NMUN•GERMANY 2019



27 - 30 NOVEMBER 2019

Documentation of the Work of the General Assembly Plenary



General Assembly Plenary

Committee Staff

Director	Jeffrey Thorpe
Assistant Director	Norovsuren Enkkbaatar

Agenda

- I. Women in Development
- II. Meeting the Fast-Track Commitments to Eradicate HIV/AIDS

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
GA/1/1	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/2	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/3	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/4	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/5	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/6	Women in Development	With a majority vote
GA/1/7	Women in Development	With a majority vote

Summary Report

The General Assembly held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Women in Development
- II. Meeting the Fast-Track Commitments to Eradicate HIV/AIDS

The session was attended by representatives of 61 Member States. On Wednesday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "Women in Development".

By Thursday, the Dais received a total of 12 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics such as education, data collection, violence against women, female genital mutilation, and closing the gender gap. While adhering to the idea of multilateralism, delegates remained positive, engaged, inspired, and diplomatic through the first three days of committee. Most importantly, delegates displayed a unique acumen for the topic at hand which was showcased through their excellent speeches and informal discussion. Even though tensions were running high and discussions were very passionate, the body achieved consensus.

On Saturday, 7 draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, 2 of which had amendments. The committee adopted 7 resolutions following voting procedure, 0 of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including funding mechanisms for women, refocusing existing UN resources, addressing the need for women's better sexual health education and general access to information and women in the political arena on all levels of government. After successfully adopting all draft resolutions the body feels confident that they made great strides towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Code: GA/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

1 The General Assembly Plenary, 2 3 Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable 4 Development", with special regards to Sustainable Development Goal 5 (gender equality), 5 6 Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular Article 2 prohibiting any distinction based on 7 gender, 8 9 Also reaffirming General Assembly resolution 34/180 of 1979 adopting the Convention on the Elimination of all 10 forms of Discrimination against Women, 11 12 Emphasizing the need for action concerning the empowerment and involvement of women in development with 13 constant respect to local traditions, cultures, and national sovereignty, 14 15 Noting the need for implementation of non-gender bias education material to promote gender fluidity, 16 17 Recognizing the Syrian Women's Advisory Board that gives recommendations regarding 'Women in Development' 18 on actions that should be taken, as well as ideas to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the 19 Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) that was established in 2016, 20 21 Highlighting the importance of the work of UN-Women, especially regarding their commitment concerning 22 development aid, protection of the rights of women, and data collection, 23 24 Acknowledging the UN-Women Strategic Plan 2018- 2021, especially Outcome 5 "Women and girls contribute to 25 and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of 26 natural disasters and conflicts and from humanitarian action", while noting the need for improvement regarding the 27 fact of increasing conflicts and situations where humanitarian aid is needed, 28 29 Fully aware of the importance of health education of women and girls in order to support an equal and independent 30 standing in society and their self-determination, 31 32 Appreciating that empowering women's rights is considered within the UN Guiding Principles on Business and 33 Human Rights which needs to be considered in the Forum on Business and Human Rights under the Human Rights 34 Council (HRC), 35 36 1. Recommends UN-Women to institutionalize the Syrian Women's Advisory Board to conduct regular sessions 37 once a year, including women in the peacebuilding and the country's development: 38 39 Consisting of 12 women from the civil society in Syria; 40 41 Consulting about current problems regarding the ongoing war in Syria; b. 42 43 Creating a Position Paper with recommendations to UN-Women; 44 45 Taking place during the annual conference of the UN-Women Executive Board in New York City;

Endorses UN-Women to use the institutionalized Syrian Women's Advisory Board as a pilot project and

implement it in other countries or regions if deemed successful, always respecting national sovereignty;

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- 3. Establishes the UN Programme for Empowerment of Women in Conflict Zones and Developing States (UNP4W) within UN-Women to foster the achievement of Outcome 5 of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021: Funded by enlarging the capacities of UN-Women and voluntary contributions; With the main tasks being the following: i. Gather information about issues regarding Women and Girls in particular in Least Developed and Developing Countries as well as in conflict zones regarding development while focusing on: a. Representation and participation in public services and offices; b. Health education;
 - ii. Make recommendations to Member States and regional organizations on how to improve the issues mentioned in clause 3b.i. based on the gathered information and furthermore report to the General Assembly;
 - iii. Complete the first stadium of information gathering after one year, followed by the recommendations and the report mentioned in clause 3b.ii.;
 - iv. Deliver the reports and recommendations every two years to the General Assembly after completing the first stadium;
 - v. Take actions into account regarding the topics mentioned in clause 3b.i. specified in the following clauses;
 - c. UNP4W should consists of experts of UN-Women as well as local authorities, as they have insights and knowledge about their respective country or region in order to coordinate any measures together;
 - 4. *Encourages* UN-Women to equip UNP4W with materials and aid to prevent sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and support mental health stability to women in conflict zones, Least Developed and Developing Countries:
 - a. To fulfill their task established in clause 3b.v.;

- b. To promote counseling improving mental health of abused women of war, that have endured domestic abuse or post-traumatic stress disorder;
- c. To help women to protect themselves from STDs, especially human immunodeficiency virus;
- d. To provide these materials by UNP4W to local communities and NGO's in the field by UN-Women with the support and funding of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;
- e. Brochures, books and prevention devices could be part of the provided materials;
- 5. *Encourages* HRC to promote women's rights in business in its Forum on Business and Human Rights to stress the importance of achieving the empowerment of women in Least Developed and Developing Countries as well as in conflict zones by ensuring that 5% of the forum's panel discussions are related to women's rights in business.



Code: GA/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

1 The General Assembly Plenary,

Deeply appreciating the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) Article 2 which states that human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of race, sex, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, or any other status,

Deeply concerned with the World Bank report, Despite Gains, Women Face Setbacks in Legal Rights Affecting Work in 2019, that states that 2.7 billion women have legally restricted access to the same socio-economic opportunities presented to men,

Guided by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, specifically SDG 5.a, which creates reforms that give women entry into the global economy through financial services and equal access to economic resources,

Affirming the work of United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) in working to achieve gender equality for all women globally,

Noting the responsibility of women domestic workers and the disproportionate amount of time spent on domestic duties which impedes the ability to develop economically and socially,

Noting with concern that according to the Clean Cooking Alliance, a non-profit organization that promotes clean household and cooking fuels, women domestic workers in rural areas spend on average five hours gathering harmful cooking fuels such as coal, charcoal, wood, and kerosene to cook,

Alarmed that according to the World Health Organization's (WHO) report, *Indoor Air Pollution*, up to 4 million people, most of which are women domestic workers, die prematurely from harmful household and cooking fuels, and by the WHO's report, *Household Air Pollution and Health*, that 3 million people around the world are exposed to risk factors for diseases such as childhood pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, ischemic heart disease, stroke, and lung cancer, by using unclean fuels,

Noting with appreciation the work by organizations such as the Clean Cooking Alliance which promotes sustainable, clean fuels for households, replaces polluting and inefficient with clean more modern stoves, and educates local communities and women on access to resources for clean cooking fuels to reduce premature death and diseases,

Appreciating the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSME) owned by women that create economic development opportunities locally and nationally,

Recalling the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development which emphasizes the lack of access to financial services for women, specifically financial literacy and financial instruments,

Expressing concern over the inequality in the allocation of resources and the funding of programs initiated by the United Nations aimed at women,

Affirming the increasing relevance of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) related fields of employment as rapid technological changes impact the 21st century global economy, specifically artificial intelligence,

Recognizing the need for economically viable alternatives to formal education for the development of women to ensure economic independence for all women,

Viewing with appreciation the UN-Women Training Centre (UNWTC), which conducts workshops in English and French on women's economic empowerment and violence against women,

Noting with approval the work of the Association of Women in Science (AWIS), which advocates on behalf of women in STEM, to achieve increased economic opportunity, innovation, and education,

Referring to the definition of economic independence, as defined by UN-Women, which includes women's ability to participate equally in existing markets, their access to and control over productive resources, access to decent work, control over their own time, and bodies, and increased voice, agency, and meaningful participation in economic decision-making at all levels from the household to international institutions,

Guided by the creation and effective results of the UN-Women South Africa Multi-Country Office (SAMCO) in assisting women in the region of Southern Africa which increase access to entrepreneurial training, exposure to gender parity, and responses to violence through programs such as the Acceleration of Women Owned Micro-Enterprises (AWOME),

Welcoming AWOME which supplies women with business-oriented and locally based economic training,

Taking note of the current partnerships and funding mechanisms of SAMCO, a combination of UN-Women, private enterprises, such as the De Beers Group, as well as civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other Member States,

Observing the successes of SAMCO in helping women emerge into the economic sector of their local communities, such as the inurement of procurement information, increasing the amount of women with relevant job training, and enhancing the use of technology to promote women's empowerment,

Viewing with appreciation the work of the Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative and the assistance it provides to women entrepreneurs in increasing accessibility to business building resources,

Guided by General Assembly resolution 72/234 on "Women in development" which states that globally, the gross domestic product growth rate could increase scientifically if every country achieved gender equality, and recognizing that the economic and social losses owing to lack of progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are significant,

Having devoted attention to the economic impact potential women can have in all Member States if they are granted the opportunities to participate in all facets that contribute to development,

Guided by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 23 Section 2 that states "Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work,"

Referring to the discrepancy audit system Logib, a pay equity application that calculates disparities between male and female wages,

Drawing attention to the urgent need throughout Member States for equal standards for genders within the loan policy system and eradicating pay discrepancy through multilateral collaboration to ensure absolute equality for women's economic development,

Bearing in mind Member State's current programs to support women on maternity leave,

Fully aware of the diverse roles women play in both domestic and public life,

Noting further that strongly developed children, including girls, and newborns need proper developmental attention,

Aware of a 2005 The Economic Journal study about American women that returned to work prior to the 12-week mark, their children were more likely to have behavior problems and lower cognitive test scores at the age of 4,

Keeping in mind that currently 20 Member States offer paid maternity leave,

1. *Encourages* Member States to engage with organizations such as the Clean Cooking Alliance to develop local, women-led projects under the Clean Cooking Alliance to encourage and implement clean household air and cooking fuels to decrease the rate of disease for domestic workers, most of which are women, and to allow more time for economic and social development of women domestic workers;

Invites Member States to collaborate with financial institutions, such as central banks, retail banks, and savings and loan associations, that operate nationally and locally to:

a. Increase access to financial instruments such as cash instruments for development of MSMEs for women locally and nationally;

b. Improve access to loans or microloans for MSMEs that use movable assets, such as cars, equipment, small production machines, or materials, rather than capital equity to allow more women access to loans that assist in developing business for women that do not own capital equity;

c. Mutually strengthen financial institutions and small businesses owned by women through the collection of interest-accruing loans and microloans and financing business operations;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to implement gender responsive budgeting at the respective national and subnational government institutions to:

a. Ensure the gender-sensitized analysis of the Member State's government plans, policies, and budget in order to identify potential inequalities in the state's financial revenues and expenditures;

b. Establish the gender-sensitized reconstruction of the Member States' budget, allowing men and women to equally profit from public expenditure;

4. *Suggests* Member States call on UN-Women's assistance and expertise to facilitate the implementation process and further institutionalization of gender responsive budgeting;

5. *Advocates* the establishment of a global system mandated by UN-Women that funds educational and job training resources for women in underdeveloped countries to obtain the skills necessary to remain competitive in the 21st century economy by ensuring that:

 Local economies are ranked on a gender parity in employment basis through the Systems-Wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women model to prioritize a need-based approach towards funding for women;

b. Educational and job training programs are assessed and audited annually to ensure continued effectiveness in meeting both short-term and long-term parity metrics;

6. *Urges* Member States to work alongside AWIS and UNWTC to expand workshops and establish regional mobile training facilities into rural areas designed from women which shall:

a. Address the unique challenges of each local community by utilizing portable modular facilities to host these workshops;

b. Promote skills in viable trades adapted to the economic conditions of each community;

c. Adapt the gender-responsive macroeconomics and policy training of the UNWTC so that it is accessible to all levels of literacy and available in accessible languages;

- d. Empower women by providing information on legal protections and action available to those who are victims of violence through legal workshops;
- e. Expand AWIS seminars in rural areas for young girls showcasing the affinity women have for a career in STEM fields;
- Include the prospect of studying business with an internship abroad for a group of girls who applied and were accepted on a merit basis;
- 7. *Reflects upon* the success of SAMCO and subsequent AWOME programs, and wishes to expand SAMCO's economic education initiatives across the continent of Africa by:
 - a. Partnering with NGOs and private organizations to fund and facilitate the knowledge of business, and increase self-reliance of African girls through creating an annual economic forum, in order to maintain relevant and effective training for rural girls in Africa, called the Pan-African Youth Girls Economic Forum, where girls will learn how to increase their economic potential, become micro-entrepreneurs, working alongside all individuals, including men, to create long-term cohesion and curb gender-based violence;
 - Achieving economic independence, as defined by UN-Women, to achieve freedoms and personal
 growth opportunities, such as staying unmarried longer, and having fewer kids, which allows girls to
 break the cyclical nature of poverty via the supplied applicable training that will sustain long-term
 economic achievements;
 - c. Providing the means for women business owners to improve their economic literacy to further encourage growth by providing business with resources about establishing a savings account for the business and necessary resources for advertising so that women business owners may increase the presence of their business;
- 8. *Urges* Member States to implement programs, such as Logib, to calculate gender-based wage discrepancies to identify the discriminatory practices and recommends Member States to enforce legislation to end discriminatory policies such as the Equal Credit Opportunities proposed by the United States Federal Trade Commission (FTC) which encourages private and governmental loan agencies to set interest rates and loan time according to the guidelines that are proposed by the FTC for the purpose of equality;
- 9. *Encourages* Member States to provide and incentivize a minimum 12-week paid or unpaid maternity leave in the public and private sector for the personal health and development of a child as noted in The Economic Journal study about American women, to allow that leave can be extended to a total of 22 weeks or until the mother returns, and that at the 12-week mark either the father or mother can take the remainder of parental leave.



Code: GA/1/3

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

The General Assembly Plenary,
 Recalling the progress towards the sustainable development of v

Recalling the progress towards the sustainable development of women made through the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Acknowledging the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) that lays the foundation for including women in developmental roles, with the emphasis that not all women receive equal treatment or have gender parity, albeit outdated for current societal norms which developed from social and political changes that emerged during the 21st century, e.g. the loss of popularity for the separate spheres conceptualization of gender equality,

Recognizing the results of the World Economic Forum's 2018 *Global Gender Gap Report* which details the need for nationally specific policy plans regarding domestic sustainable development programs for women,

Acknowledging the commitment to gender equality in SDG 5, particularly the target encouraging the leveraging of information and communications technology,

Recalling the provisions set forth by the United Nations (UN) System-Wide Action Plan 2.0 reporting results which called for the increase in the number and strength of performance indicators with regards to the SDGs,

Noting with concern that, while the relevance of women in sustainable development has been reiterated by the UN system, there are currently no gender-based indicators identified for SDGs 6, 7, 9, 12, 14, and 15,

Fully acknowledging that biases often detract from the effectiveness of data collected by various UN bodies, specifically those relating to surveyor bias, which occurs when certain demographic groups, like men, are overrepresented in the data collection process and therefore results in data that misrepresents the population being measured,

Further acknowledging that methodological bias, which occurs when collection methods are incompatible with customs or practices within Member States, makes it impossible to obtain an inclusive and truly representative sample of underrepresented populations,

Fully aware that the lack of standardized criteria for data creates problems with regards to cross cultural comparison,

Fully aware of the constraints of traditional societies on both genders,

Stressing the importance of General Assembly resolution 72/234, "Women in development," which emphasizes that an approach towards "Women in Development" needs to empower women to take active part in political, cultural, and economic processes,

Recalling the possibility to support developing countries in implementing programs through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

Acknowledging the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women's (UN-Women) World Survey on the role of women in development which identifies fundamental issues regarding gender-based disparity and highlights strategies to combat these issues,

Alarmed that gender-based discrimination in employment and job performance review result in gender gaps regarding access to social protection acquired through employment, according to a report by UN-Women,

Calling attention to the newly developed efforts put forward through UN-Women with accompanying agencies, Interagency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS), and Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (EDGE), to streamline data collection through producing reports such as, *Progress of the World's Women* and *World Survey on the Role of Women in Development*,

Remembering the importance of laws that protect second-generation human rights, known internationally as human rights based on the principles of social justice and public obligation, which can be achieved by acknowledging diverse social groups and the implementation of prevention, care, punishment, and restitution measures that ensure gender mainstreaming,

Acknowledging the need for greater oversight in aid organization and distribution from the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) in order to prevent the disadvantaging of women by inequitable aid distribution,

Recalling the possibility to support developing Member States in implementing programs through UNDP,

Being fully aware that the rapid development of technology creates new challenges for the world community in matters relating to the protection of rights and freedoms of vulnerable social groups,

Taking into account that 1 in 10 women has experienced some form of cyber violence, or different forms of sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior online, including hate speech, non-consensual "sexting," or sharing private information without permission, by the age of 15,

Recognizing with satisfaction the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Initiative supporting partnerships such as the Pacific Partnership to End Violence against Women and Girls,

Keeping in mind the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development and the difficulties in collecting sufficient data to perform in-depth analysis of UN programs,

Recognizing the efforts of the International Council on Women's Health Issues (ICOWHI) to improve the healthcare and well-being of women worldwide,

Applauding the system-wide strategy on gender parity (2017) in providing a framework for equal gender representation in UN bodies and staffing,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 72/147 (2018), "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly," which acknowledges women's right to knowledge and information,

Recognizing the importance of fulfilling General Assembly resolutions 73/148 on "The intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment,"

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 72/148 on "Improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas" and General Assembly resolution 72/149 on "Violence against women migrant workers,"

Recalling the 2019 *Sustainable Development Goals Report* which states that the lack of data collection is one of the biggest obstacles in achieving gender equality,

Acknowledging the fact that the UN-Women Strategic Plan 2018-2021 states that the work of UN-Women has influenced policy-making and should reach more policy makers, gender equality advocates, and the media, and that there is a need for a more effective and accessible method of tracking the disparities that women face that hinder their contributions towards sustainable development,

- 10. Invites the development of civil society organizations (CSOs)/ non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
 106 and regional expert groups through a convention of interested parties to augment localized data collection
 107 en masse on issues of women's development in the specified regions modeled by The Group of Experts on
 108 Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence of the Council of Europe;
 - 2. Recommends the creation of a subdivision of the UN Statistics Division called the Produce, Recognize, & Outreach (PRO) database, that would work in collaboration with the regional offices of UN-Women and existing UN-Women programs that streamlines the collection of existing statistical data pertaining to a multitude of factors that are greatly impacting women within the regional offices' jurisdiction into a universally accessible database so that:
 - a. Member States can utilize NGOs and UN agencies already present in a variety of demographic areas to mainstream accurate information that is differentiated from the general population that would bring a positive influence on policy makers, gender equality advocates, and local media outlets;
 - b. It can be used for the development of awareness campaigns, effective resource utilization, strategy management, and disparity equalization;
 - 3. *Encourages* governing bodies and organizations that use the PRO database to participate in an annual feedback forum organized by UN-Women in order to ensure that the information utilized is beneficial to their efforts and the system is continuously evolving in accordance with the needs of women in development;
 - 4. *Urges* Member States to battle the biases in methodology that weaken data collection globally, and to plan for the inclusive and effective deployment of data gathering techniques which include:
 - a. Combating selection bias by identifying sub-populations who are least likely to be captured by data collection efforts and developing uniquely comprehensive strategies, in order to obtain demographic information about these people;
 - b. Improving data collection methodology by making use of household surveys, conducted by sensibly selected enumerators, who capture the roles and duties of women within the household and provide a more informed view into the lives of underreported populations;
 - 5. Calls upon the UN Sustainable Development Group, who is responsible for guidance assistance and analysis of the SDGs, to incorporate the recommendations for new SDG indicators as provided by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators Report 2019 during the upcoming meeting;
 - 6. Asks further that the UN Sustainable Development Group incorporate the reclassification of SDG tiers in accordance with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group in Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Report 2019;
 - 7. Calls upon Member States to meet their voluntary data commitments with special consideration for:
 - a. Gender disaggregated data;

- Intersectional data, which may include, but are not limited to, demographic considerations such as socio-economic status, rural and urban residency status, ethno-religious status, and disability status;
- 8. *Recommends* Member States take progressive steps to include more women in the practice of data collection, as a means of combating surveyor bias, with respect towards inclusion of women from intersectional backgrounds to better capture the unique needs of underrepresented populations;

9. *Encourages* UN-Women to increase the frequency with which they conduct the *World Survey on the Role* of *Women in Development* from every 5 years to every 3 years for the purposes of:

- a. Gathering a more frequent, and therefore more accurate, sample of challenges that women currently face in regards to economic development;
- b. Improving the general awareness of such issues so that the UN system more frequently acknowledges the weight of gender inequality on economic development when proposing policies;
- c. Increasing the accessibility of credible information for governments and civil society actors, helping them to identify and mitigate existing gender disparities;
- 10. *Calls upon* UN-Women to create an annual report to the General Assembly detailing how aid is organized and distributed by the UN-OCHA, broken down by Member State and gender;
- 11. *Recommends* long-term integrated approaches on improving the collection and analysis of gender data and statistics;
- 12. *Recommends* a working group of experts nominated by Member States and CSOs to utilize the data collected as well as recommendations by UN-Women to work towards both expansion of existing efficient UN-Women programs and the development of new initiatives that address gaps in existing strategies, increase access for women in rural areas to education and the eradication of specific practices that keep them from engaging with political and civil society;
- 13. *Requests* the use of UNDP funds in the expansion of programs promoted by the aforementioned working group;
- 14. *Strongly* encourages expanding the Girl Up Program, funded by UN-Women and Global Giving, through the development of CSO/NGO travel sponsorships, which gives women in developing countries the opportunity to gain internationally influenced leadership skills and the empowerment needed to serve their communities;
- 15. *Calls upon* all societal actors to foster willingness to see past restrictive societal norms and transcend them as equals through initiatives like UN-Women's HeForShe;
- 16. *Insists* that Member States prioritize second-generation protective policies to constitutional status, ensuring that addressing violence against women remains a steadfast pillar in the judicial system, regardless of change in political leaders or platforms by:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to reallocate funds within their budgets to prioritize specific federal resources for the prevention of violence against women and girls;
 - b. Recommending that Member States require their governmental census agencies to be responsible for measuring occurrences of gender-based violence;
- 17. *Encourages* the implementation of research and data collection on acts of cyberviolence against women and girls (cyber VAWG);
- 18. *Invites* Member States to develop recommendations and policies for Member States in order to prevent and reduce the acts of cyber VAWG by:
 - a. Using data collected by PRO in specific regions regarding cyber VAWG;
 - b. Taking educational measures to familiarize women and girls with the principles of cybersecurity through a pilot project between UN-Women's regional offices and the European Cyber Security Organization;

- 19. *Reminds* Member States that the participation of women in local policy formation will ensure environmentally sustainable development that recognizes the needs of women in the achievement of proper health care;
- 20. *Recommends* that healthcare services and the other works of ICOWHI be facilitated through the creation of national ICOWHI offices;
- 21. *Urges* Member States to increase the worldwide provision of basic sanitation and clean drinking water by lobbying for increased funding for women in rural and remote areas;
- 22. *Encourages* Member States to strive for gender parity in their national government by adopting a framework similar to the UN system-wide strategy on gender parity (2017);
- 23. *Encourages* the development of codified national strategies by individual Member States that address measurable targets for improving the economic and social prospects of women, including educational access, economic empowerment, political participation, and the reduction of violence against women, written in alignment with preexisting international accords;
- 24. *Suggests* that Member States collaborate with national, regional, and international CSOs in the development of these strategies;
- 25. *Recommends* long-term integrated approaches on improving the collection and analysis of gender data and statistics;
- 26. Reminds Member States that the participation of women in local policy formation will ensure environmentally sustainable development that recognizes the needs of women in the achievement of proper health care:
- 27. *Endorses* collaboration with indigenous societies to reiterate the importance of integrating women into roles of local leadership;
- 28. *Encourages* Member State collaboration to produce inclusive solutions regarding women in development while focusing on the necessity of disseminate information for improving gender parity and inclusivity by:
 - a. Mainstreaming data-collection information systems by encouraging Member States to implement the UN-Women's system coordination within the UN;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to include existing systems, policies, and ideas that focus on gender parity on a global, regional, and national scale;
- 29. *Requests* the addition of an internal mechanism within UN-Women to monitor the progress of data collection by Member States on women's political and environmental situations hindering their inclusion in development, which would:
 - a. Work in combination with existing inter-agencies, i.e. IAEG-GS and EDGE;
 - b. Conduct yearly reviews rotating through one fourth of the Member States based on the 52 gender indicators established under the IAEG-GS;
 - Provide Member States specific recommendations established after review to ensure transparency within Member States.



Code: GA/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

1 The General Assembly Plenary,

Reaffirming commitments made under the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action to promote gender equality, safety, and development for women,

Emphasizing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, which calls for the end of discrimination against women everywhere and is foundational to the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Understanding the role of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) National Committees which help Members States to forge effective partnerships with civil society for greater collaboration on global women's issues,

Recalling the progress made by the UN in achieving equal gender balance through long-term implementation plans within UN entities as found in report by the UN Secretary-General titled "Improvement in the Status of Women in the United Nations System,"

Recognizing the UN Statistics Division and the sub-division UN Gender Statistics whose goal are to collect data about 52 quantitative and 11 qualitative indicators that target issues regarding gender equality and classifying these issues into three tiers, however not all Member States are accurately represented in the data,

Reviewing the progress made with General Assembly resolution 60/262 (2006), "Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS," which called for the implementation of women in international policies and programs on Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)/ Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS),

Cognizant of the young women that are considered a high-risk group according to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), as 6,000 females aged between 15-24 years become infected with HIV each week and seeing the connection between women's health and the ability to participate equally in both the public and private sectors,

Taking into consideration the data of UN-Women, which estimates one in three women globally are experiencing violence,

Considering with care the World Health Organization (WHO) report, World Report on Violence and Health (2002), which mentions that violence has a strong and negative effect on victims with many aspects,

Conscious of the fear and psychological effects of violence against women which is preventing them from participating in society.

Viewing with consideration the Human Rights Council 20/16 "Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Rashida Manjoo," which concerns situations that support for victims of violence is lacking,

Acknowledging the World Bank Group's report, Intimate Partner Violence: Economic Costs and Implications for Growth and Development (2013), which mentions the effects of gender-based violence on the economy,

Alarmed at the fact that for the next 202 years, the world risks not closing the pervasive economic gender gap, thus hindering women's economic potential and the world's overall economy,

Emphasizing that the founding of the UN-Women's Fund for Gender Equality provided many projects within low-50 and middle- income countries,

Expresses its satisfaction with the success of equal pay in improving quality in the private and public sectors,

Taking into consideration the need to protect resources and funds allocated to aiding women,

Recalling the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which aims to ensure transparent and adequate financing for sustainable development while also promoting gender equality and women's and girls' empowerment through gender responsive budgeting (GRP),

Noting with appreciation that the Europe 2020 Strategy refers to the Barcelona Objective which reinforced employment strategies to facilitate women's participation in the labor market adopted by the European Council in 2002,

Reaffirming the Arab Women Parliamentarians Network for Equality as a framework for fellow Member States to advance and advocate for increased equality for women within their given regions,

Bearing in mind that this year, the World Bank reported only six countries have equal rights for men and women, with 2.7 million women being legally restricted from having the same job selection as men, and a 26.5 percentage point gap still remaining in employment rate between women and men, and according to the World Economic Forum it would take 202 years to close the gender pay gap,

Reiterating the *Ukraine-EU Association Agreement* which outlined requirements to achieve gender equality in employment and decision-making positions,

Recognizing women's ability to increase Gross Domestic Product as much as 26% by 2025 with the continued efforts of the international community in equally incorporating women into labor markets,

Highlighting the creation of initiatives, such as the Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, as representatives of combined efforts to eradicate the inequality between genders,

Noting with satisfaction the concept of the appointment of an ambassadorship for Women and Girls, as introduced for example by the Commonwealth of Australia in 2011,

Deeply conscious of the call to increase women's participation in political decision-making positions as outlined in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, Peace and Security,"

Contemplating the 2011 UN General Assembly resolution 66/130 on women's political participation which stresses the importance of women's engagement in electoral processes and greater involvement of women who are marginalized,

Having considered that women in developing countries require equal opportunity to engage in the political arena as men in order to establish an improved equal status,

Bearing in mind the danger women in political roles within developing countries currently face, stressing the importance of the availability of women in political roles to acquire and call for protection and respect for their position,

Encouraging to participate in politics through a better media campaign for political mandates in either international, national, and local parliaments, displaying the work in politics, its advantages, and structures,

Aware of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 1990/15, "Recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the year 2000," which encourages Member States to appoint 30% of women in

leadership positions,

Declaring the importance of education in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that recognizes that gender equality requires an approach that ensures all individuals regardless of gender are empowered equally through education,

Recognizing that in order for women to play an active role in development and economic growth, they must first have equal social, political and, educational opportunities developed through engagement with the UN Girls' Education Initiative that focuses on aiming to lessen the gender gap within girls' education,

Underlining the ratification of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and the rights to education which stresses the importance of access to education for all people at all levels,

Considering that girls in rural regions are historically more likely to be excluded from education than boys due to cultural conditions and gender expectations,

Keeping in mind the challenges impoverished families in developing countries face in providing their children with school supplies or uniforms,

Concerned that according to UN-Women only 39% of rural women globally attend secondary school resulting in less opportunity for women to develop autonomy later in life,

Highlighting the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women Article 14 on the unendurable consequences of discrimination and gender stereotypes for women living in rural areas,

Reiterating the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights on Indigenous Peoples, as well acknowledging the establishment of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) under the Paris Agreement in 2015,

Understanding that rural and indigenous women hold a significant role in regard to economic, agricultural, and environmental development in that these communities are responsible for 80% of the earth's biodiversity,

Recalling the report State of the World's Indigenous Peoples, which highlights that traditional agricultural and dietary habits of indigenous communities are threatened by the climate change with rural and indigenous women being at a higher risk of suffering from hunger and malnutrition,

Viewing with appreciation that indigenous women contain intimate knowledge regarding their lands with specific reference to traditional land use and agricultural practices while being uniquely capable of mitigating hazards caused through climate change,

Concerned by the fact that the representation of indigenous people, particularly indigenous women, has not been fully established within the UN system,

Expressing concern about rural and indigenous populations particularly the women within these communities who are increasingly suffering from the effects of environmental disasters and further reiterating the necessity to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

Emphasizing the threat that climate change poses on rural and indigenous communities as they reside in the most fragile ecosystems,

Appreciating the policy brief of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Going Digital: The Future of Work for Women, which stresses that more flexibility in work can increase women's employment in politics,

Reminding about the efficiency of increasing the childcare services to enhance women's participation in the labor markets as found in a report by UN-Women titled *Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights*,

Recognizing that according to the International Labor Organization (ILO), men's right to parenthood and housework contribution are essential to eliminating traditional gender roles which results in a more successful economy while promoting women's position in society,

Reiterating the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

1. *Recommends* the continuation for the UN Girls' Education Initiative which directly focuses on increasing the quality of life for women in rural communities:

a. Sending out volunteers to rural areas to give access to informational programs;

 Calling for improving sanitation in schools by enhancing water services and providing free sanitary menstrual products;

c. Suggesting to educate women in rural communities about sustainable agricultural processes to ensure adequate nutrition in schools, thus improving school attendance;

2. *Suggests* to focus on educating vulnerable women in rural areas through programs on the matters of sexual and reproductive health;

3. *Considers* the need for expanding partnerships with diverse non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and continue funding programs that encourages rural communities' capacity by:

a. Calling for the development of transportation and communications technology by increasing investments in electricity grids, sanitation services, and health care in rural regions;

b. Suggesting strengthening the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases by enhancing social care services and access to information regarding contraception;

c. Encouraging Member States to consider prioritizing legal frameworks that protect victims of sexual and domestic violence, while also offering psychological services and rehabilitation programs to support survivors with their recovery;

4. *Invites* international organizations to continue observing the International Day of Rural Women on October 15, legitimized by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/136 "Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas;"

5. *Affirms* the importance of utilizing legal measures to ensure the equal participation of young women and girls into each Member States individualized education system;

6. *Implores* Member States to prioritize equal education for women as one of its chief aims to lessen the inequality gap existent between men and women;

7. *Encourages* all Member States to provide not only free education but also what children require for school attendance, such as uniforms, meals, and textbooks;

8. *Further recommends* implementing voluntary education which will make it possible for children and adults to engage in education opportunities to gain necessary skills and knowledge needed for future opportunities;

9. *Recommends* Member States adopt a quota system which encourages a long-term increase in participation of women in decision making positions;

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- 10. Suggests that the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) addresses voluntary governmental gender composition quotas as a topic at its annual session and to create an international voluntary governmental quota handbook by inviting the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe referring to their Handbook on Promoting Women's Participation in Political Parties and encourages Member States that have not yet adopted the non-voluntary governmental gender composition quotas to do so by referring to the aforementioned handbook;
- 11. Creating more flexible frameworks for voluntary work through the promotion of digitalization in order to ensure the participation of women in political sessions;
- 12. Suggests cooperation in order to promote informal education with:
 - a. International NGOs which can transfer skills to local people;
 - b. National NGOs which have the knowledge and good working relationships with local people, which are able to maximize the benefits of assistance from international NGOs;
- 13. Recommends Member States to look towards the Arab Women Parliamentarians Networks for Equality to create regional organizations that promote further advancement and inclusivity of women within their respective societies and the global field, funded by UN-Women;
- 14. Encourages creating safe working environments to facilitate the process of women's participation in the political sphere through financing information campaigns that fight against the stigma around parental leave and gender stereotypes surrounding jobs;
- 15. Directs civil society organizations to create mechanisms to monitor the representation of women in institutions;
- 16. Affirms that with more women entering the government and holding public offices, women can help pass laws that can further develop other women's rights and experiences by allowing economic and social opportunities not previously allowed to them, thus accelerating overall development in each individual country;
- 17. Urges for the greater assurance of protection for women entering politics and government by providing security safeguards alongside each progressive step of political involvement;
- 18. Emphasizes the need for greater media coverage in all available platforms for women throughout numerous stages of political involvement;
- 19. Condemns discriminatory laws and institutions that hinder women's and girls' social economic and political participation and oppose to make a demonstrable improvement in women's access to and control over economic resources and financial services;
- 20. Intends to engage in policy dialogue aimed at strengthening efforts to give women equal participation in economic and working life consistent with ILO's core labor standards;
- 21. Calls for increasing voter and civic education and sensitization through creating campaigns on gender equality and participation in political and civil society and facilitating workshops and women interested in becoming political candidates as a means to help them fully realize their potential;
- 22. Strongly encourages the LCIPP Facilitative Working Group which is tasked with the implementation of a dedicated web portal on the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change website, to:
 - Take into special account the needs of indigenous and rural women as well as their families;
 - b. Reaffirm that indigenous peoples can be contributors as well as receivers of expertise;

- 271 c. Create a web-based capacity-building portal which provides knowledge exchange and links to other
 272 data portals and resources;
 - d. Be inclusive and grant universal access by the translation of information on the online platform into indigenous languages;
 - e. Create facilitative access to micro-funds of international organizations such as UN-Women Funds but also the private sector, to conduct projects regarding sustainable agriculture;
 - f. Have the platform ready to work by the end of 2020;
 - 23. *Endorses* partnerships with NGOs designed to give proper value to women's work and stop child marriage and sexual harassment;
 - 24. *Encourages* Member States to continue collaborating with diverse worldwide organizations and the World Bank's financial experts and researchers to empower women's economic independence through:
 - a. Offering business training;

- b. Enabling access to loans and microloans and developing programs and workshops directed at teaching about investments and finance;
- 25. *Emphasizes* expanding the Closing the Gender Gap Project, which fosters global and national public-private collaboration, by including every member of the international community;
- 26. *Requests* the monitoring of in- and outgoing resources allocated to aid women:
 - a. Suggesting yearly reports from UN-Women sent to the General Assembly to track progress of resources sent to aid Women in Development;
 - b. Endorsing analysis of data collected from UN-Women through WHO and the Association for Women's Rights in Development;
- 27. Further requests Member States to promote financial safeguards that foster financial security for rural women that are part of indigenous populations through UN-Women's Fund for Gender Equality placing a special focus on women in rural indigenous communities;
- 28. *Reaffirms* the efforts made by the United States Agency for International Development Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests Program in strengthening the capacities of affiliated Member States in combating climate change while adopting a gender perspective but stressing the importance of expanding membership to include women belonging to the indigenous and rural populations outside of Asia to be part of the decision-making process;
- 29. *Requests* the expansion of the UN-Women programs such as Agriculture Femmes et Développement Durable (AgriFed) which has taught women in rural and indigenous populations agriculture techniques that are climate resilient;
- 30. *Calls upon* Member States to recognize the traditional agricultural practices of rural and indigenous women as invaluable to cultural heritage, likewise to partner with the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to develop action plans to protect and preserve said practices;
- 31. *Proclaims* the complete access of indigenous peoples' representatives from LCIPP during the UN Climate
 Negotiations and supports the ongoing efforts of LCIPP to enable them to contribute to the UNFCCC process;
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- 32. *Asks* that Member States to evaluate where disparities are most apparent between women and men within rural communities through tracking gender-disaggregated secondary education attendance in order to gather country-specific information on attendance disparities:

- - b. Educating businesses on incorporating women into managerial positions;

- a. Inviting Member States to draw funding from UN-Women to sponsor girls within rural communities to lessen gaps between rural and urban women's capacity to access to education;
- b. Emphasizing the specified need for Member States to engage in more NGO partnerships to aid and support the transition between primary and secondary education for rural girls;
- 33. *Stresses* the need to actively train and support women in vulnerable minority groups in preparation to respond to natural disasters as well as post natural disaster relief with the aid of an advisory commission;
- 34. *Urges* the Conference of the Parties to strengthen the role of indigenous women in the LCIPP and secure equal participation of indigenous women by:
 - a. Increasing the number of representatives in the Facilitative Working Group to 28 with two representatives from each party names in FCCC/SBSTA/2018/L.18;
 - b. Requiring all parties to send a female and male representative;
- 35. *Encourages* the creation of international and regional collaboration, including but not limited to funding and financial aid, to realize a leaving no one behind policy aimed at the integration of work skills acquired and preserved by indigenous tribes to ensure a respectful appreciation of a Member State's history and cultural heritage;
- 36. *Further invites* the elevations of traditional structures with regional and local community institutions, such as churches and other community-shaping organizations, in order to address a deeper-rooted approach to eradicate the causes of gender inequality directed at the most empirical levels in society and to all genders collaborating in this matter:
- 37. *Draws the attention* to further establish academic exchange programs while taking into account the diversity of professional methods used in different countries to create a multifaceted set of skills to be incorporated in the education of women and men alike;
- 38. *Authorizes* Member States to implement measures to protect women human rights defenders, specifically those fighting against child marriage and female genital mutilation;
- 39. *Invites* Member States to collaboratively work with the UN Statistics Division and UN Gender Statistics to increase reporting on gender economics statistics to better pinpoint areas of concern in order to further women's economic development by increasing the management of the UN Gender Statistics website to keep up-to-date data in the database and demonstrating the data in a clear and understandable way and working with local groups to collect information in rural areas so that all women are represented;
- 40. *Requests* the creation of an internationally accessible program based on existing equal pay auditing programs to be implemented and funded by global organizations for the use in assessing individual companies' and government organizations' wage gaps in order to know where the companies and organizations stand in terms of economic equality and to promote accountability;
- 41. *Calls upon* Member States to implement gender responsive budgeting at the respective national and subnational state institutions, to ensure the gender-sensitized analysis and reconstruction of the Member Sates' financial revenues and expenditures;
- 42. *Calls upon* Member States to collaborate with NGOs such as the Global Fund for Women to advance equality of women:
 - a. Taking into account differing cultural views for each Member State;

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384 c. Empowering women through workshops consisting of capacity building and leadership training to improve their qualification for upper level positions;
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- 43. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their programs related to HIV/AIDs by working with UN-Women and UNAIDS by increasing participation of women in leadership positions in order to properly target at-risk groups of women,
- 44. *Encourages* more Members States to develop and implement a law regarding paternity leave to promote husbands' unpaid work at home and childcare;
- 45. *Encourages* UN-Women to lead the initiative with other specialized bodies such as ILO to facilitate regional workshops for government sectors to increase childcare institutions in order to alleviate the burden of childcare responsibility of women to increase the employment rate of women;
- 46. Encourages Member States to adopt domestic legislation prohibiting gender discrimination;
- 47. Suggests Member States provide opportunities to discuss violence against women among students through additions to secondary school curricula provided by UN-Women; 402
- 403 48. *Requests* all Members States to provide support for victims of violence by cooperation between governments and civil society organizations, such as psychological counseling, legal information, and crisis services.



Code: GA/1/5

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around the world,

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

1 The General Assembly Plenary, 2 3 Calling attention to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 outlined in the agenda, 5 6 Recognizing the importance of SDG 5 in its efforts to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, 7 8 Also bearing in mind the interlinkages between the SDGs, specifically SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender 9 Equality, and SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, in order to mitigate the negative effects of gender 10 inequality, 11 12 Taking into consideration the importance of education to promote and encourage women in the political sphere, 13 14 Deeply convinced that education is an essential factor in promoting women's presence in leadership roles, 15 16 Applauding the work done by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-17 Women) in establishing efforts that advocate for legislative and constitutional representation, maximize financial 18 resources to create opportunities and other progressive methods that conclusively aim to empower women, 19 20 Acknowledging that according to UN-Women, two thirds of the world's 796 million illiterate people are women, 21 22 Underlining that increasing access to gender based data and research on gender equality are fundamental to fully 23 understanding the situation of women in different contexts, and that they contribute to the development of normative 24 and legal frameworks necessary for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, 25 26 Calling attention to the Follow-up on the Fourth World Conference on Women and Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as the Beijing+25 (2020) conference where gender equality and 27 28 empowerment are made a central focus, 29 30 Having considered the quality and value of work that the UN educational initiatives perform globally; 31 32 Highlighting the importance of education to promote and encourage women in the political sphere, 33 34 Keeping in mind the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women and 35 acknowledging its efforts to achieve the increased participation of women on equal terms with men in all fields, 36 37 Prioritizing the creation of legislature which ensures that the elimination of violence against women remains a 38 steadfast pillar in the judicial system regardless of change in political leaders or platforms, 39 40 Conscious of SDG 8 and how entrepreneurship helps women establish economic independence which addresses 41 problems concerning a possible lack of jobs and potential coercions, 42 43 Noting with approval the work that education-based organizations such as Campaign for Female Education 44 (CAMFED) has done in regards to helping girls gain an education and acknowledging the fear associated with 45 commuting to non-governmental organizations' (NGOs) education facilities,

Guided by the effective work that NGOs have done in the name of educating and empowering women and girls

- *Emphasizing* the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Policy on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Girls and Women (2010) which addresses the need for partnerships to promote equal development outcomes for girls, 52
 - *Seeking* the expansion of Life Story Grants, an international and system-focused initiative from the NoVo Foundation that helps those at risk of and facing gender-based violence by providing victim support,

- Acknowledging the existence of programs offered by the African Women's Development Fund which provide support to women and girls in Africa by fostering their training, technical skills, and promoting feminist leadership,
- *Notes with profound concern* the association of gender-based violence and commuting to schools which is the reason that Member States are encouraged to invite NGOs to provide suitable transportation to designated areas which ensures safety or bring mobile education to women in rural areas,
- Highlighting Member States with the help of The Fund for Gender Equality to establish regional grants for women to advance in education and in the workforce in order to provide more empowerment for women,
- 1. *Endorses* the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into all future decisions made by Member States;
- 2. Urges Member States to address and educate populations on all aspects of SDG 5 by:
 - a. Introducing educational programs based on dialogue and consensus-building for women's empowerment;
 - b. Advocating for women's equality and empowerment through means of basic education like K-12;
- 3. *Invites* Member States to continue building and deepening strategic information-sharing networks and partnerships in order to ensure more effective collaboration and sustainable result;
- 4. Recommends further promotion of the values of women's education regarding leadership roles by:
 - a. Increasing the capacities of education systems through leadership programming specific to the needs and rights of women;
 - b. Increasing awareness of women's rights regarding equal protection under the law, outlined in Article 7 in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, to give women confidence in acquiring leadership roles;
- 5. *Encourages* Member States to adopt processes established in the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* while implementing domestic policies regarding access to education regardless to education regardless of gender and antidiscrimination;
- 6. Recommends Member States establish national conventions made up of women and governmental leaders and to fund organizations that promote open advocacy on topics such as gender inequality, political participation, and women in development as a whole;
- 7. *Calling* on the UN-Women to review the political education curricula in its own programs and partners' educational programs to include:
 - a. Opportunities for the students of these programs to participate in the political process;
 - b. Criteria individuals must meet before participating in the political process such as testing requirements or how to declare intent to participate;
 - c. Background on what information will be present on testing materials if there are testing requirements required for participation;

- d. Any other barriers or necessary steps required to participate in the political process as determined by local NGOs;

 8. Further advocates that this information be added to the educational curricula of all other UN education initiatives and programs and all partner educational initiatives of UN-Women;

 Stresses the need for Member States to set quotas and refine awareness programs for women's political participation in order to reach out to women and girls to empower them and raise awareness among women in
 - 10. *Intends* to implement prevention of discrimination, and plans to enforce General Assembly resolution 68/191 which highlights disciplinary action, and ensures gender mainstreaming;

order to accomplish SDG 5 and reduce gender inequality gaps;

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- 11. *Recommends* willing and able Member States to collaborate with organizations such as CAMFED to further women's and girls' education;
- 12. *Encourages* Member States with the help of UNICEF to implement regional workshops for young girls which includes mentorship programs with women political leaders and providing educational resources aimed to empower girls for their future lives;

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- 13. Further recommends the expansion of Life Story Grants to decrease the risk of exploitation and violence, as
 well as allowing women to engage in development;
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 - 14. *Encourages* cooperation between the UN-Women's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign and willing and able Member States to increase awareness of violence against women;
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 133 15. Asks that all Member States of the African Union utilize the African Women's Development Fund, making more widely available programs which focus on empowering women by cultivating respect, diversity, and feminist leadership.



Code: GA/1/6

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

1 The General Assembly Plenary,

Guided by the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Keeping in mind the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its commitment to all peoples living a dignified life,

Emphasizing the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with special attention to SDG 5 which calls for gender equality and empowerment of women and girls,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 50/203 (1995) which welcomed the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, creating achievable goals for improving the role of women in economic development,

Taking into account the World Health Organization's (WHO) Understanding and Addressing Violence Against Women (2012) study, highlighting that violence against women has long lasting negative consequences not only physically, but socially, psychologically, politically, and economically, which not only removes women out of their current roles, but roles across all levels of society,

Fully believing that violence against women and girls brings economic costs to society because of the stigma and discrimination victims and survivors are faced with resulting in limitations to women's active participation, according to the WHO's Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Plan of Action for 2012-2020, the estimated cost of intimate partner violence is USD 5.8 billion annually,

Recognizing that women cannot obtain their full potential unless there is an end to all forms of violence and discrimination against women,

Stressing the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993),

Acknowledging that there is a lack of proactive laws and actions that adequately address all forms of gender-based violence and sexual violence,

Highlighting the United Nations Spotlight Initiative, a prevention program that spans over 13 countries to eliminate violence against women and girls,

Noting with great appreciation United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women's (UN-Women) 'Essential Services Package' (ESP) which seeks to provide the necessary services for women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence,

Acknowledging that according to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) study, *The Global Study on Homicide* (2018), 87,000 women were intentionally killed based solely on gender discrimination known as femicide,

Recalling the urgency of creating a femicide registry to collect data and measure progress as previously done in Argentina,

Recognizing the need for law enforcement to have a gender-sensitive perspective in aiding victims of domestic violence,

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50 Appreciating the efforts of the UN-Women Trust Fund to End Violence against Women which provides funding to 51 initiatives within Member States that actively work to prevent violence against women and girls,

Acknowledging that women of color face multiple forms of discrimination based on their race, ethnicity, migration status, and sexuality, specifically in countries where women of color are considered the minorities and intersectional identities,

Bringing attention to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which highlights the importance of including women and girls with disabilities who face multiple forms of discrimination that pose a threat to all aspects of life,

Noting that, according to the Commission on the Status of Women (2013), women with disabilities, rural women of color and poor women suffer significantly more from gender-based violence and discrimination,

Cognizant that today over 200 million girls and women in 30 countries have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM) according to the United Nations International Children's Fund's (UNICEF) publication Female Genital Mutilation (2019),

Aware that according to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), FGM is projected to increase from 4.1 million girl victims in 2019 to 4.6 million by 2030,

Endorsing the General Assembly resolution 67/146 (2012) on "Intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations" as the universal recognition and agreement that bans FGM worldwide,

Alarmed by the number of young child brides, Girls Not Brides is committed to a global partnership to eliminate child marriage by 2030,

Concerned that 700 million women and girls were married before the age of 18 according to the Ending Child Marriage Progress and Prospects report by UNICEF,

Appreciating the vision of the Economic Commission of Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which aims to promote comprehensive economic cooperation amongst regional Member States,

Noting the briefing paper under UN-Women, *Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation* (2008), that reports the absence of women in formal peacekeeping negotiation processes,

Recommends Member States adopt the guidelines outlined in UN-Women's ESP in order to enhance their
capacity to support women through the annual reporting cycle, which will provide Member States with these
implementation guidelines on how to set up high quality services like social, policy, and health services for
women, and effectively meet the goals of the ESP, bridging the gap between international commitments on
ending and responding to gender-based violence and what is implemented at the national level;

2. Calls upon Member States to form alliances that produce relational programs, funded by Member States, such as the UN-sponsored ECLAC, with a focus on regional adaptability to form grassroots programs, such as Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood, which provides seminars with the aim to promote sensitization towards addressing not only intimate partner violence, but femicide and FGM in Member States that do not already have these programs;

3. *Urges* Member States to enact and enforce proactive laws that adequately address gender-related killings, abuse, and all forms of violence against women and girls, utilizing multilateralism to:

a. Implement the Domestic Violence Prevention Training developed by UNODC for the Vietnam Police as a model to educate law enforcement on the sensitivity of domestic abuse, and to provide advocacy for victims;

b. Establish a femicide registry in Member States that do not have one in order to develop statistics and monitor the progress over time;

- c. Encourage the continued use of the UN-Women Trust Fund to End Violence against Women to fund effective partnerships between current non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and federal councils to focus specifically on combating gender-based abuse, violence, and trafficking;
- 4. *Calls for* all Member States to take the necessary policy steps to outlaw the practice of FGM including the support of General Assembly resolution 67/146 (2012) with respect to the slow pace change of established cultures that practice it in the modern era, which include:
 - a. The introduction of alternate rites of passage, such as initiation ceremonies, that do not include cutting in cultures that use FGM as a mean of teaching the values of the communities;
 - b. The implementation of community-based educational programs on abandoning FGM developed by Tostan International, a Senegalese NGO, in Member States that fail to implement similar programs;
 - c. Public dialogue, women's empowerment, and governmental laws that protect a woman's right to her body;
- 5. *Calls for* all Member States to support the UN-Women Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage by:
 - a. Putting emphasis on women empowerment and the path toward gender equality by implementing programs that, following the model of UN-Women, engage in dialogues to support young and adolescent girls;
 - b. Protecting the rights of women and girls to make their own decisions in regard to marriage which will give them the liberty to make key decisions on issues that impact their lives;
- 6. *Calls for* the implementation of mobile and/or standalone clinics such as the WHO-sponsored program called Humanitarian Health Action that offers mental and physical health resources for women in countries depending on the needs of Member States and solving the problem of women's development by improving their health and thereby becoming more active participants in societies of Member States;
- 7. Recommends collaboration with NGOs, such as Amnesty International, to support access to financial help for victims of domestic violence working to expand upon the efforts presented by UN-Women by encouraging Member States to further work towards empowering young women and improving access to services as well as stronger implementation of laws through the previously mentioned measures;
- 8. *Urges* Member States to maintain UN-Women's development funding, which supplies financial assistance to programs dedicated to women's empowerment and physical security:
 - a. Supporting a 2008 joint declaration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, UNFPA, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and WHO that laid out the methods on how to eliminate FGM and pledge to eliminate the practice with the next generation;
 - b. Bolstering women's engagement with justice institutions to address impunity for violence towards them:
 - c. Establishing a sustainable connection between women and peacekeeping forces to build security against the threats that women face such as gender-based and sexual violence.



Code: GA/1/7

Committee: General Assembly Plenary

Topic: Women in Development

The General Assembly Plenary,

Bearing in mind the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that all humans are born free and equal in dignity and rights thus enabling women to express their human rights in full by eliminating any discrimination or oppression,

Emphasizes the importance of gender balance in political involvement and ensure women's representation in order to successfully achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goal's 3, 5, and 16 on gender equality in health and well-being, and peace and security,

Keeping in mind General Assembly resolution 72/147 and its efforts to highlight the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action to increase funding for the budget of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and inter alia encourage the speedy transformation of stereotypical norms defined by the Office of the United Nation High Commissioner for Human Rights as the generalized view or preconception about attributes or characteristics that are or ought to be possessed by members of a particular social group in order to eradicate gender-based violence and ensure that the UN accomplishes its goal of leaving no one behind.

Acknowledging the United Nation Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) which forms part of the women, peace, and security agenda and its accomplishment in shedding light on the severe issues women face while expressing deep concern on women's exclusion in the resolution of conflicts and peacebuilding efforts,

Keeping in mind the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (1993), which defines violence against women as any act of gender-based violence resulting in physical, psychological, or sexual harm or suffering,

Recognizing the United Nations Population Fund, which states that women's empowerment would result in poverty reduction, increase in political stability, and promote gender equality,

Recognizing the efforts General Assembly resolution 70/219 on the sustainable development of women in development which aims to improve the health and well-being of women worldwide,

Emphasizing the partnership between UN-Women and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council which established a joint program that addresses global action on ending menstruation taboos by replacing shame with pride on the subject,

Deeply conscious of Human Rights Council resolution 39/13 which discusses preventable maternal mortality and habitual hinderance to women's global health and livelihood,

Alarmed by extremely high numbers of birth-related deaths, lack of access to basic health services, and up to 20 years lower life expectancy of indigenous women,

Noting with concern the decrease of funding from private sector funding to initiatives against the Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Auto Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemics as stated by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the critical role that funding in such sector plays in decreasing progress toward gender equality,

1. *Recommends* incentives such as establishing quotas that limit the dominance of either sex when registering candidates in the electoral systems of legislatures and administrations and must be reinforced in order to combat gender-sensitive issues around the globe such as female genital mutilation, violence against women, and other harmful social norms;

- 2. *Suggests* that Member States increase their support through the refinement of guidelines and requirements within the development of peacekeeping operations for the integration of women in peacekeeping missions so that gender-based violence may be reduced in:
 - a. Regards to refugee camps where specifically women and girls have reported cases of sexual assault and human rights violation from peacekeepers;
 - b. Post conflict areas where women require increased representation when negotiating and implementing peace agreements;
- 3. *Recommends* an increase from the current 24.3% of female representation in the parliaments of the Member States through measures such as:
 - a. Introduction of quota laws towards 50% of female representation to ensure equal representation in all departments of national governments;
 - Increased access to educational programs through collaboration with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Running Start to encourage young girls to enter careers in politics in Member States and focusing on the integration of women in the political spheres;
 - c. Monitoring of political campaigns through NGOs such as the Civic Alliance in Mexico which works towards ensuring impartial and fair elections with special emphasis to integrate female candidates in the election process and reduce the risk of women being discriminated against in their political campaign;
- 4. *Urges* Member States to increase the worldwide provision of basic sanitation and clean drinking water by lobbying for increased funding to rural and remote areas and increased participation of women in policy formation ensuring environmentally sustainable development that recognizes the needs of women in the achievement of good health care for women in order to promote health and well-being;
- 5. *Encourages* the empowerment of medical education of women, especially in countries with medical gender separated systems brought upon by cultural backgrounds to increase the number of female doctors;
- 6. *Recommends* working with NGOs aiming to fund women's full participation in civil society, bring gender-based violence clinical services to lower level health facilities, and addressing the needs of and providing support for child survivors using counselors and support groups;
- 7. *Calls upon* Member States to implement local initiatives such as health workshops with the help of UN-Women and the UN Fund for Gender Equality, to provide women with health products to improve the opportunity for girls to continue with health products, such as menstruation products, to improve the opportunity for girls to continue going to school;
- 8. *Encourages* Member States to work with the World Health Organization to expand National Action Plans for Health Safety and aim for education on ways women can protect themselves and their health to further combat women menstruation healthcare taboos:
 - a. Creating clinics to provide a comfortable, non-discriminatory environment for women;
 - b. Organizing campaign efforts correlated with the International Day of Action for Women's Health on May 28 by providing menstrual products;
- 9. *Urges* Member States to implement mentor and awareness programs within healthcare to increase women's leadership roles and achieving a higher number of women in decision-making positions and policy formation by:

a. Promoting awareness about leadership of women such as Women2Women, an international leadership program on the critical role that women and girls play in advancing peace and development;

- b. Enhancing the Women in Development program which fosters professional growth and leadership while advancing the field of empowered women by monitoring and mentoring female youth through early-on education;
- 10. *Emphasizes* the European Union's support of the United Nations for women's empowerment for peace and security through women's maternal health during and after childbirth;
- 11. *Recommends* the improvement of the training of workers and professionals throughout healthcare facilities to be sensitized to and prioritize women's maternal health during and after childbirth.