owe it to them to ensure governments guarantee access to free or affordable hygiene products and adequate facilities for menstrual health management. It’s 2022, not 1922 – the time has come for the world to ‘End the Stigma’ around menstruation!” said **Dr. Chhim Sarath**, Asia Bureau Chief, AHF.
- “Menstrual Discrimination is missing driver for Child Marriage globally. Dignified Menstruation is an innovative and holistic approach for gender equality” said **Ms. Radha Paudel**, Founder, Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation.

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**RADHA PAUDEL FOUNDATION (RPF)**, Nepal informally started to work since 2016 and officially registered in 2017 under the government (167502/74 and 46619 in Social Welfare Council). The VISION of the RPF is emancipation for menstruators from poverty, injustices, discrimination. To learn more about **RPF**, please visit our website: <https://www.radhapaudelfoundation.org/>, find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/radhapaudelfoundation> and follow us on Twitter: [https://twitter.com/foundation\\_rp](https://twitter.com/foundation_rp) and Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/radha\\_paudel\\_foundation/](https://www.instagram.com/radha_paudel_foundation/)

**Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation (GSCDM)**’s mission is to dismantle institutional, structural, interpersonal, and social oppressive systems in place affecting menstruation, individuals who menstruate, and their ability to access basic inalienable human rights, critical resources to lead happy, and healthy lives, and obtain dignity. We strive to unite organizations, and individuals who share our vision of reclaiming dignity for everyone during menstruation and aim to transform the menstruation movement to center dignity. To learn more about **GSCDM**, please visit our website: <https://dignifiedmenstruation.org/>, find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DignifiedMenstruation> and follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GlobalSouthDM> and Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/globalsouthcoalitionfordignifiedmenstruation/>

**AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF)**, the largest global AIDS organization, currently provides medical care and/or services to over 1.6 million clients in **45** countries worldwide in the US, Africa, Latin America/Caribbean, the Asia/Pacific Region and Europe. To learn more about AHF, please visit our website: [www.aidshealth.org](http://www.aidshealth.org), find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/aidshealth](http://www.facebook.com/aidshealth) and follow us on Twitter: [@aidshealthcare](https://twitter.com/aidshealthcare) and Instagram: [@aidshealthcare](https://www.instagram.com/aidshealthcare)