

1 Code: DR 1/1
2 Committee: Commission on the Status of Women
3 Subject: The Role of Women in the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goal 7:
4 Ensure Environmental Sustainability
5 Sponsors: France, Germany, India, Morocco, Russian Federation, South Africa, Togo,
6 Ukraine
7 Signatories: Poland
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9 *Recalling* Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability and
10 Target 7B: to significantly reduce loss of biodiversity,
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12 *Fully believing* that the principles contained in the Convention on the Elimination of all
13 Forms of Discrimination against Women are a great support for awareness campaigns, which
14 will reach out to a variety of women and will encourage them to be partners and leaders in
15 achieving Millennium Development Goal number 7,
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17 *Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration of the World Conference on Environment and
18 Development held in Rio de Janeiro which recognized, on its Agenda 21, the crucial role that
19 women play in environmental management, including the importance of awareness and
20 knowledge in guiding women to be involved in the environmental sector,
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22 *Guided by* the actions and initiatives of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action
23 regarding rural and indigenous women as mentioned in the Economic and Social Council
24 (ECOSOC) Resolution E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.1/Rev.2 from 2000,
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26 *Further recalling* General Assembly Resolution A/RES/58/207 adopted in 2004 to ensure the
27 full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of national and local
28 policies to promote human resources development and further urging the adoption of cross-
29 sector approaches to human resources development through the empowerment of women,
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31 *Noting further* the measures described in resolution E/CN.6/2011/L.1, adopted by the
32 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2011, which details the inclusion of a
33 “gender component” in all State reports concerning sustainable development,
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35 *Bearing in mind* the Women’s Environment and Development Organization’s (WEDO)
36 success in collaborating with United Nations bodies, intergovernmental organizations (IGO),
37 and women’s organizations to provide environmentally sustainable training for women,
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39 *Recognizing* the creation of the United Nations Environmental Programme’s Environmental
40 Education and Training Unit, devoted to the education of sustainable practices at the local
41 level,
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43 *Aware of* the importance of including women in addressing biodiversity and the reduction of
44 carbon emissions;
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46 *Assured that* an increased knowledge among women pertaining to biodiversity and its
47 applications in the promotion of sustainable development will positively affect women’s
48 abilities to provide for their communities in a manner that is environmentally sustainable,
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50 *Recognizing* that urban, as well as rural women may lack of environmental sustainability
51 education, which jeopardizes both, the environment and sustainable economic growth for
52 future generations, making it essential to widen up the availability of this knowledge,
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54 *Believing in the importance* of including women who have informal jobs in the process of
55 achieving a sustainable environment, and understanding that informal jobs are a reality which
56 has to be seen as a tool to improve economic conditions of the population in developing
57 countries,
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59 *Considering* that many women in rural areas have informal jobs and may have limitations
60 finding a formal job,
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62 *Acknowledging* the importance of helping to increase the sense of social responsibility while
63 they are at their work place,
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65 *Reaffirming* the roles of women as producers and caregivers in cultures and societies around
66 the world,
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68 *Taking into account* the model of the One Women Initiative held by the Azerbaijan
69 Government, to enhance the outreach of professional Azerbaijani lawyers into rural
70 communities,
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72 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*
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- 74 1) *Calls upon* Member States to develop national awareness campaigns to outreach women
75 of all background in all areas by:
 - 76 a. Allowing women to understand the environment as well as the challenges and
77 threats posed to it through local programming avenues;
 - 78 b. Highlighting their role in the environment and environmental sectors;
 - 79 c. Being aware of resources available to further serve in more participatory capacities
80 as partners and leaders;
 - 81 d. Encouraging active involvement in procuring a sustainable environment and
82 engaging in domestic activities and plans of action to achieve Millennium
83 Development Goal 7;
- 84
85 2) *Decides* that awareness should be created through environmentally friendly educational
86 campaigns and tools, to be sustained by financial and administrative support from local
87 and national governments and IGOs (which are to be selected individually by each
88 respective Member State), going into effect by 2014, such as:
 - 89 a. Social media that will be managed through the UN Women Communication
90 Advisory in cooperation with local governments willing to support the awareness
91 campaigns connecting the initiative with local governments while engaging rural
92 and urban women;
 - 93 i. UN Women Communication Advisors will be responsible for
94 evaluating and communicating success to participating Member States
95 and CSW;
 - 96 b. Participatory forums will be organized for women working in the urban sector
97 giving all communities access to the technological equipment necessary to
98 maximize their learning of environmental initiatives as well as environmental
99 professional activities to share their knowledge with women in the rural sector:

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- i. Special emphasis will be placed on the importance of protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and promoting the responsible usage of natural resources;
 - ii. The primary goal for these women is to understand that reaching sustainable development practices will benefit the whole community as well as future generations, giving women the opportunity to empower women to become responsible for the management of the natural resources that can be found in their communities;
 - iii. Women with informal jobs will be invited to participate at the informatory campaigns and share their experiences as vital pillars of the awareness campaigns;
 - iv. Each forum will be responsible for monitoring and communicating success to participating Member States and CSW;
- 115 3) *Emphasizes* the creation of participatory forums directed by urban women, aimed to
116 approach rural women as a means of education, so that:
- a. The attention will be redirected towards the education of women in terms of:
 - 117 i. Legal rights;
 - 118 ii. Labor rights;
 - 119 iii. Social rights;
 - 120 iv. Environmental responsibilities;
 - b. Programs will be held focusing on educational forums directed towards legal
121 affairs meant to empower women within their legal rights;
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- 125 4) *Encourages* the aforementioned educational campaigns, along with their corresponding
126 forums, to be extended to women in both formal jobs and informal jobs, so that:
- 127 a. “Formal jobs” shall be defined as those jobs that are based on contractual
128 agreements;
 - 129 b. “Informal jobs” shall be defined as jobs that are not based on contractual
130 agreements, which may include but shall not be limited to a woman’s role as child-
131 bearer, cook, housekeeper, etc.;
 - 132 c. Forums will be created to promote sustainability within jobs belonging to the
133 aforementioned identified sectors;
 - 134 d. Emphasis will be placed on women with informal jobs, women leading families,
135 and women belonging to indigenous communities;
- 136
- 137 5) *Endorses* the inclusion of a global urban social initiative as an extension of the
138 aforementioned awareness campaign, to educate, train and network urban women on
139 accessible everyday activities which can be undertaken to reduce their negative
140 environmental impact, so that:
- 141 a. The focus areas of this initiative will be:
 - 142 i. Recycling and waste reduction;
 - 143 ii. Reducing carbon emissions;
 - 144 iii. Increasing resource efficiency;
 - 145 b. The work of this initiative will be done by the United Nations Development
146 Programme and the United Nations Environmental Programme in coordination
147 through governments, non-governmental organizations, community organizations
148 and private companies;

- 149 c. This initiative will be overseen by the CSW, to ensure the coordination of the
150 parties involved, monitor the level of success of this initiative, and to re-evaluate
151 the necessity and efficiency of the initiative to be submitted in a report to the CSW
152 by 2020;
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- 154 6) *Encourages* all Member States to work in conjunction with the Women’s Environment
155 and Development Organization (WEDO) in order to implement alternative education and
156 training programs within the community for indigenous women to pursue sustainability in
157 their current field of study and local environment, so that:
- 158 a. Women will be educated on becoming more environmentally sustainable through
159 training from regional environmental scientists provided through WEDO;
- 160 b. Women will instill sustainable environmental values in their children as well as
161 encourage more environmentally resourceful purchases within the community;
- 162 c. Adult literacy will also be addressed in order for indigenous women to
163 independently research current technologies on environmental sustainability;
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- 165 7) *Calls upon* each Member State to assess their crop output and the value of each crop to
166 the sustainability and food supply of the State, so that:
- 167 a. “Crop output” shall be defined as the amount, both real and proportionate, of a
168 given crop grown within a Member State;
- 169 b. This program shall serve as an extension of the aforementioned awareness
170 campaign, to educate women with practical skills and knowledge of biodiversity
171 and the sustainability of regional crop output;
- 172 c. Women may be able to familiarize themselves with the local crop output while
173 participating in the research and analysis processes, as familiarity with local and
174 regional crop output will:
- 175 i. Allow women to grow the crops necessary to sustain their local
176 communities;
- 177 ii. Inspire environmental awareness among women, thereby empowering
178 them to make environmentally-sustainable decisions as applicable in
179 capacities such as crop selection and rotation;
- 180 d. Each participating Member State shall be solely responsible for the research and
181 analysis of its respective crop output;
- 182 e. Each participating Member State shall issue a report to the Commission on the
183 Status of Women which details information such as the structure of the research,
184 the proportion of women in relation to men working on the research and analysis,
185 and suggestions as to how to improve the efficiency and accuracy of each
186 respective Member States’ program as it relates to the role of women in the
187 research and analysis processes;
- 188 f. Women play an integral role in the research and assessment processes;
- 189 g. Women from both rural and urban communities will be selected to actively
190 participate in the research and assessment processes;
- 191 h. Region-specific analyses are published and made accessible to Member States;
- 192
- 193 8) *Calls for* the creation of a database to be a culmination of the data collected through the
194 aforementioned assessments of crop outputs and values, given the following:
- 195 a. Information and data shall be released to the database at the discretion of each
196 Member State;

- 197 b. Each Member State shall be solely responsible for all necessary oversight and
198 verification of crop output values and analyses put forward for inclusion in the
199 database;
200 c. The contents of the database shall serve as content for the awareness campaigns,
201 allowing women to access information regarding the crop output and applicable
202 measures of biodiversity in their local regions;
203 d. The database shall be accessible to all Member States;
204
205 9) *Strongly encourages* the inclusion of women in all decision-making processes at the
206 local, central, and global levels, as related to environmental sustainability and the
207 protection of biodiversity and the reduction of carbon emission.
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Code:

Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

Subject: The Role of Women in the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goal Number 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability

1 *Recalling* A/RES/41/128, adopted by the General Assembly in 1986, The Declaration on the
2 Right to Development, which promotes egalitarian practices and gender equality, as well as the
3 other fundamental human rights, for the achievement of development in all Member States,
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5 *Recognizing* Millennium Development Goal 7, ensuring environmental sustainability, which
6 endorses principles of sustainable development, reducing biodiversity loss, and ensuring access
7 to safe drinking water and basic sanitation,
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9 *Emphasizing* Millennium Development Goal target 7C aimed at providing sustainable access to
10 sanitation and safe drinking water,
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12 *Taking into consideration* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which addresses that
13 humans play a role in environmental sustainability as well as its degradation, and women in
14 particular play a vital role in communities, especially concerning the promotion of environmental
15 sustainability,
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17 *Taking into account* A/RES/66/129, adopted by the General Assembly in 2012, Improvement of
18 the Situation of Women in Rural Areas, which recognizes that women in rural areas have limited
19 access to water, land, and resources, yet are critical agents in both the realm of poverty reduction
20 and environmental sustainability,
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22 *Calling special attention* to A/RES/66/129 clause 2, sub-clause g, which promotes access to safe
23 drinking water, sanitation, safe cooking practices, and sustainable infrastructure to improve the
24 health of rural women and children,
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26 *Referring to* the Gender and Water Alliance, a coordination body established at the Second
27 World Water Forum in 2000, which promotes the building of networks among grassroots
28 organizations such as Katosi Women Development Trust (KWDT in Uganda) and Centre for
29 Arab Women Training and Research (CAWTAR) in order to provide safe, adequate water while
30 also paying attention to gender issues, social justice, and human rights,
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32 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*
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- 34 1) *Encourages* the Gender and Water Alliance (hereafter referred to as the GWA) to
35 establish cooperation between university students and women in rural communities in
36 developing countries to promote water sanitation and accessibility with the goal of
37 creating mutual benefits for both parties by:
38 a) Supporting universities in both developed and developing countries in establishing
39 voluntary, extracurricular student-run clubs with an interest in helping to provide
40 accessibility to safe water resources to rural communities in developing countries by:
41 i) Engaging in educational activities for the students and for the purpose of raising
42 awareness in their own communities that will foster a better understanding of

- 43 water issues faced by women in rural communities, as water collection is
44 predominantly a woman's task in developing countries;
- 45 ii) Preparing students over a period of at least six months culturally, academically,
46 physically, and psychologically to engage in voluntary development aid activities
47 by the name of AQUAFEM, which will be introduced in clause 2, and aimed at
48 helping developing countries achieve sustainability in the area of water
49 management;
- 50 iii) Hosting fundraising events in their own communities to cover their own travel
51 expenses and student organization costs, and additionally, contribute the surplus
52 to the project AQUAFEM which students will travel to under the GWA to work
53 on sustainable resources for women;
- 54
- 55 2) *Encourages* the development of two 3-year AQUAFEM pilot programmes in Ghana and
56 Togo for the purpose of creating sustainable accessibility to safe water resources, which
57 are to be comprised of three phases, and will be continuously supported by students, who
58 remain at the project for a duration of 3 to 6 months throughout AQUAFEM's 2-year
59 duration:
- 60 a) The first phase of three months will be focused on the building of relationships and
61 trust between the targeted rural communities in Ghana and Togo and the programme,
62 by:
- 63 i) Asking the GWA to provide volunteers of the university program to be deployed
64 to the targeted communities for three months in order to become valuable
65 contributors in the practical tasks of everyday life of rural communities, i.e. water
66 collection;
- 67 ii) Providing the targeted communities with short-term support regarding everyday
68 needs through such things as solar cookers, chlorine tablets, disposable water
69 filters, etc. to be funded by the institutions named in operative clause 4;
- 70 iii) At the completion of the first phase, students will return home to receive further
71 training and evaluate the information gained from women in the community in
72 regards to their needs in water management and sanitation in order to return the
73 following year;
- 74 b) The second phase of 6-months duration will commence after phase one, in which trust
75 has been established with the rural women by the volunteers with GWA, and be
76 focused on educating them in basic water management techniques, as they are the
77 primary suppliers of water for household purposes, by:
- 78 i) Providing them with expertise on the establishment and operation of rudimentary
79 water collection and water storage systems, i.e. cisterns;
- 80 ii) Informing them on rudimentary technology and expertise concerning water
81 filtration and purification, i.e. rudimentary filtering systems;
- 82 iii) At the completion of the second phase, students will return home to receive
83 further training and prepare for the implementation of the infrastructure required
84 by the women of the rural community in the following year
- 85 c) The third phase of 6 month duration focuses on the establishment of modern
86 infrastructure and sustainable long-term water technologies, provided by donor states
87 such as: Japan, Poland and the United Kingdom, based on the needs voiced from the
88 women of the communities;

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3) *Emphasizes* that in order for the positive effect of education and expertise transfer in the targeted communities to spread within the region, an inter-community exchange programme of rural women with neighboring settlements is to be established with the goal of exchanging experiences and best practices, and is to operate as a self-sustaining monitoring process to ensure to donor nations that their investments are being properly sustained in the rural communities, as well as to ensure that the innovations in water management continue to be operated successfully and sustainably in the AQUAFEM project communities;

4) *Proclaims* that the Japanese International Cooperation Initiative, the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom, and Polish Aid will contribute the monetary funds necessary to launch the project:

a) After the first year, all Member States involved will compile a report on the progress of the initial stages of this initiative to be presented to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the GWA;

b) Based on the success of the project communities in Ghana and Togo, AQUAFEM and the GWA will look to Member States, the CSW, and international bodies such as, but not limited to, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, and UNWater to use the AQUAFEM pilot programme as a basis for similar initiatives to be implemented in rural communities worldwide.



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2 Committee: The Committee of the Status of Women
3 Subject: The Role of Women in the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goal Number 7: Ensure
4 Environmental Sustainability
5

6 *Keeping in mind* that Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Number 7 provides Member States with
7 comprehensive targets and indicators to achieve global environmental sustainability,
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9 *Deeply conscious* that every effort to successfully advance sustainable development needs to take women into
10 account, as women, comprising over half of the world's population, are a vital resource to promoting
11 environmental sustainability if they are endorsed within their respective Member States to promote popular
12 education for women on sustainable development, gender sensitive policy making, entrepreneurship, and land
13 tenure reform initiatives,
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15 *Drawing attention* to the initiative of National Action Plans in response to Security Council Resolution
16 S/RES/1325 of 2000, which aims to set priorities and resources, initiate strategic actions, and determine
17 responsibilities and timeframes on a national level in promoting gender equality,
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19 *Aware of the need to work in collaboration of UN organizations, such United Nations International Children's*
20 *Emergency Fund (UNICEF), in order to provide socially and economically to women,*
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22 *Recognizing* women are the primary water gatherers in many countries,
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24 *Further recognizing* successful programs implemented in India, China, Uganda, and Ghana, which enable
25 women, during their daily tasks, to help in achieving sustainable living,
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27 *Noting* the success of Women's Environment Development Organization (WEDO) in their special project,
28 Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA) as they garner support from different women's organizations,
29 IGO's, and UN bodies to distribute funds from donor states,
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31 *Recalling* the success of Agenda 21 and Rio +20, the UN Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012, to
32 incorporate women to aid in achieving environmental sustainability through programs such as the UN program,
33 Gender Equality, UN Coherence, & You, 2011,
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35 *Bearing in mind* existing programs empowering women should highlight the importance of integrating women
36 into environmental sustainability,
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38 *The Committee of the Status of Women,*
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40 1) *Calls upon* Member States to enhance collaboration between United Nations agencies, Non-
41 Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Governments in order to empower women and to achieve
42 MDG Number 7 to protect earth's valuable resources;
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44 2) *Decides* to implement the initiative Women Sustaining Themselves (WST), a global social initiative, in
45 order to bolster existent programs for women in each Member State to help women to bring about their
46 own equality, education, and integration into sustainable living patterns framed after existing programs
47 which include but are not limited to Education for All; Agenda 21; Ban Ki-moon's Education First; Girls
48 Grow: A Vital Force in Rural Economies; UNICEF School in a Box; UN-HABITAT;
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50 3) *Calls upon* Member States to create and/or amend National Action Plans in the following ways:

- 51 a) Through the creation of policies aimed at young women ages 10-19 that encourages healthy lifestyle
52 choices and the reduction of carbon footprints through the following actions:
53 i. Encouraging women to conserve water by the usage of runoff water resources as opposed to
54 freshwater sources,
55 ii. Urging the use of alternate sources of transportation such as walking, biking, and the use of
56 car pools when necessary in order to reduce the amount of carbon emissions;
57 iii. Promoting energy saving techniques by avoiding cooking over open flames and adopting
58 initiatives such as the United Nations Foundation Global Alliance for Clean Cooking Stoves
59 (2010),
60 b) Through a collaboration with UNICEF under the condition that Member States will have full
61 discretion over the specific policies and actions encompassing the National Action Plans which
62 should include:
63 i. Framework in place by the suggested completion of MDG 7 in the year 2015,
64 ii. Knowledge based curriculum on current environmental issues and sustainability efforts
65 within each Member State;
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67 4) *Welcomes* funds from donor states, the United States of America, Kingdom of Belgium, and the People's
68 Republic of China and *recommends* Women's Environment Development Organization (WEDO) to:
69 a) Collaborate with Member States to provide financial support for women's participation in these
70 programs through women's advocacy groups, IGOs, UN bodies, government Ministries, and
71 congress women and men in order to fuel the initiative in the beginning to help it become self-
72 sustaining;
73 b) Serve as the link with donor states, like The United States of America, Kingdom of Belgium, and the
74 People's Republic of China, as how to allocate funds, how to evaluate existing programs and the
75 necessities of such programs in Member States;
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77 5) *Urges* Member States to increase the number of women in educational programs, within environmental
78 sciences and law within 5 years in addition to Agenda 21:
79 a) Through providing financial support for scholarships;
80 b) Through gender sensitive training programs in order to reduce discrimination of women within such
81 educational programs such as the UN program, Gender Equality, UN Coherence, & You (2011);
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83 6) *Further recommends* that Member States within the CSW allow WST to observe and support their
84 current education programs for women and bolster or include the following within their programs:
85 a) Basic primary education for women, for those who lack this level;
86 b) Education of business enhancement on finance opportunities in land and small business ownership
87 for women in the follow categories:
88 i) Advocating exchange programs for women on the basis of teaching popular sustainable
89 development education in tenure law reform initiatives so that women, in respects of nation
90 sovereignty, have qualifications for land ownership and inheritances for small
91 business/entrepreneurship enhancement for their rural community;
92 ii) Providing gender equality opportunities for women through advocacy workshops for the purpose
93 of helping women in small business, farming and agricultural markets with the hope of
94 expanding the workforce of women;
95 c) Education of cooking, cleaning, and transporting water in a sustainable way, as well as education in
96 technology and agriculture research in order for women to take advantage of their local, arable land;
97 d) Education of local women to become teachers so the education itself is sustainable;
98 e) These efforts will be monitored by governmental leaders in each respective Member State in
99 accordance to annual reports, received by the United States of America, The Kingdom of Belgium,
100 and The People's Republic of China, provided to WST from the respective State.