

NMUN•NY 2016



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20 – 24 MARCH 2016

Documentation of the Work of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

Courage  
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Compassion  
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CONFERENCE A

## Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

### Committee Staff

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Director</b>           | Tyler Goudal         |
| <b>Assistant Director</b> | Ruitong (Flora) Zhou |
| <b>Chair</b>              | Ksenia Shevtsova     |
| <b>Rapporteur</b>         | Rami Aouni           |

### Agenda

- I. Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development
- II. The Impact of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence on Reproductive Health
- III. Furthering Women's Participation in and Access to Information and Communication Technologies

### Resolutions adopted by the Committee

| Code    | Topic   | Vote  |
|---------|---|---|
| CSW/1/1 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 30 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 2 abstentions |
| CSW/1/2 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 28 votes in favor, 9 votes against, 0 abstentions |
| CSW/1/3 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 29 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 2 abstentions |
| CSW/1/4 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 27 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 7 abstentions |
| CSW/1/5 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | Adopted without a vote                            |
| CSW/1/6 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 22 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 9 abstentions |
| CSW/1/7 | Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development | 25 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 5 abstentions |

## Summary Report

The Commission on the Status of Women held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. The Impact of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence on Reproductive Health
- II. Furthering Women's Participation in and Access to Information and Communication Technologies
- III. Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

The session was attended by representatives of 37 Member States and one non-governmental organization. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of III, I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development."

By Monday, the Dais received a total of eight working papers covering a wide range of sub-topics, including the education of women and job opportunities, political empowerment of women, and economic, social, and political rights of women. Through further discussions, delegates expanded their debates to include social rights and access to renewable energy, education and healthcare, and a world without discrimination against women. The delegates worked diligently to provide specific policy recommendations to address the topic that fostered an atmosphere of collaboration and cooperation. By Tuesday, the delegates continued to merge their ideas while ensuring that the primary topic of their working papers remained strong.

On Wednesday, seven draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, five of which had amendments. The committee adopted all seven resolutions; six of the resolutions were adopted by a simple majority vote while one resolution received unanimous support from the body. The resolutions further represented the topics of their working papers and effectively promoted the principles of gender equality and the empowerment of women through endorsing many policies and programs instilled within the United Nations system. The broad range of topics addressed in the resolutions exemplifies the delegates' preparation and their ability to collaborate on their ideas succinctly and efficiently while highlighting the importance of women's empowerment and gender equality and a means of achieving sustainable development.



**Code:** CSW/1/1

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

---

1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*  
2  
3 *Recalling the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* in regards to the challenges women face worldwide,  
4  
5 *Welcoming* the adoption of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* in General Assembly resolution 70/1,  
6 with special appreciation for Goals 4 and 5 on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls,  
7  
8 *Alarmed by* the persistent disparity in literacy between men and women, especially in developing countries, as  
9 indicated in the United Nations (UN) Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Adult and Youth Literacy  
10 Report of 2015, with the findings strongly illustrating women's plight in regards to access to equal participation in  
11 society and labor market,  
12  
13 *Recalling* the Global Gender Gap Report by the World Economic Forum in 2014, which found lower school  
14 enrollment and attendance ratio for girls in comparison to boys in many developing countries as well as indicated by  
15 further restrictions to females' right to an equal education,  
16  
17 *Bearing in mind* the extreme importance of enabling women's leadership and equal participation in the decision-  
18 making processes of society to foster a more sustainable and equal economic outlook as found in Economic and  
19 Social Council report 2016/3 of the Secretary-General,  
20  
21 *Welcoming* progress secured by Member States for selecting females as presidents and other positions of authority,  
22  
23 *Recognizing* that gender equality and empowered women are catalysts for multiplying development investments in  
24 gender equality as they yield the highest returns on all development investments as stated in the Organisation for  
25 Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) C/MIN(2012)5 report,  
26  
27 *Convinced* that increasing women and girls' access to education contributes to higher economic growth, as indicated  
28 by the 2012 OECD's Final Report which found that larger educational attainment accounted for approximately 50%  
29 of the economic growth in 31 OECD countries over the past 50 years,  
30  
31 *Further recalling* the 2010 Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation study finding that for every additional year of  
32 education a female of reproductive age attains, child mortality decreases by 9.5%,  
33  
34 *Gravely concerned by* the systematic exclusion of girls from education institutions and the job market translates into  
35 a less educated overall population and labor force, inefficient allocation of labor, lost productivity, and consequently  
36 diminished progress in economic development as found by the 2012 World Development Report on Gender Equality  
37 and Development,  
38  
39 *Expressing its appreciation* for the launch of the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) by the Secretary-General  
40 in 2000 and for the work of the UNGEI since its establishment,  
41  
42 *Concerned furthermore* by the reported 31 million girls out of school and average widespread wage gaps of 20%,  
43 along with the inherent gaps in labor, according to statistics from the previously stated World Bank report,  
44  
45 *Deeply convinced* a stronger promotion and implementation of education across demographics and regardless of  
46 race will undoubtedly improve the status of women worldwide,  
47  
48 *Recognizing* the achievements of the Thailand Canada Telecentre Project (TCTP), run by the Canadian International  
49 Development Agency in collaboration with local governmental bodies in Thailand, in supporting structurally weak

50 areas through the empowerment of women bringing information and communication technology to rural areas and  
51 utilizing a “for women by women” approach:  
52

- 53 1. *Recommends* Member States to consider making school attendance of children compulsory for primary  
54 education and enforce it with special focus on ensuring that girls are not barred from attending educational  
55 institutions in youth;  
56
- 57 2. *Encourages* Member States where compulsory primary education is already in place to increase incentives for  
58 families to keep children of both genders in school for secondary education, which could take form in  
59 scholarship initiatives for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics or other fields and/or increasing  
60 the general sentiment for female participation in secondary education;  
61
- 62 3. *Advises* developing countries to create and extend programs that promote vocational training to women and  
63 girls in line with TCTP with focus on communication, critical thinking, civic competencies and use of  
64 communication technologies;  
65
- 66 4. *Recommends* Member States to follow the example of the TCTP herein by:  
67
  - 68 a. Giving women a key role in the design, implementation and management in their technological  
69 institutions;
  - 70
  - 71 b. Accepting the support and oversight of international development funds and the private sector as it has  
72 been successful in the TCTP model previously;  
73
- 74 5. *Invites* the UNGEI to review and consider supporting these kind of programs in Member States;  
75
- 76 6. *Encourages* Member States, aided by the advice of women leaders on a national, international level, and local  
77 level to adopt laws and regulations ensuring gender equality and fight discrimination in the workplace;  
78
- 79 7. *Recommends* all countries to review the hiring processes for governmental institutions for discrimination  
80 against women and make changes to ensure women can have a bigger role in administration and local decision  
81 making processes;  
82
- 83 8. *Encourages* Member States to increase social assistance for impoverished women by improving the reach of  
84 public services to rural areas and extending the collaboration of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such  
85 as Equality Now and Women Thrive Worldwide;  
86
- 87 9. *Suggests* the proliferation of enabling information and communications technology to promote the  
88 empowerment of women, this being a recommendation taken directly from the sentiment of Goal 5 of the *2030*  
89 *Agenda for Sustainable Development*.



**Code:** CSW/1/2

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

---

1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*

2  
3 *Guided by the fundamental assertion of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* that, “All human beings are*  
4 *born free and equal in dignity and rights,” regardless of gender,*

5  
6 *Appraising the continued commitment to women's rights and empowerment as evidenced through the adoption of*  
7 *the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 5's standalone commitment to achieving gender*  
8 *equality and empower women and girls,*

9  
10 *Noting the possible benefits that could be obtained by articulating a desired level of gender equality,*

11  
12 *Affirming the commitment of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**  
13 *(CEDAW) ending gender-based discrimination especially Article 7 of CEDAW, which ensures that women are on*  
14 *equal terms with men in their right to vote in all elections and to be eligible for election to all public elected bodies*  
15 *and to participation in government policies and the implementation therein,*

16  
17 *Determined to continue striving toward the goal articulated in Article 41 of the *Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA)**  
18 *to reach sustainable development by tangibly empowering the world's women, and its strategic objective H.3 to*  
19 *generate and disseminate gender-disaggregated data and information for planning and evaluation actions to be taken,*  
20

21 *Recalling with appreciation the work of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in encouraging access and*  
22 *participation of women and girls in education, training, science and technology, and in including for the promotion*  
23 *of women's equal access to full employment and decent work as explored through the Agreed Conclusion of CSW*  
24 *55,*

25  
26 *Recognizing the regional particularities of Member States, including cultural, religious, and developmental*  
27 *backgrounds, along with national priorities, as mentioned in CSW Agreed Conclusions 57,*

28  
29 *Furthering recognizing the importance of all parties contributing to the body of data to remain cognizant of, and*  
30 *adhere to, their relevant legal obligations to attaining the integrity of data collect, as well as the anonymity of their*  
31 *sources, where applicable,*

32  
33 *Stressing the goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programs in the United Nations (UN)*  
34 *systems, including that of CSW and Member States, as outlined in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)*  
35 *report 52/3,*

36  
37 *Appreciating the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) in*  
38 *presenting an approach to addressing issues of gender equality and women's empowerment at all level of societies,*  
39

40 *Noting with satisfaction the different means to enforce women's empowerment, in particular the Swiss-Kosovan*  
41 *Local Governance and Decentralization Support Programme (LOGOS), which implements a Gender Responsive*  
42 *Budgeting (GRB) plan entailing the identification of areas needing response in order to reduce gender gaps in*  
43 *sectorial and local government policies through an allocation of domestic resources in plans and budgets aiming for*  
44 *those identified intervention needed,*

45  
46 *Recalling the concern in the BPfA section D sub-clause 112, which notes the longstanding failure to protect victims*  
47 *of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV),*  
48

49 *Recalling* the General Assembly (GA) resolution 66/130 on Women and Political Participation, GA resolution  
50 68/227 on Women in Development, and the Women’s Empowerment Principles, which collectively enhance the  
51 political participation and decision-making power of women to bolster the critical role women play in sustainable  
52 development and the promotion of economic equality,  
53

54 *Welcoming* the efforts of the Organization for Economic Cooperation Development’s (OECD) to aggregate gender-  
55 related data through its Social Institutions and Gender Index, as evidenced by its participation in the 58<sup>th</sup> Session of  
56 the CSW in order to tackle discriminatory norms and empower girls,  
57

- 58 1. *Encourages* the pursuit of a model of gender equality in which both genders have equal opportunities to be  
59 active and respected in all areas of society such as education, all sectors of employment, and political decision-  
60 making processes, both genders are entitled to basic human rights, to safety in their homes, workplaces, and  
61 communities, and have access not restricted by gender to the social goods enjoyed by all citizens;  
62
- 63 2. *Encourages* all Member States to reaffirm to their commitments to CEDAW, particularly concerning  
64 discrimination, which is defined in Article 1 as “any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of  
65 sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women,  
66 irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental  
67 freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field;”  
68
- 69 3. *Recommends* that the quantification of gender gaps could best be explored through further aggregation of data,  
70 such as that collected by the United Nations (UN) Statistics Division (UNdata) of the Department of Economic  
71 and Social Affairs (UN DESA), in the spheres of education, economic, governance, health and safety to be used  
72 for the purposes of:
  - 73 a. Formulating policy that will empower women and bolster sustainable development efforts;  
74
  - 75 b. Considering the adoption of Gender Responsive Budgeting structures;  
76
- 77 4. *Suggests* that all Member States consider the incorporation of gender-responsible budgets and programs relative  
78 to their differing levels of development and needs to consider all citizens equally in accordance with the afore-  
79 mentioned data, following the GRB structure, such as utilized within the Swiss LOGOS Program and other  
80 programs, and as emphasized in the strategies of ECOSOC resolution 2014/2;  
81
- 82 5. *Encourages* Member States to work within their national contexts when addressing educational equality for  
83 women to ensure effectiveness and sustainability by:
  - 84 a. Collecting demographic data in accordance to the UN Development Programme’s (UNDP) Inequality-  
85 Adjusted Education Index and the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO)  
86 Education for All Development Index concerning:
    - 87 i. The number of teenagers or young adults lacking financial or logistical means to receiving a  
88 quality education;
    - 89 ii. The number of women and girls who experience barriers to receiving an education;
    - 90 iii. The number of women who feel unable to gain access to education due to other domestic or  
91 social obligations;
    - 92 iv. The percentage of women who receive:
      - 93 1. Secondary education;
      - 94 2. University-level education;
      - 95 3. Master’s or Doctoral degrees;
    - 96
    - 97 v. The number of women who study the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math  
98 (STEM);
    - 99 vi. The portion of women who are employed in STEM fields;

100  
101  
102  
103  
104

- 105 b. Making scientific and technological training more accessible to women by promoting STEM career  
106 fields at the local and regional levels, following the lead of TechWomen (US Department of State's  
107 Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs) in using mentorship and exchange to increase women's  
108 confidence in pursuing STEM careers;  
109
- 110 6. *Encourages* Member States to work within their national contexts when addressing equality in governance to  
111 ensure effectiveness and sustainability by:  
112
- 113 a. Conducting research on the current political status of women, using the indicators detailed in UNdata's  
114 Section 2 studies on women in power and decision-making, including:  
115
- 116 i. The ratio of women to men in legislative bodies;  
117 ii. The percentage of women who vote and are voted for;  
118 iii. The effectiveness, or lack thereof, of a quota-based system of representation, as examined by  
119 the International IDEA and Inter-Parliamentary Union's Global Database of Quotas for  
120 Women;  
121
- 122 b. Suggesting capacity-building training using the existing framework suggested in section 4 of the Inter-  
123 Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality's 2012 report for women in politics to:  
124
- 125 i. Improve oratory skills;  
126 ii. Boost self-confidence;  
127 iii. Provide the literacy for women to have an effective influence;  
128
- 129 c. Advocating for constitutional reforms to ensure women's fair access to political spheres as voters,  
130 candidates, and elected officials;  
131
- 132 d. Eliminating cultural barriers to effective participation of women in politics and governance through  
133 education;  
134
- 135 e. Encouraging the existing network of women in politics to:  
136
- 137 i. Involve more women in the political sphere through civic education, sensitization campaigns,  
138 and programs such as For Empowering Women, which educates women to reach their full  
139 political potential;  
140 ii. Attend existing training courses in government affairs;  
141 iii. Approach pre-existing legislation from a gender-perspective to:  
142
- 143 1. Identify gender gaps;  
144 2. Propose more inclusive, sustainable amendments;  
145
- 146 7. *Encourages* Member States to also work within their national contexts when addressing health and safety-  
147 related equality for women to ensure its effective and sustainability considering the World Health  
148 Organization's (WHO) 100 Core Health Indicators by:  
149
- 150 a. Collecting quantitative and qualitative data on violence against women and sexual and reproductive  
151 health (SRH), in accordance with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) GBV  
152 Intervention Toolbox;  
153
- 154 b. Educating local, national, and regional communities on SGBV issues through initiatives, such as the  
155 Campaign for Eliminating Violence against Women, in order to further:  
156
- 157 i. Raise awareness and break the "culture of silence";  
158 ii. Eradicate the stigma surrounding victims of SGBV;  
159



- 160 c. Implementing national action plans to prevent and control sexually transmitted infections in  
161 accordance with national preference;  
162
- 163 d. Measuring the improvements in access and use of contraceptives through prevalence rates;  
164
- 165 e. Remaining particularly attuned to the needs of women in rural communities, particularly with regards  
166 to:  
167
- 168 i. Strengthening technical assistance in SRH systems;  
169 ii. Providing for infrastructural improvements to ensure proper access to clean water;  
170 iii. Prioritizing access to and use of contraceptives within cultural and religious constraints;  
171
- 172 8. *Recommends* that all aforementioned data collection be aggregated to bolster:  
173
- 174 a. Implementation of gender responsive budgeting structures;  
175
- 176 b. Re-dedication of budgeting efforts in accordance to data collection results;  
177
- 178 c. The already-existing periodic reports submitted to the Commission on the Elimination of all Forms of  
179 Discrimination and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), including an  
180 explanation of their response in relation to data provided;  
181
- 182 9. *Further suggests* that the body of work encouraged by this resolution be cognizant of the diversity and  
183 sovereignty of all States;  
184
- 185 10. *Encourages* that Member States continue to incorporate discussions about women's empowerment into all areas  
186 of sustainable development and all efforts to achieve the SDGs, as it is essential to the sustainable development  
187 of all Member States.



**Code:** CSW/1/3

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

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1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*  
2  
3 *Recognizing* the inequality of economic involvement between men and women in accordance with the United  
4 Nations (UN) Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women's (UN-Women) *Progress of the World's*  
5 *Women 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights,*  
6  
7 *Bearing in mind* the objectives and actions brought to light in the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*  
8 (1995),  
9  
10 *Noting* that the empowerment of women will have the ability to aid efforts to create a strong link between  
11 empowerment and sustainable development as mentioned in the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of*  
12 *Discrimination against Women (CEDAW),*  
13  
14 *Recalling* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 that aims to eliminate gender inequality,  
15  
16 *Believing* that the quality education of women across the world will help provide for their own children, which can  
17 help ensure security for and future generations to come in accordance with SDG 4,  
18  
19 *Noting with satisfaction* that access to technology will help educate women in ways that will give them broader  
20 access to the global economy and will, in turn, educate their children along with future generations in accordance to  
21 ECOSOC resolution 2003/44,  
22  
23 *Recognizing* the Republic of Korea's Act on Fostering Women Scientists and Technicians implemented in 2002 that  
24 focused their efforts on increasing employment rates of women in science, engineering, and technology (SET)  
25 fields,  
26  
27 *Further recognizing* the efforts put forth by the Asian Pacific Women's Information Network Centers,  
28  
29 *Further recalling* ECOSOC resolution 2015/6 proclaiming that women's empowerment is a key factor in achieving  
30 sustainable development,  
31  
32 *Highlighting* the work that UN-Women's Fund for Gender Equality has done within its recent creation to provide  
33 grants on a competitive basis within the themes of women's economic empowerment and women's political  
34 empowerment,  
35  
36 *Recalling* the UN Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) which has promoted and improved learning outcomes for  
37 girls,  
38  
39 *Recalling* the Barbara Lee Family Foundation's Presidential Gender Watch 2016 and the work that has been done in  
40 order to track and analyze gender dynamics within presidential elections,  
41  
42 *Recalling* the efforts put forth by the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in the Global Gender and Economic  
43 Policy Management Initiative (GEMPI) which aims to generate a specialized sector of specialists in the field of  
44 economics who are able to integrate gender equality as a parameter in economic analysis, policies and budgets,  
45  
46 *Recalling* the UN establishment of the annual World Breastfeeding Week, which allows mothers to feel empowered  
47 and recognized for their work in the business world,  
48  
49 1. *Introduces* strategies to aid in the achievement of SDG 5 by:

- 50 a. Reducing the gender inequality gap between men and women within the workplace by 15% by 2030;  
51  
52 b. Encouraging Member States and ECOSOC to consider the adoption of a series of policies promoting  
53 women's empowerment in order to achieve the goals of SDG 5 while increasing women's participation  
54 in the global economy:  
55  
56 i. Emphasizing giving women the educational advantage to strengthen their participation within  
57 the workplace, which would establish women's empowerment within the global economy,  
58 and:  
59  
60 1. Inviting Member States to look towards UNGEI as it promotes improving learning  
61 outcomes for girls;  
62 2. Endorsing women to become empowered through the equal opportunity for an  
63 education in order to become a prominent member within the economy;  
64  
65 ii. Encouraging an emphasis on women's equal opportunity for representation within political  
66 spheres, which will provide women with the empowerment necessary to impact their  
67 communities, and:  
68  
69 1. Endorsing the efforts of UNDP's GEMPI as it promotes making economic policies  
70 and poverty reduction strategies delivering results equitability to women and men,  
71 girls and boys;  
72 2. Further endorsing the efforts of the Barbara Lee Family Foundation's Presidential  
73 Gender Watch 2016 which aims to track, analyze, and illuminate gender dynamics in  
74 the 2016 presidential election;  
75 3. Endorsing women to become involved within the political sphere in order to become  
76 empowered members of their community as well as have the ability to make an  
77 impact through future policy changes;  
78  
79 iii. Strongly encouraging elementary development and training in various forms of technology for  
80 women, establishing as them as both functioning and empowered members of the business  
81 world and economy, and:  
82  
83 1. Inviting Member States to look towards the Republic of Korea's work within the  
84 Asian Pacific Women's Information Network Center (APWINC) as it promotes the  
85 use of multimedia applications and information technologies which empower  
86 women;  
87 2. Endorsing the equal access of technology to all women in order for them to become  
88 empowered members of the business world;  
89  
90 iv. Strongly encouraging the equal rights of women in regards to maternal health and workplace  
91 accommodations for mothers, which would allow women to integrate their primary maternal  
92 role which would allow them to become member of the workforce as well, and:  
93  
94 1. Inviting Member States to reference the United Nation's Women's Breastfeeding  
95 Week which promotes a practice that gives children the healthiest start in life and the  
96 need to strengthen policies to promote nursing with stronger workplace policies;  
97 2. Endorsing the right for women to become members of the working economy while  
98 also being able to become empowered mothers for their children;  
99  
100 2. *Invites* the participation of all Member States to work together towards their obligation to the SDGs;  
101  
102 3. *Welcomes* all Member States to consider the implementation of these policies and the themes in which they  
103 reflect towards creating a world where women are empowered.



**Code:** CSW/1/4

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

---

1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*

2  
3 *Reaffirming* the principles established in Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights,*

4  
5 *Emphasizing* the importance of education to promote women's empowerment and sustainable development with  
6 regards to the goals set in Article 10 of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against*  
7 *Women (CEDAW)* and Section B of the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, as well as General Assembly  
8 (GA) resolution 70/1 *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, especially Goals 4  
9 and 5 that promote education and female participation in sustainable development,

10  
11 *Fully aware* of United Nations (UN) Children's Fund's (UNICEF) procurement of supplies and the necessity to  
12 offer education, skill building and healthcare, to girls and women to allow them to develop themselves in jobs of  
13 their choice, and to establish equality in the economic sector, which will create future generation of empowered  
14 women,

15  
16 *Noting* the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2014-2017, specifically outcome goals 5 and 6, that healthy childhood  
17 development is created through education that will then allow for an environment in which women can participate in  
18 creating a sustainable society,

19  
20 *Mindful* of the inconsistencies within educational courses regarding international human rights aiming to provide  
21 and prepare the resources for adolescents, especially girls and women, in their education to create consistency,

22  
23 *Calling attention* to the GA resolution 64/142 entitled "Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children" and  
24 furthering the strategies set forth by GA resolution 64/292 entitled "The Human Right to Water and Sanitation,"  
25 understanding that healthy, equal child development in education creates an environment for women to be happy  
26 and part of a sustainable society and further the availability of health and care options,

27  
28 1. *Encourages* Member States to continue to work towards providing women with the materials necessary for  
29 education through legislation and collaboration between Member States and non-governmental organizations  
30 (NGOs) following the example of international programs, which includes:

- 31  
32 a. Transportation to and from schools when necessary with guaranteed bikes, buses, and boats;  
33  
34 b. Meals provided by the educational institution to ensure proper nutrition and optimal brain  
35 development;  
36  
37 c. Educational materials, such as books, classroom supplies, and the necessary technological equipment  
38 to make information available;

39  
40 2. *Endorses* Member States to set their agenda to encourage women to study and apply for positions in sectors  
41 with low female participation, such as science, medicine, politics, media technology, and sustainable energy in  
42 the support of equality and developmental goals that:

- 43  
44 a. Provide vocational education systems to streamline secondary students into the workforce through  
45 governmental legislation to support the transition to these fields;  
46  
47 b. Implement policies or institutions, such as the Korean Women's Development Institute or the Belgian  
48 Institute for the Equality Between Men and Women, which aim to achieve gender equality in the  
49 workforce through recommendation of legislation for equal opportunity, non-discrimination clauses

- 50 and a governmental goal to reach this state of equality;  
51
- 52 3. *Emphasizes* that Member States consider providing education to people of all ages on women's rights through  
53 the:  
54
- 55 a. Expansion of non-compulsory classes including subjects such as:  
56
- 57 i. Sexual and gender based violence;  
58 ii. Female genital mutilation;  
59 iii. HIV/AIDS;  
60 iv. Ways to break the culture of silence and shame;  
61 v. Governmental provision to protect against such crimes;  
62
- 63 b. Sharing of information and statistics in relevant subjects for Member States to create awareness of the  
64 issues and expand support for international regulations on such topics;  
65
- 66 4. *Recommends* that Member States acknowledge UNICEF's Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children,  
67 specifically with regards for domestic care, women who are pregnant or have children while attending school,  
68 through the implementation of legislation and of alternative solutions such as the following:  
69
- 70 a. Childcare co-ops that would provide safe parent-based childcare while allowing parents to continue  
71 their career;  
72
- 73 b. Paternity and maternity leave that would encourage a balance between private and public work;  
74
- 75 5. *Desires* Member States to consider furthering education and sanitation policies in the areas of reproductive  
76 hygiene for the inclusion of these sustainable development goals accomplished through education in order to:  
77
- 78 a. Reduce and prevent the spread of disease caused by a lack of access to sanitation and hygiene products  
79 to develop better sustainability for women, while providing education on the health risks of ignoring  
80 such a problem and prioritizing women living in underdeveloped, rural, and/or hinterlands who are at  
81 highest risk for these diseases;  
82
- 83 b. Promote the interest of females at a young age that would want to work in the healthcare sector and  
84 other male dominated fields.



**Code:** CSW/1/5

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

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1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*

2  
3 *Recalling* the content of documents such as, but not only, the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, specifically  
4 its first article; the *Charter of the United Nations*; the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination*  
5 *against Women*, especially in its Articles 2, 3 and 12; the *Convention on the Political Rights of Women*, the United  
6 Nations (UN) Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) report E/CN.6/2012/16 in regards to women's  
7 empowerment and the link to sustainable development; General Assembly (GA) resolution 66/288; and the *Beijing*  
8 *Platform for Action*,

9  
10 *Having considered* Security Council resolution 1325, on women and peace and security, Member States are further  
11 encouraged to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national institutions,

12  
13 *Recalling the Convention on the Political Rights of Women* to empower women as political participants in elections  
14 by having the opportunity to vote, pursue elected office, and construct policy-making initiatives that can lead to  
15 greater representation of the interests of women in governmental institutions,

16  
17 *Further noting* the Governance and Social Development Resource Center in regards to the correlation between  
18 increased economic empowerment of women and their political identity and participation, or likelihood to engage in  
19 community leadership roles, thereby enabling a cycle of improvement in both respects,

20  
21 *Reaffirming* the conclusions drawn from the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing concerning the  
22 importance of removing barriers to economic and political leadership in order to provide possibilities of empowering  
23 women leaders, surrounding communities, and all other women through future policies and precedents,

24  
25 *Remembering* CSW's 50<sup>th</sup> session that urged Member States to develop policies to increase the number of women  
26 leaders and politicians with the goal of achieving a gender balance in political representation,

27  
28 *Keeping in mind* the International Labor Organization's (ILO) *Equal Remuneration Convention of 1951*, which  
29 stipulates equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value,

30  
31 *Emphasizing* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 regarding the achievement of gender equality and the  
32 empowerment of all women and girls across the world, and SDG 8, which promotes sustained, inclusive, and  
33 sustainable economic growth, full productive employment, and decent work for all,

34  
35 *Affirming* the importance of the review or creation of policies within the process of gender equality in the countries  
36 and regions of the international community in all of the spheres of sustainable development and the elimination of  
37 barriers on health, legal, political, and other sectors of society,

38  
39 *Appreciating* the goals set forth by the UN Fourth World Conference on Women, with an emphasis on Strategic  
40 Objectives F.1 and F.4, along-side the work done by the International Labor Organizations Women's  
41 Entrepreneurship Development Program,

42  
43 *Alarmed* by the existing gap between women and men in many of the sectors of vital importance for sustainable  
44 development, such as education, health and legal support, as mentioned by the World Economic Forum in its 2015  
45 Global Gender Gap Report,

46  
47 *Recalling* the importance of sustainable development, that, as stated in the 1987 Commission on Environment and  
48 Development, defines it as "development, which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of  
49 future generations to meet their own needs,"

50

51 *Fully believing* in the work of the International Association of the Agricultural Systems and further supporting their  
52 aim to diminish extreme poverty and hunger in non-urban areas,  
53  
54 *Taking into account* the three main pillars of sustainable development: economic development, social equity, and  
55 environmental protection,  
56  
57 *Recognizing* that gender stereotyping discourages women from achieving and reaching their full potential on the  
58 path to sustainable development,  
59  
60 1. *Welcomes* the consideration of a program for women by women, such as CorpsAfrica, which is a non-profit  
61 organization seeking to recognize and build on Peace Corps' success by offering transformative experience to  
62 emerging leaders in Africa:  
63  
64 a. Offering training to women will provide access to several spheres of employment, including, but not  
65 limited to, political, entrepreneurial, social, and healthcare;  
66  
67 b. Encouraging partnering with organizations like the International Women's Forum;  
68  
69 c. Training fellows will be coached towards professional mobility;  
70  
71 d. Supporting universal pre-school and after-school programs that alleviate the hardships of primary  
72 mothers whose priorities lay in being caregivers at home;  
73  
74 2. *Encourages* Member States to ensure the access to equal opportunities at all levels of political decision-making  
75 to end the gap in the representation between men and women in political power positions and increase the  
76 effective participation of women in their national development plans by:  
77  
78 a. Encouraging the support of programs like the Global Women's Leadership Initiative, which hosts the  
79 Women in Public Service Project annually, promoting networks among women leaders, mentoring, and  
80 training of emerging women leaders, in support of their own goal of 50% female public servants by  
81 2050 and other initiatives such as:  
82  
83 i. Recommending Member States work towards 20-25% growth respectively towards  
84 complete parity in business ownership and entrepreneurial endeavors by 2030 in how  
85 current and forthcoming gender related programs and legislation complete their goals;  
86  
87 ii. Encouraging the further involvement of women in entrepreneurial endeavors and the  
88 establishment and safety of their property rights, so that women can become individual  
89 agents for change within their communities, and begin to hold increasing political, social,  
90 and financial capital;  
91  
92 b. Working in close collaboration with women's organizations and other entities that focus on gender  
93 equality such as UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UN  
94 Population Fund (UNFPA), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Oxfam International,  
95 who work directly on the ground, encouraging women to achieve their fullest potential;  
96  
97 c. Considering the establishment of measures in order to increase women's participation in political  
98 endeavors as established in the GA resolution 66/130 and the *Convention on the Political Rights of*  
99 *Women* such as:  
100  
101 i. The elimination of laws that prevent women from participating in political realms of their  
102 societies;  
103  
104 ii. Increasing the participation of women in the creation of policies and their  
105 implementation, especially if these decisions are related to gender issues;  
106  
107 iii. Reviewing the existing national laws and plans in order to ensure that they are non-  
108 gender-discriminatory;

- 106                                   iv. Encouraging the implementation of the policies considered needed in order to increase  
107                                   political participation such as targets of representations, reserved seats or any other  
108                                   measures the country considers appropriate to empower women in the decision making  
109                                   process, while remaining cognizant of equal participation;  
110
- 111 2. *Recommends* the further UN-Women cooperation with such entities as the Agency for International  
112   Development Cooperation, Mashav, International Council of Women, International Federation of Business and  
113   Professional Women and others alike, putting more focus on more programs for equal employment and rights  
114   for women, working steadily on promoting training sessions for development cooperation by providing  
115   workshops on the economic empowerment of women by finding its support in:  
116
- 117       a. The ratification of the *Convention concerning Discrimination in Respect of Employment and*  
118       *Occupation* from 1958 and in accordance with GA resolution 66/216;  
119
- 120       b. The partnerships with NGOs, such as ILO and such for regular assessments and reviews;  
121
- 122 2. *Invites* Member States to collaborate with UN organizations, such as UN-Women, to help Women’s  
123   Technologies Empowerment Center (W.TEC) liaisons in order to ensure the success of individual local  
124   agencies through the use of semi-annual reports submitted by liaisons, that will confirm progress and help  
125   exchange methods and techniques that will be submitted to the organization at the headquarters;  
126
- 127 3. *Suggests* that Member States engage with the gender mainstreaming agenda in matters of labor workforce  
128   through policies or plans according to national laws and ratified instruments, in order reduce the existing gap in  
129   labor wages, opportunities and participation between women and men with initiatives such as:  
130
- 131 4. The cooperation with W.TEC and other entities with expertise on job equality for women and men in order to  
132   expand in multiple nations, with the purpose of establishing professional development of women through:  
133
- 134       a. The encouragement of partnerships with the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the UN Educational,  
135       Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and NGOs in order to produce an equal opportunity  
136       for women in the workplace;  
137
- 138       b. The establishment of organizations with expertise in the field in developing countries ensuring  
139       employment of local women to develop a program catered to the employment needs of those regions  
140       and countries;  
141
- 142       c. The suggestion of this plan, ensuring its accessibility in decentralized rural areas in accordance with  
143       local governments and their laws;  
144
- 145       d. The reduction of fiscal burden for women workers with lower incomes;  
146
- 147       e. The reconciliation of private and professional life through the provision of parental leave arrangements  
148       for women with family responsibilities corresponding to the ILO standards;  
149
- 150       f. The achievement of equal pay for work of equal value for men and women through policies such as,  
151       but not limited to, legislations, systems of wage determination, collective bargaining agreements,  
152       accountability by governing bodies in accordance with the *Equal Remuneration Convention of 1951*;  
153
- 154 5. *Supports* the continuation of promoting women’s economic autonomy through:  
155
- 156       a. Inclusive employment access and the elimination of workplace segregation;  
157
- 158       b. Providing business services, training, and market access:  
159
- 160                                   i. To encourage women’s economic stability, particularly towards low-income and rural  
161                                   women;



- 162                                   ii. To provide women training in technical fields and leadership programs by creating  
163 exposure to empowering careers, providing potential job development, and leadership  
164 opportunities;
- 165                                   iii. Encouraging Member States to work towards public safety such that women are not as  
166 limited by geography and mobility in their work towards becoming integrated within  
167 economic systems;
- 168
- 169 6. *Emphasizes* the importance of an informative campaign that targets all citizens to discourage gender-based  
170 discrimination and that informs women of their opportunities in the work field through:
- 171
- 172           a. The incorporation of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the larger international  
173 community, and in collaboration with the HeforShe campaign to reduce the gender gap;
- 174
- 175           b. Reaching out to individuals throughout social media and local events promoting gender equality;
- 176
- 177 7. *Invites* all Member States who have agricultural influence in their economies to participate in the creation of a  
178 women economic empowerment plan centered on helping women to develop skills necessary to fruitfully work  
179 the land, thus giving them the necessary tools to be self-sufficient and independent through initiatives such as:
- 180
- 181           a. Integrated agricultural management on areas such as family orchards, reforestation, land management,  
182 pesticide-free agriculture, seed diversification and recycling;
- 183
- 184           b. Trainings for professional centers;
- 185
- 186           c. Better access to technology, such as radio frequencies, information and communication technologies,  
187 which would be done through community centers;
- 188
- 189           d. Small loans to women in different commodities such as financial support, seeds loans and livestock;
- 190
- 191           e. Collaborative partnerships with organizations with expertise on the topic such as the Food and  
192 Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), alongside the Economic and Social Council  
193 (ECOSOC) and others alike in local, national, regional or international levels;
- 194
- 195 8. *Recommends* the emphasis on women in political positions and providing women with equal opportunities to  
196 enlist in the military in order to empower women within a political sphere by providing role models and further  
197 opportunities through the implementation of initiatives on both small and large scales:
- 198
- 199           a. By promoting letter writing campaigns, which are outlined by the international solidarity network, such  
200 as Women Living Under Muslim Law, as a way to raise awareness and promote particular issues as  
201 important to local and regional leaders;
- 202
- 203           b. By promoting events within communities, as supported by UN-Women in the past (i.e. the history of  
204 International Women’s Day).



**Code:** CSW/1/6

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

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1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*  
2  
3 *Recalling* the commitments made in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* to promote gender equality and  
4 the empowerment of women,  
5  
6 *Reaffirming* the target of doubling the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in  
7 particular women, including secure and equal access to land, other productive resources, markets and opportunities  
8 for value addition and non-farm employment by 2030,  
9  
10 *Applauds* the provisions provided by the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against*  
11 *Women (CEDAW),*  
12  
13 *Alarmed* by the prevalence of violence against women in all its forms, which impairs their enjoyment of  
14 fundamental rights and freedoms, all of which are crucial to women's full, equal and effective participation in  
15 society, the economy, and political decision-making as stated in General Assembly (GA) resolution 29/14,  
16 "Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women: eliminating domestic violence,"  
17  
18 *Noting with concern* the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) currently at 830 preventable deaths related to childbirth  
19 and pregnancy per day, and the Child Mortality Rate (CMR) currently at 16,000 deaths of children per day  
20 according to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Fact Sheet N. 348,  
21  
22 *Reaffirming* the need for the full and effective participation of women in sustainable development policies,  
23 programs, and decision-making at all levels, as agreed in the outcome document of the United Nations (UN)  
24 Sustainable Development Summit,  
25  
26 *Emphasizing* the enhancement of international cooperation to facilitate access to clean energy research and  
27 technology, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and  
28 clean energy technology,  
29  
30 *Recalling* GA resolution 69/225, "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy," and its linkage of women's  
31 empowerment to the introduction and use of sustainable energy into their communities,  
32  
33 *Taking note* of the provisions pertaining to women and girls in rural areas contained in the outcome documents of  
34 relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*  
35 adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, and the outcome of the 23<sup>rd</sup> special session of the GA, entitled  
36 "Women 2000: gender equality, development, and peace for the twenty-first century,"  
37  
38 *Recognizing* that rural women are critical agents in poverty reduction, as stated in GA resolution 70/198,  
39 "Agricultural technology for sustainable development," as they are crucial to the achievement of environmental  
40 sustainability, and therefore critical to the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),  
41  
42 *Recognizing* the importance of working towards sustainable development in regards to transitioning towards  
43 renewable energy while underlining the critical role that women playing in rural development as highlighted in GA  
44 document 66/L.41/Rev.1, "Agricultural technology for development," and thus can use this critical role in advancing  
45 sustainable development of rural areas,  
46  
47 *Notes with concern* the report by the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment for Women (UN-  
48 Women) and the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) "The Energy Access Situation in Developing Countries: A  
49 Review Focusing on the Least Developed Countries and Sub-Saharan Africa," from 2009, concerning the health

50 implications on women as a result of indoor air pollution due to the burning of biomass fuel which leads to  
51 decreased female participation in the formal sector due to compromised health,  
52

53 *Affirming* that rural women's role as water and fuel provider for their homes constrains the level of their  
54 participation and access to civil society as outlined in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN  
55 DESA) report on "Women and Water",  
56

57 *Taking note* that Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) work with international organizations such as  
58 Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) International,  
59

- 60 1. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Member States to incorporate a gender perspective in the  
61 pursuit of sustainable development, in regards to the inclusion of women into society, specifically the formal  
62 sector, into policies and decision making;  
63
- 64 2. *Encourages* the cooperation of Member States with international, regional, and local civil society organizations  
65 (CSOs), such as the Women's Major Group and the Global Gender and Climate Alliance, concerned with the  
66 endorsement of women's participation and empowerment in the formal sector, aligning local customs,  
67 traditional, and institutional values with the empowerment of women, a greater inclusion of all members of  
68 society leads to higher tax revenues and a higher growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and therefore will  
69 allow for greater sustainable development;  
70
- 71 3. *Recommends* Member States support policies ensuring gender equality before the law, including but not limited  
72 to, inheritance and property rights by:
  - 73
  - 74 a. Adhering to policies in accordance with CEDAW in order to protect women from harassment and  
75 discrimination laws especially in regards to property laws, while acknowledging Member States'  
76 respective reservations;  
77
  - 78 b. Keeping in mind the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights, which addresses nationality laws  
79 that maintain gender discrimination, through policies that would guarantee equal nationality rights to  
80 women, including the right to inherit and own property;  
81
- 82 4. *Stresses the need* for the pursuit of safe renewable energies, the development of such technologies, and further  
83 the inherent link between the empowerment of women and the use of renewable energy on the way to  
84 sustainable development through:
  - 85
  - 86 a. Solar, wind and hydroelectric power being clean technologies that provide sustainable energy and  
87 deemed especially suitable for developing regions, in which there is often an abundance of solar  
88 power, for example, to be captured;  
89
  - 90 b. Empowering women through education, with the implementation of these initiatives by programs  
91 such as UN-Women and UNEP's joint Program on Sustainable Energy, Entrepreneurship and  
92 Access, in the emerging field of renewable energy, for example, solar panel technologies, through  
93 directed scholarships into scientific academic fields that would:
    - 94
    - 95 i. Motivate women to pursue careers in scientific fields, at local, national and international  
96 levels, thus promoting the renewable energy sector;
    - 97 ii. Allow women to become respected members of their societies due to being recognized as  
98 drivers for growth and sustainable development and;
    - 99 iii. Encourage programs, such as the joint UN-Women and UNEP's "Program on Sustainable  
100 Energy, Entrepreneurship and Access," to be used as examples in different Member  
101 States to teach women how to install and maintain solar panels and to become experts  
102 within their field;  
103

- 104 c. Encouraging campaigns such as the GA resolution on the promotion of new and renewable  
105 sources of energy suggests, to raise awareness of women’s role in sustainable development in rural  
106 communities;
- 107
- 108 d. Valuing women’s position as the primary caretakers of their house to ensure their health by  
109 eliminating indoor pollution and thus allowing them to more actively partake in their local  
110 communities;
- 111
- 112 e. Freeing up women’s schedule which had previously been occupied with collecting biomass fuel to  
113 heat up their homes and cook, now being able to dedicate their time in the formal sector, such as  
114 through employment opportunities in the renewable energy sector;
- 115
- 116 f. Renewable energies enabling the sustainable lighting of street lamps and thus creating a safer  
117 atmosphere on the streets, and as the Secretary-General has pointed out in his report 70/422 on the  
118 “United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,” that this will ensure mobility for women,  
119 and with higher mobility, they can participate to a greater extent in civil society;
- 120
- 121 g. Encouraging active policy development towards the full recognition of women in the workforce  
122 and ensuring the appropriate compensation;
- 123
- 124 5. *Promotes* the enactment of culturally sensitive practices in order to respect traditional and cultural norms that  
125 correlate with pre-established human rights within the framework of the *Universal Declaration of Human*  
126 *Rights* (UDHR) through:
- 127
- 128 a. The implementation of policies promoting gender equality within the structure of pre-existing cultural  
129 and religious values that promotes safe medical acknowledge both the humanity and rights of women  
130 by:
- 131
- 132 i. Utilizing the proven policies of programs such as VSO International, and the Sahel Women’s  
133 Empowerment Program, to demonstrate how cultural beliefs and practices can coexist with  
134 the encouragement of women to fully participate in their communities;
- 135 ii. Inviting Member States to support the participation of cultural and religious leaders in order  
136 to demonstrate that gender equality does not represent an obstacle to religious beliefs and to  
137 increase participation in these programs;
- 138 iii. Noting that modifications to the collective consciousness that has codified the subjugation of  
139 women can only be accomplished through gradual change, and that laws which ignore  
140 traditional norms are ineffective at accomplishing such modifications;
- 141
- 142 b. Respecting the cultural heritage, defined as a communities’ inherited ways of living expressed in a  
143 myriad of both tangible and intangible manners:
- 144
- 145 i. By supporting policies that promote culturally sensitive and aware education at all levels;
- 146 ii. Through ensuring that all obligations for public officials respect the officials’ pre-existing  
147 religious and cultural obligations;
- 148 iii. In order to avoid instances of cultural imperialism and furthermore reject the enforced  
149 implementation of cultural hegemony, as outlined in the UN Educational, Scientific and  
150 Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) “General Convention Concerning the Protection of the  
151 World Cultural and Natural Heritage;”
- 152
- 153 6. *Suggests* Member States endorse community-based food security programs, like the Sawki program:
- 154
- 155 a. Which increases food security in rural areas for school age children and vulnerable women in order to  
156 fight child marriage, malnutrition, and reduce both the CMR and MMR by:
- 157
- 158 i. Enabling women to achieve increased levels of education, which statistically correlate to a  
159 later entrance into the workforce and matrimony, which results in healthier pregnancies;

- 160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165
- ii. Operating as a culturally sensitive and cost-effective program to combat child marriage, the CMR, and MMR by utilizing pre-existing infrastructure, such as public-private partnerships, natural resources, and agro-pastoral links;
  - iii. Awarding protection to the pregnant woman, which legitimizes the role of motherhood, and decreases both the MMR and CMR;

- 166  
167  
168  
169  
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171  
172
- b. In order to specifically empower women by directly involving them in ensuring food security by:
    - i. Acknowledging their formidable position within agricultural endeavors;
    - ii. Utilizing cost-effective solutions such as school-gardens, artisan cooperatives, and microloans, to directly involve women on the community level in rural areas, empowering them while respecting the domesticated sphere;

173  
174  
175  
176  
177

7. *Encourages* under the umbrella of UN-Women and the “Ending Violence Against Women” campaign the creation of a local contact point, such as gender desks at police offices, which will be named Mutual Respect for Spouses, for victims of domestic violence, with a particular focus on those in rural areas, providing assistance with criminal proceedings or legal aid:

- 178  
179  
180  
181  
182
- a. Welcomes the organization and support by local females who are studying law with support of scholarships from the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women;
  - b. In accordance with the resolution that calls upon the Member States to support such initiatives to ensure the empowerment of women linked to sustainable development.



**Code:** CSW/1/7

**Committee:** Commission on the Status of Women

**Topic:** Women's Empowerment and the Link to Sustainable Development

---

1 *The Commission on the Status of Women,*  
2  
3 *Guided by* General Assembly (GA) resolution 70/1 on the topic of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),  
4 particularly Article 21 and 43 that prioritizes examining current regional and sub-regional initiatives and  
5 implementing their frameworks into the domestic policy of Member States,  
6  
7 *Having examined* the agreed conclusions adopted by the 1997 Special Session of the GA, which note the importance  
8 of the National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), which enable developing countries to build a  
9 statistical system and design and implement policies and programs,  
10  
11 *Recalling* the agreed conclusions adopted by the 58<sup>th</sup> session of the United Nations (UN) Commission on the Status  
12 of Women (CSW) entitled “Challenges and Achievements in the Implementation of the Millennium Development  
13 Goals (MDGs) For Women and Girls,” which stated the lack of gender perspective in other sections of development  
14 as a contributing factor towards not fully meeting the MDGs,  
15  
16 *Recognizing* the National Council of Women and Development of Ghana on their success of their proposal entitled  
17 “Affirmative Action and Gender Mainstreaming,” which established the foundation for the administrative  
18 framework for the Gender Desk Officers, who mainstream a gender perspective in the priorities of their respective  
19 government ministry or agency,  
20  
21 *Gravely concerned* with the status of women in agricultural and rural regions, especially in developing states, and  
22 how sustainable development has not fully addressed the “feminization of poverty,” which is the concept that  
23 women experience poverty at higher rates in comparison to men.  
24  
25 *Emphasizing* the importance of integrating culture, which includes shared values and religion, into policies and  
26 programs addressing women’s issues and sustainable development,  
27  
28 *Noting with satisfaction* the collaborative work between the Ghana Association for Women’s Welfare and the  
29 Muslim Family and Counseling Services on addressing Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), specifically  
30 female genital mutilation and the spread of HIV/AIDS,  
31  
32 *Reaffirming* GA resolution 58/147 23 entitled “Elimination of Violence against Women” and the importance of  
33 making protection more accessible to women,  
34  
35 *Having examined* the German support hotline for victims of violence and how its framework addresses accessibility  
36 and inclusivity,  
37  
38 *Bearing in mind* that Security Council resolution 1325 entitled “Women, Peace and Security” that recognizes the  
39 need to involve women as active stakeholders in conflict prevention and solutions, armed conflicts are currently  
40 regarded as genderless, which enables military decisions to be implemented without first examining the gendered  
41 effects and consequences of them,  
42  
43 *Taking into consideration* feminization of poverty, brown initiatives, which prioritizes human health over ecosystem  
44 health by focusing on basic necessities, are the core of the sustainable development issues regarding women in  
45 agricultural, rural, and vulnerable areas,  
46  
47 *Recalling* the agreed conclusions adopted by the 2009 World Summit on Food Security of the Food and Agricultural  
48 Organization of the UN (FAO) regarding the integration of gender into development goals and programs through  
49 addressing the issues that are threatening gender equity in rural areas,  
50

51 *Recognizing* Uruguay's work with the International Association of the Agriculture Systems (IAAS) towards the  
52 eradication of hunger and extreme poverty, especially regarding the defense of farmers and inhabitants rights to rural  
53 land,  
54

55 1. *Recommends* Member States to examine how gender plays a role in each SDG and how women are specifically  
56 affected by all the goals by:

- 57 a. Analyzing how poverty prevents achieving gender equality and how women's disempowerment  
58 perpetuates poverty, particularly in Goal 1;
- 59 b. Linking access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education for women  
60 and girls to safer and more sustainable infrastructure from the creation of new engineers and architects,  
61 particularly in Goal 4 and Goal 9;
- 62 c. Focusing on brown initiatives, which include unsafe water, poor sanitation, and improper waste  
63 management, particularly in Goal 6;
- 64
- 65
- 66
- 67

68 2. *Urges* Member States to expand past regional borders when following Article 21 and 43 of GA resolution 70/1  
69 and facilitate discussion with:

- 70 a. Member States with similar climate and geography;
- 71 b. Member States with similar historical or current political climates;
- 72
- 73 c. Member States with similar levels of development;
- 74
- 75 d. Member States with effective sustainable development programs;
- 76
- 77
- 78

79 3. *Recommends* Member States to follow NSDS by:

- 80 a. Building upon pre-existing local, regional, or global initiatives by:
  - 81 i. Implementing grassroots strategies to ensure that they are assisting women at the lowest level  
82 of development;
  - 83 ii. Following the initiatives of Ghana and other nations by mainstream the gender perspective in  
84 all agencies and sectors of government;
  - 85 iii. Facilitating discussion with other Member States about their domestic initiatives within the  
86 national context;
  - 87
  - 88
  - 89
- 90 b. Adjusting perspective on current national initiatives to see how they could be implemented in either  
91 other regional states, or other states under similar circumstances:
  - 92
  - 93 i. To establish more comprehensive approach towards domestic issues;
  - 94 ii. To promote inclusivity and interconnectivity between states of different regions;
  - 95

96 4. *Encourages* Member States to incorporate shared values, religion, and culture in implementation of policies,  
97 programs, and initiatives at the local and regional level by:

- 98 a. Reframing their education, workshops, and media awareness to include cultural values and teachings;
- 99
- 100 b. Including local cultural and religious leaders in their discussions;
- 101
- 102 c. Providing them with prominent roles in the process;
- 103
- 104

- 105 5. *Suggests* Member States, especially those with a strong religious, cultural, or traditional presence, to follow  
106 Ghana's suit to structure implementation to be culturally-inclusive, to ensure a long-term sustainable effect  
107 among the population;  
108
- 109 6. *Encourages* national and international bodies to conduct research studies and analyze domestic and  
110 international policies:  
111
- 112 a. To discover and examine the gaps of the gender perspective in current initiatives in:  
113
    - 114 i. Health care;
    - 115 ii. Education;
    - 116 iii. Infrastructure;
    - 117 iv. Leadership roles;
  - 118
  - 119 b. To strengthen implementation of the studied domestic and international policies to become:  
120
    - 121 i. More effective in empowering women and ensuring women's rights;
    - 122 ii. More sustainable, both in terms of longevity and development;
- 123
- 124 7. *Proclaims* the need to mainstream the gender perspective in all critical areas in policy formations, not just those  
125 on specific women's issues, on the local, regional, and international level through:  
126
- 127 a. Improving local police and law enforcement in hopes of making them a more secure and safer resource  
128 for women by implementing gender sensitive training;
  - 129
  - 130 b. Using academic research and focus groups to:  
131
    - 132 i. Collect data about the current status of women in their respective region;
    - 133 ii. Analyze policies to find gender gaps;
  - 134
  - 135 c. Collaborating with civil society organizations (CSOs) to gain an understanding of the population to  
136 understand further their immediate and long-term needs to better policy-making and implementation;
  - 137
- 138 8. *Recommends* Member States to provide a safe and secure environment for victims of SGBV by:  
139
- 140 a. Providing access to an immediate emergency response system;
  - 141
  - 142 b. Offering a multi-dimensional network of resources that:  
143
    - 144 i. Assists with long-term care and solutions;
    - 145 ii. Comprehensively addresses their needs and circumstances;
  - 146
- 147 9. *Expresses its hope* that Member States would follow Germany's emergency hotline initiative by:  
148
- 149 a. Making immediate assistance more accessible to victims of violence;
  - 150
  - 151 b. Providing a post-emergency resource to ensure safety short-term and guidance long-term on various  
152 help they could receive, such as medical and psychological;
  - 153
  - 154 c. Offering multi-lingual options to be inclusive to other languages and nationalities;
  - 155
- 156 10. *Further recommends* all Member States to integrate the gender perspective into international, regional, and  
157 domestic use of force during armed conflicts by:  
158
- 159 a. Empowering women's voice in these discussion by:  
160



- 161 i. Providing women roles in the political and decision-making sphere;  
162 ii. Giving a platform for participation to the women directly affected by conflict and post-  
163 conflict zone:  
164  
165 1. To express their concerns and immediate needs;  
166 2. To receive aid and resources addressing these needs;  
167 3. To offer policy suggestions based off their experiential knowledge;  
168  
169 b. Addressing the harmful effects of armed conflicts towards women, including:  
170  
171 i. Rape as tool of war;  
172 ii. Ineffective use of discrimination between combatants and non-combatants;  
173 iii. Stigma and human trafficking of refugee, asylum-seekers, and internally displaced persons  
174 (IDPs);  
175 iv. Increased burden on family care as widowers;  
176 v. Other societal shifts that disempower women in post-conflict zones;  
177
- 178 11. *Urges* developing nations to prioritize addressing brown initiatives above green initiatives, like renewable  
179 resources, by:  
180  
181 a. Providing a safe route to local water sources, while improving the quality of water to:  
182  
183 i. Ensure protection to women and girls at risk now, rather than focusing on eradicating the need  
184 to travel to previously mentioned sources for future generations;  
185 ii. Prevent infection from contaminated water;  
186  
187 b. Mainstreaming a health education on cleanliness and proper washing to better sanitation to prevent the  
188 spread of infection;  
189  
190 c. Analyzing the benefits of a local government landfill, including:  
191  
192 i. Improve the local environment, since non-governmental landfills are unregulated, leading to  
193 loose garbage and waste spread to the water sources and communal land;  
194 ii. Prevent the spread of infection from loose garbage and waste;  
195
- 196 12. *Invites* all Member States to work towards the insurance of food security and autonomy in order to fulfill the  
197 SDGs and to empower women in rural regions by:  
198  
199 a. Involving women in agriculture networking and policy-making by:  
200  
201 i. Removing barriers limiting women's opportunities within the agricultural sector;  
202 ii. Improving rural women's access to resources for production;  
203 iii. Analyzing the existing disparities affecting women's access to those resources;  
204  
205 b. Collaborating through programs such as the IAAS, in order to:  
206  
207 i. Defend the rights of those in rural areas;  
208 ii. Development friendly relations between nations;  
209 iii. Assist cooperation between nations to improve lives of vulnerable and marginalized groups.