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

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

Committee Staff

Director	Ardis Smith
Assistant Director	Linda Critzer
Chair	John Ehrett
Rapporteur	Peter Tscherny

Agenda

- I. Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda
- II. The Role of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- III. Promoting Women's and Girls' Access to Education, Training, Science and Technology

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Document Code	Торіс	Vote (Y/ N/ Abstention/ Non-Voting)
CSW/RES/1/1	Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and	Adopted by Aclamation
	Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda	
CSW/RES/1/2	Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and	33/3/0/1
	Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda	
CSW/RES/1/3	Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and	30 / 4 / 2 / 1
	Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda	
CSW/RES/1/4 Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and		Adopted by Aclamation
	Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda	

Summary Report

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) considered the following agenda items:

- I. The Role of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- II. Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda
- III. Promoting Women's and Girls' Access to Education, Training, Science and Technology

The session was attended by representatives of 39 Member States, and 1 Observer from a non-governmental organization.

The first session consisted of delegates discussing the adoption of the agenda order in both formal and informal session. The entire session was centered around setting the agenda, which by the end of the session, was voted upon and set as 2, 1, 3, to address the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women in the post-2015 agenda first.

At the second session on Monday afternoon several working groups, including sub-groups, worked on the topic. There was an active discussion among the delegations during suspensions. Also, the delegates delivered fruitful speeches to bring the negotiation process forward.

By the end of the first session on Tuesday, the dais received a final working paper on this topic, bringing the total of working papers to eight. Over the course of the day, delegates continued formal and informal debate on the topic and papers were returned to the delegations with substantive edits by the dais. In Tuesday's night session, delegates took the initiative in merging working papers, bringing the total working papers in the committee to four. Speeches were made on the collaborative efforts by delegates and the encouragement to continue working together. Caucuses were very effective and led to continued development on working papers.

In the beginning of Wednesday's morning session, delegates made final changes to the working papers. During informal session delegates continued to work efficiently and thoroughly on their working papers. By the end of the session, the dais accepted four working papers as draft resolutions.

All draft resolutions highlighted different elements for the post-2015 development agenda. Draft Resolution 1/1 noted the importance of combating gender-based violence and child marriage. Draft Resolution 1/2 specifically discussed gender equality in education and providing training for women. Draft Resolution 1/3 discussed the promotion of gender equality through public campaigns as well as the importance of providing a health initiative for all women and girls. Draft Resolution 1/4 emphasized the importance of using micro-credit programs for gender equality.

In the afternoon session, delegates continued to diplomatically converse on the draft resolutions before the body. The speaker's list was closed near the beginning of the session. There was a motion on the floor to close debate, however, this did not pass as delegates wanted to continue with the speaker's list until its exhaustion. Once all remaining speakers completed addressing the body, the Commission moved into voting bloc.

In the voting session, DR/1/1 and DR/1/4 were adopted by acclamation and became CSW/RES/1/1 and CSW/RES/1/4 respectively. (There was one friendly amendment automatically adopted into the text of DR/1/4, previous to its adoption by acclamation.) Draft resolution 1/2 had two unfriendly amendments; Unfriendly Amendment A did not pass, while Unfriendly Amendment B did pass and was incorporated into the document. By a vote of 33 in favor, 3 in opposition, and no abstentions, this was adopted as 1/2. Draft resolution 1/3 had no amendments and was adopted as resolution 1/3 by a vote of 30 in favor, 4 in opposition, and 2 abstentions.

After all draft resolution were voted on and adopted as resolutions, the chair called for any points or motions on the floor; the motion to adjourn the meeting until the 2015 session was made and passed by the Commission. The work of the body throughout the conference and the true spirit of diplomacy and collaboration present throughout formal and informal interactions contributed to the great substantive nature of all debate within the Commission on the Status of Women.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

Topic: Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Affirming the importance of Article 2 section 1 of the Charter of the United Nations that recognizes Member States' sovereignty,

Further noting the preamble of the Charter of the UN and its statement that Member States utilize internationally available tools to further promote the economic and social advancement of all people,

Recalling Article 5 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR), which affirms that all people shall live free from inhuman or degrading treatment,

Guided by General Assembly (GA) Resolution A/RES/48/104 and its call for the expansion of a global perspective on women's rights,

Recognizing Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which affirms that individuals should not be discriminated upon the basis of gender,

Further recognizing the World Health Organization's (WHO) definitions of violence against women as occurring in the forms of physical, psychological, sexual, and economic or patrimonial violence,

Building upon Article 29 of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA), that aims to eradicate violence against women and girls,

Bearing in mind the agreed conclusions of the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) that strongly emphasize the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls,

Reaffirming the agreed conclusions of the 58th session of the CSW noting violence against women and girls as a key impediment to the full implementation of previous frameworks and calling for enhanced prevention measures in the future,

Noting with approval the strides made in the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) regarding the focus on gender issues, particularly MDG3 regarding women and girls' access to primary and secondary education,

Appreciating the work of the UN System Task Team on the post-2015 UN development agenda,

Having considered the CSW report *E/CN.6/2013/3* on the provision of multi-sectoral services for women subjected to gender-based violence,

Devoting attention to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo, which emphasized the essentials in policy and decision-making processes in the economic, political, and cultural aspects of women's involvement in order to achieve sustainable development,

Noting with deep concern that gender-based violence is a serious foundational hindrance to women's equality and empowerment,

Emphasizing the importance of engaging men and boys in partnering with women in stopping violence against women and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Acknowledging the High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda's (HLP) five transformative shifts and its twelve illustrative goals as a crucial framework to more fully integrate the goals of gender equality and women's empowerment into the post-2015 agenda,

52 Alarmed by WHO statistics concluding the percentage of women experiencing gender-based violence is over one-53 third of women worldwide,

Further alarmed by approximately 100 to 140 million women and girls globally who are currently living with the painful results of female genital mutilation,

Taking into account the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women's (UN Women) 2013 report on Transformative Stand-Alone Goal on Achieving Gender Equality, Women's Rights and Women's Empowerment, and specifically the target area of freedom from violence against women and girls,

Acknowledging the success of prior global campaigns of the UN such as CSW's #HeForShe campaign and Secretary-General Ban Ki moon's UNiTE Campaign, both of which aim to involve men and boys in the fight for gender equality by encouraging them to become part of the solution to prevent and end violence against women and girls,

Stresses the importance of data collection by the Statistical Commission on the prevention and elimination of violence against women,

Supports the work that the UN Development Programme (UNDP) has accomplished in working with individual state governments to provide training for members of law enforcement organizations regarding cases of domestic violence.

Applauds the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the International Justice Mission, that work with justice systems all over the world to combat inequality,

Further applauds those organizations already dedicated to eliminating gender-based violence, such as the Cooperative For Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) and the International Rescue Committee,

Acknowledging the limited scope of the MDGs with regards to the promotion of gender equality,

Affirms the setting of goals to eliminate gender-based violence in the post-2015 agenda as a long-term effective goal as a component for other gender equality goals,

Keeping in mind GA Resolution A/RES/67/296 proclaiming the importance of sports as a tool for international cooperation and the advancement of human rights,

Recognizing major sports events like the Olympic games as a tool to foster the status and role of women and their future opportunities as equal members of the international community by using media attention during these events,

Further recognizing gender inequality issues, such as forced childhood marriages, that create barriers to achieving gender equality,

Seeking to create an attainable framework that prioritizes the reduction of gender-based violence in the post-2015 agenda,

1. *Encourages* all Member States to make the elimination of gender-based violence a priority in the post-2015 agenda;

2. *Requests* that Member States, in partnership with regional groups and NGOs, support the widespread creation of services such as shelters providing support for women who are victims of gender-based violence, because:

a. This improves access to effective justice systems, as facilitated by NGOs such as the International Justice Mission;

b. As outlets for victimized women can be limited, the services these shelters provide can be an outlet for those in need;

- 3. *Encourages* the support of Member States for those organizations that are already dedicated to combating gender-based violence, such as the humanitarian organizations CARE and the International Rescue Committee; 110
- 4. *Encourages* regional organizations and NGOs to partner with Member State governments to provide these services in a multi-sectoral manner, as outlined in E/CN.6/2013/3:

- a. Focusing on women in rural areas, preferably through the placement of permanent services,
- b. Targeting specifically at-risk women, such as indigenous and migrant women;
- 5. Suggests that Member States incorporate inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and NGOs in raising awareness of gender inequality to the youth and adult populations, such as the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), which primarily focuses on targeting women's rights violations and conflict prevention;
- 6. Further encourages Member States to enact domestic legislation outlawing gender-based violence and ensuring the full implementation and force of law of said policies by the year 2020;
- 7. Affirms dedication to empowering women and girls and achieve gender equality through the post-2015 Development Agenda with CSW holding a crucial role in defining the future goals, by:
 - a. Specifying the measurements that need to be taken in order to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against girls and women, to end child marriage, to ensure equal rights of women to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account and to eliminate discrimination against women in political, economic, and public life,
 - b. Overcoming the shortcomings that have occurred since the creation of the MDGs, remarking that some targets were not addressed in an appropriate manner, due to a lack of focus on the underlying causes;
- 8. *Advocates* for state governments to treat all cases of gender-based violence with scrutiny and enhance national laws and regulations to operate accordingly;
- 9. *Further advocates* for state governments to train law enforcement officers to treat all cases of gender-based violence with sensitivity and due diligence;
- 10. *Recommends* Member States to consider approaching gender specific issues, such as forced early marriage, through community practices and efficient school programs as a means to eliminate gender discrimination,
- 11. *Encourages* Member States to implement the above policy suggestions with the goal of reducing the percentage of women who experience gender-based violence from over one-third of women worldwide to one-quarter by the year 2020;
- 12. Further encourages the Statistical Commission to create a set of indicators on violence against women;
- 13. Designates the CSW to generate and submit reports on the progress and achievement of these goals to the UN
 System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda at five-year intervals;
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- 14. *Requests* a campaign to raise the awareness of efforts already made by CSW in terms of gender equality and the empowerment of women as well as the ambitious goals which may be set by the committee for the post-2015 area;
 - 15. *Highly recommends* the promotion of the stand-alone goal of the post-2015-development-agenda "Empower Girls and Women and Achieve Gender Equality" through the Public Relations Campaign "Gold for Equality", recently initiated by the members of CSW, which has the purpose of fostering the elimination of all existing gender-based inequalities, and will:
 - a. Take place prior to and in the course of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil;

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- b. Funded by the UN Foundation Fund for UN Women, by national sports foundations, by sponsoring of private companies active in any field of the sports industry, by voluntary contributions of Member States to the Campaign and by prior benefit performances represented by popular athletes,
- c. Be designed by a hired professional non-profit social marketing agency for the Promotion of the Empowerment of Women and the Elimination of Stereotypes supervised by CSW, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the IOC's Women and Sport Working Group and the Brazilian Olympic Committee meeting for the first time in Rio de Janeiro, by the end of 2014,
- d. Be carried out in collaboration with the National Olympic Committees, CSOs and NGOs,
- e. Be especially promoted by five messengers, former Olympic athletes, representing the specific regional group of the UN they are from, chosen by the five Continental Associations of National Olympic Committees, transmitting the values and ideals of Olympia to their home countries to people not directly being reached by the campaign,
- f. Make use of the Olympic Idea, fostering the understanding among nations, sharing and promoting universal values and ideals as well as highlighting equality among all participating athletes and guests,
- g. Raise the awareness of the existing inequalities women suffer from in societies, stressing violence and gender stereotypes including discrimination against women in political, economic, and public life through information stands and other media throughout the event,
- h. Explain the importance and meaning of the post-2015-development agenda and clarify the role of CSW.
- i. Present the achievements CSW has already made in the field of gender equality and how the goals may be set in the upcoming years;
- j. Offer possibilities for all athletes, guests and other stakeholders to contribute to the achievement progress,
- k. Include volunteer programs providing training about the cross-cultural differences in gender aspects to all members of Olympic Delegations of both genders,
- 1. Being evaluated after its conclusion by the non-profit social marketing agency, releasing a report on the impact of the campaign to CSW, ECOSOC and all donors;
- 16. *Welcomes* the implementation of grassroots media campaigns aimed at reducing the role of traditional views of masculinity and gender inequality at the fundamental level, including but not limited to:
 - a. Challenging traditional gender stereotypes such as men being the primary income providers which limit women's economic independence,
 - b. Raising awareness of domestic violence as a criminal offense that should be reported to authorities,
 - c. Encouraging more women to participate in local authority roles, policy campaigning, and health services to ensure better treatment of victims of violence,
 - d. Advocating the need to collaborate with NGOs and multinational corporations to limit portrayal of gender stereotypes in popular media and advertising;
- 18. Expresses its hope that the ideas outlined in this document will remain the focus of efforts throughout the world.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

Topic: Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), which encourage international respect for human rights, while recognizing the sovereignty of each Member State,

 Deeply convinced that women should be recognized as central agents of development in their own right, as highlighted in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Congratulating all Member States on the progress, efforts, and achievements that have been made toward the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs), especially MDG3 which promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Recognizing the need to maintain and build upon more progress through the development of a post-2015 agenda as called for in the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLP) report *A New Global Partnership*,

Highlighting the current HLP development agenda and its specific goal and four targets related to gender equality and the empowerment of women, which read: preventing and eliminating all forms of violence against girls and women, ending child marriage, ensuring equal rights of women to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register a business and open a bank account, and eliminating discrimination against women in political, economic, and public life,

Acknowledging the importance of the UN Development Programme's (UNDP) MDG Acceleration Framework (MAF) which supports Member States in creating national frameworks to address priorities in the current development agenda,

Recognizing the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development in which donor states pledged to contribute Official Development Assistance (ODA) of financial assistance directed toward development around the world, particularly in developing countries,

Understanding the importance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), specifically Article 2, as it encourages the full participation of women in all parts of society,

Affirming the work of the UNDP's Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund, which provides Member States with financing for innovative approaches to address inclusive participation,

Highlighting the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women which calls for the elimination of barriers, such as gender-based stereotypes, that impede women and girls' participation in all aspects of society,

Commending the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women in its work to engage groups in prevention efforts, increase access to aftercare, and strengthen institutions towards the goal of eliminating violence against women,

Realizing the importance of gender sensitive education as an integral part of providing equal education to both girls and boys, in all aspects, including health, as stated in the *Dakar Framework for Action*,

Recognizing Programa H, a consortium of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that use community based campaigns to improve young boy's attitudes about gender roles, as highlighted in the report *The Role of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality*,

Affirming NGO's, such as *Plan International*, the *Association for Women and Children*, *Foundation for Women*, and *CARE*, who seek to address gender inequities and their effects on children at different stages of development,

53	Acknowledging UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) as the official UN
54	entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women,
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56	Recognizing that education is an integral part of all the internationally agreed upon development goals and can
57	enhance the advancement of all goals as highlighted in the UN Women Report of the Export Group Meeting on
58	Structural and Policy Constraints in Achieving the MDGs for Women and Girls,
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60	Recalling Article 24 of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which emphasizes women's right to
61	economic independence, specifically in access to fair and equal employments,
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Acknowledging the importance of the goals set by the General Assembly Third Committee resolution, A/RES/48/108, and drawing attention to the struggle many Comission on the Status of Women (CSW) members faced in achieving these goals and the standards set for vulnerable groups by the International Committee for Border Control Standards (ICBCS).

Calling to mind the agreed conclusions of the CSW 58th Session which highlights the status of gender equality and women's empowerment in the current development agenda,

- 1. *Affirms* the stand-alone goal on "Empowering Girls and Women and Achieving Gender Equality" recommended by the HLP in addition to gender mainstreaming in all subsequent goals and targets;
- 2. *Encourages* the addition of a target to the current HLP goal related to gender equality and women's empowerment on an international, regional, national, and local level, which would include the following:
 - a. The advancement of education for girls in schools,
 - b. The access for women to post secondary education opportunities,
 - c. The provision of training to women,

- d. The inclusion of women in science and technology through universities and research facilities;
- 3. Requests the formation of International Guidelines to be used to implement the post-2015 agenda on a national level which would include:
 - a. Advocating campaigns informing schools on all levels about the challenges with and possible ways to address gender equality,
 - b. A financial plan of what is to be prioritized and how much will be invested in the post-2015 agenda,
 - c. A specific overview on implementation tools including but not limited to:
 - i. A taskforce to analyze the specific cultural situation in the Member State to make the most efficient framework possible, as well as to analyze funding and investment sources,
 - ii. A taskforce to develop gender mainstreaming in all aspects of the framework, to especially in education policies including gender sensitive school materials and teacher training,
 - d. Developing indicators to monitoring and evaluating the progress made, to secure a thorough and sustainable development towards gender equality including but not limited to:
 - i. Girls attendance and completion of schools,
 - ii. A qualitative survey to examine the perspective of the students and teachers,

 Quantitative statistics on the amount of girls and boys in each class Statistics on female teachers in the sciences,
e. Frame the action plan in a way that includes both genders, in:
i. The manner in which teachers approach the students,ii. How the curricula are formed to be gender sensitive,iii. The general perspective of the action plan,
 Cooperation with NGOs and other relevant institutions, to reach a higher and more effective consensus in order to do more for gender neutral education;
<i>Suggests</i> the development of National Action Plans in alignment International Guidelines aimed toward the achievement of the post-2015 development agenda, with specific mention of women and girls, in all Member States which include:
a. Submitting by the year 2020 a report by Member States to Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), with a bi-annually summary of progress to be submitted to the Council until the expiration of the post-2015 agenda,
b. Provide financial and technical assistance by the MAF to ensure the continued accountability, awareness, and collaboration of the international community in working toward achieving current and future development agendas;
Calls for all willing and able Member States to fulfill commitments to providing ODA to be used by developing Member States in national actions related to the empowerment of women and gender equality in the post-2015 agenda through suggesting the cooperation of NGOs and other relevant institutions;
<i>Encourages</i> all relevant UN bodies to keep in mind the importance of gender equality in achieving the post-2015 development agenda when allocating funding of long-term projects related to the goals;
<i>Urges</i> UNDP's Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund, UN Women, CSW, NGOs, IGOs, and Member States to convene in April 2015 in New York City in order to discuss recommendations on possible national legislation and regulatory bodies to ensure women are treated equally in all aspects of society, specifically:
 Through the elimination of violence against women and girls, in addition to increasing access to victims' services,
b. Increasing access to equal economic rights, including property rights and micro-financing;
c. Emphasizing the importance of technical, professional, and higher education regardless of gender,
 d. Illustrating the importance of social change in the cultural patterns of conduct as to encourage a shift away from the stereotypical gender roles of superiority and inferiority,
<i>Emphasizes</i> the need for expanded partnership between the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, Member States, and other relevant NGOs to develop awareness raising campaigns at a local level aimed toward maintaining cultural sensitivity and eliminating gender stereotypes that inhibit women and girls' full participation in society;
<i>Invites</i> the utilization of the UN Children's Fund Child Friendly School initiative in all Member States in order to increase the provision of gender sensitive education, especially at early in life, to address gender stigmas in the post-2015 agenda;

10. Requests the expansion of Programa H through the development of training manuals on sexual reproductive health, mental health, violence prevention, fatherhood and caregiving, and HIV/AIDS which will provide information and group activities on each issue; 11. Includes the further development of Plan International's Policy on Gender Equality as a means to address structural and systematic causes of gender-based injustices through incorporation of gender-sensitive training to community members at the local level; 12. Calls upon Member States to encourage women to pursue entrepreneurial and leadership opportunities by: Introducing technology into the classroom and providing science, technology, engineering and mathematics training in primary and secondary education, b. Develop mechanisms to provide security and safety to enable women to operate safely as entrepreneurs, Developing state capacities and infrastructure to facilitate technology training, Engaging local and transnational civil society organizations to enact grassroots support and norm transformation for gender equality in education, Broadening the scope of capacity development programs to reach indigenous women, as women and girls in rural and isolated areas, Providing incentives for investing in science, technology, engineering, and mathematic careers for women through micro-financing; 13. Recommends the development of gender sensitive training programs to be carried out by UN Women in collaboration with International Labor Organization by the onset of the post-2015 development agenda aiming to reduce the gender divide in the workplace and increase the accessibility of employment opportunities to women within all industries, thus: a. Increasing the proportion of women in roles of policy and decision making, b. Increasing the proportion of women in governmental positions, c. Assisting women with access to fair employment, focusing on (but not limited to): i. Reducing the discrepancy in wage inequality in equal work, ii. Increasing awareness of unpaid care work, iii. Reducing the incidence of human trafficking of women; 14. Highlights the need for a special session to be added to the agenda of the CSW in March 2015 in New York City to facilitate collaboration between the body, UN Women, Equality NOW, and UNFPII to focus special attention the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda as it relates to vulnerable groups, including but not limited to: a. Indigenous peoples, especially women and girls, Women and girls living in rural areas, Women and girls living with disability or permanent injury, The girl child, especially those effected by early, child, or forced marriage,

'At risk' individuals, as identified as 'in need of assistance' by the ICBCS;

221 222	15.	<i>Encourages</i> continued efforts toward gender equality and the empowerment of women in all aspects of the post-2015 development agenda aimed towards achieving the internationally agreed upon goals.



Committee: Commission on the Status for Women

Topic: Achieving Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Guided by the Purposes and Principles of the Charter of the United Nations (UN), and specifically Article 55 which
 stipulates that all people, regardless of sex, ethnicity, race, or religion have the right to an adequate standard of
 living,

Acknowledging article 2 of the UN Charter expressing Member States' right to national sovereignty,

Reaffirming Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration on Human Rights* which established the right to universal access to education for all people,

Recognizing the importance of United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) in seeking the acceleration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the post-2015 agenda, throughout support to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW),

Recognizing the UN Development Programme's (UNDP) Gender Thematic Trust Fund's mandate to provide Member States and donors a means to channel funds in order for the hastening of the achievement of gender equality and the right of all peoples to access basic services,

Cognizant of the benefits of including women in decision-making and facilitating access to safe and clean water to process to the development of a more inclusive society, especially through programs such as UNICEF Tap Project,

Acknowledging that each country has specific needs regarding the development of gender-sensitive curricula to combat negative social and cultural views of women, as addressed by the UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Capacity Development for Education for All (CapEFA),

Keeping in mind the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), specifically MDG3, which seeks to eliminate gender disparity at all levels of education by 2015,

Recognizing the efforts of the UN towards the MDGs, especially in reference to gender equality as well as efforts thus far on the sustainable development framework,

Expressing appreciation for the School Meals Program under the World Food Programme (WFP) in its endeavors to promote local agricultural production and the social protection, health, nutrition, and education of children everywhere,

Fully aware of UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLP) that focuses on hastening the attainment of the MDGS and developing a post-2015 development agenda,

Acknowledging the right of all peoples, particularly women, to access basic services, as stated in Article 8 of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Bearing in mind UNESCO's International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), which evaluates various types of education and educational systems and determines the outcome of student performances through input and process factors,

Recognizing the work of the UNESCO's International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), which works to ensure access to quality education through providing adequate skills and technology training,

Recalling the Dakar Framework for Action and its establishment of the Education for All Goals,

Cognizant of the Education for All Goals and particularly goal 6 as it underlines the importance of quality education for all people, including those most marginalized by society, which can be accomplished through teacher training,

Emphasizing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPFA) which outlined illiteracy as a major hindrance to gender quality and women's empowerment, as well as to socioeconomic progress and development,

Further emphasizing the BDPFA, specifically Paragraphs 94, 95 and 96 which outline the right of women to sexual and reproductive health rights,

Recognizing the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development created during the UN International Conference on Financing for Development, which the international community agreed to providing .07% of their Gross National Product (GNP) for Official Development Assistance (ODA),

Taking note of Article 12 of the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, which states that parties shall cooperate to eliminate discrimination against women with regards to health care in order to ensure that access to this human right is attained by all,

Taking note of the UN Population Fund's (UNFPA) Maternal Health Thematic Trust Fund, which aims to hasten progress towards safe maternal health and motherhood in the world's poorest countries within the Framework of the MDG's,

Recalling the 2003 World Health Organization's Report of the Department of Gender and Women's Health which highlights the importance of a transfer to sustainable and green energies due to the negative impacts on women and children,

Noting the continuing regional occurrence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), which is defined by the WHO as the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or the alteration of the internal female genitalia for non-medical reasons.

Aware of the United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign (UNiTE) to End Violence Against Women to combat sexual harassment and gender discrimination through awareness campaigns,

Having examined WHO's Global Health Initiatives' mandate on halting a number of cases of malaria and tuberculosis, and promoting and strengthening childhood vaccine and immunization,

Keeping in mind that funding is necessary to further the development for maternal health and immunizations in areas suffering from diaspora of highly skilled personnel, such as least developed countries, outlined within the Every Woman Every Child Campaign through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation,

Emphasizing the 57th session of the CSW which outlines the need to improve access to timely, affordable, and quality healthcare systems for women and girls, as well as enhance women's access to safe, effective and affordable medicines.

Acknowledging UNESCO and Hewlett-Packard's (HP) Brain Gain Initiative which develops several projects, using innovative technology to create a "brain gain" for regions that are particularly impacted by the exodus of academics and scientists,

Viewing with appreciation of the UN Office on South-South Cooperation's (UNSSC) South-South Global Assets and Technology Exchange's (SS-GATE) directive to serve as a virtual and physical platform wherein entrepreneurs are able to interact and obtain needed technology, assets, and finance in an environment that is secure,

1. Calls upon all UN bodies and agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and all other relevant organizations to incorporate gender mainstreaming throughout their priorities, programmes, and mandates in order to ensure women's empowerment and gender equality are achievable in the post-2015 development framework;

- 2. Requests the creation of a conference on gender mainstreaming gender perspectives and policies within all bodies and agencies, including Member States within the discussion on better incorporating women throughout policies and frameworks, which will: Be ran by UN Women who will work with all above listed bodies to incorporate gender mainstreaming into all bodies, agencies and national governments, b. Take place biannually starting in 2015, for a duration of no less than three days and no more than five days, c. Have the location change every conference by region, to be decided at a later date, with all Member States invited,
 - d. Be funded by voluntary contributions by all willing and able Member States,
 - e. Be held with web seminars, round table discussions, workshops on education and training in order to ensure that gender stereotypes are not being incorporated, with:
 - i. Keynote speakers, provided by UN Women,

- ii. Open round table discussions with experts in the field, government representatives, and other helpful members of the public, who will assess success of relevant initiatives and reports related to gender equality and empowerment among other topics relevant to that year's conference
- iii. Thematic training and education workshops based on prevalent issue discussed during that conference such as women's empowerment and the eradication of gender based violence (GBV).
- iv. Any other relevant activities and sessions suggested by the host country,
- 3. *Emphasizes* the importance for the creation of gender-based indicators within the sustainable development framework by all relevant bodies and agencies in order to enable the inclusion of women at all levels of social, economic, and political development and ensure that there are concrete and achievable goals developed for women within this framework;
- 4. *Recommends* all Member States keep in mind the UN Charter as a base for all decisions made within the post-2015 agenda,
- 5. *Requests* the UNDP's Gender Thematic Trust Fund to partner with Member States in the post-2015 framework, in accordance with their national development plans, to develop adequate infrastructure, particularly in rural areas, in order to enable women to have access to basic services, such as:
 - a. Education, including good hygienic practices and appropriate facilities such as gender-specific bathrooms,
 - b. NGO participation at a local, grassroots level, in order to establish an effective means to address water issues while allowing social and political sensitivity;
 - c. Appropriate healthcare facilities that utilize proper training and sterilized materials;
- 6. Further requests UNICEF collaborate with Member States, particularly developing countries, through enabling:
 - a. Implementation of the Tap Project, which provides financial assistance to developing countries every time a cellular device is left inactive, funds in order to receive funding to ensure access to clean water, while creating awareness through campaigning about the lack thereof,
 - b. Implementation of the WASH Program's post-2015 initiative including:

- i. The discouragement of open defecation by 2025, and the encouragement of the separation of sewer and clean drinking water by 2030.
 - ii. Ensuring the universal sanitation in countries by 2040, and
 - iii. The delivery of affordable, accountable and sustainable WASH services;

7. Calls for the WFP's School Meals Programme to partner with UN Women aimed at increasing retention and enrollment for education at all levels, with a specific focus on women and girls, so that all peoples have access to education in all its forms without the hindrance of food insecurity in order to adequately address the food insecurity, as well as barriers to education within the post-2015 framework by:

a. Partnering with local agricultural entrepreneurs in order to stimulate the formal economy,

b. Considering preferential treatment for female entrepreneurs so that women's empowerment is a continued focus within the post-2015 development agenda;

8. *Encourages* UNESCO's CapEFA to work with developing countries on providing gender-sensitive curricula within educational systems, as well as gender sensitive training for teachers, in order to ensure an equitable, equal, and affordable education can be had by all within the post-2015 development agenda;

9. Invites UNESCO's International Centre for Technical and Vocational Education and Training to work increasingly at the grassroots level with women and girls on providing TVET aimed at furthering skills development and making women more employable in order to ensure adequate socioeconomic development for all;

 10. *Promotes* the use of UNESCO's IEA to monitor and report on level of literacy for people at all levels, specifically women, children, those with disabilities, and indigenous populations in order to ensure that gender equality and empowerment of women are approached through all necessary means towards illiteracy initiatives in the sustainable development framework, such as:

a. Measuring the progress annually after 2015 of women's literacy on the local, national, regional, and international levels,

b. Developing country-specific strategies through utilizing summaries from all relevant parties for better developing women and girls literacy, at all levels within the framework,

c. With preferential treatment for all developing countries, specifically least developed countries and middle income countries;

11. *Recommends* the expansion of UNESCO and UNAID's EDUCAIDS Programme to all developing countries in order to increase women and girls' access to reproductive and sexual health education, keeping in mind cultural sensitivity, as a means to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment in the post-2015 development agenda;

12. *Encourages* the recommitment of 0.7 percent of GNP for ODA by developed countries in the sustainable development framework by all currently contributing Member States as a means to ensure the financial capacity of all developing countries to promote inclusivity within education, healthcare, and employment by a means to enable;

13. *Suggests* Member States, who have not yet done so, to allocate about ten percent of their ODA received towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in order to ensure that there is national capacity for governments to better incorporate women at all levels in the post-2015 development agenda, thereby making the national indicators for gender equality and women's empowerment possible;

14. *Recommends* the incorporation of national strategies and policies within all Member States dealing with reducing gender based violence, sexual harassment, and sexual assault which both educate men and women on

- 220 the detriments of such actions while maintaining cultural awareness, as well as provide increased access to 221 assistance for trauma victims; 222 223 15. Suggests the incorporation of national strategies and policies within all Member States dealing with reducing 224 GBV, sexual harassment, and sexual assault, which both educate men and women on the detriments of such 225 actions while maintaining cultural awareness, as well as provide increased access to assistance for trauma 226 victims by: 227 228 Collaborating with UNFPA in their efforts to stop GBV in times of crisis, such as armed conflicts, post-armed conflict situations and humanitarian crises through: 229 230 231 232
 - i. Access to information and referral systems for victims of violence in order to empower them, through programmes such as the Gender-Based Violence Information Management System (GBVIMS)
 - ii. Investment for training national partners to actively pursue programmes to manage GBv in crisis situations.
 - iii. A National Action plan on Women, Peace and Security in which Member States collaborate in post-conflict circumstances,
 - b. Working with NGOS such as the Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE) in order to help developing countries in their efforts to prevent GBV and provide families and individuals with the necessary resources for protection and safety;
 - 16. Invites the UN Population Fund's Maternal Health Trust Fund to partner with the WHO's Global Health Initiative within the development framework on decreasing maternal and child mortality in developing, least developed, and landlocked countries aimed at promoting and enhancing health throughout the international community by:
 - a. Continuing to ensure substantial progress on maternal health,

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- b. Backing national advocacy efforts that are needed to sustain political and financial support of Member
- c. Tracking results and resources through maintaining levels of investment in national and international systems;
- 17. Endorses all Member States to strengthen advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns and programmes against FGM to engage all peoples to collectively condemn this horrific practice through:
 - Adopting the measures suggested in the General Assembly Resolution 67/146, Intensifying Global Efforts for the Elimination of FGM, such as:
 - i. Condemning all hurtful practices affecting that affect women,
 - ii. Taking necessary measures to preclude FGM,
 - iii. Putting into effect legislation to protect women,
 - b. Collaborating with the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) International Conference on Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C) in order to combine global collaboration to plan specific strategies and movements to end FGM/C practices;
 - Promoting the UN's campaign International Day of Zero Tolerance to FGM, to focus on:
 - i. Raising awareness on the issue of FGM through active campaigns, Educating the population on the dangers of FGM,
 - ii. Holding public conferences, forums and open round tables to discuss FGM and ways to avoid it,

- iii. Allowing FGM sufferers to share their experience in order to increase consciousness;
- 18. Requests the incorporation of pre- and postnatal care in order to ensure the maintenance of both maternal and child health under the targets of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment that are created within the sustainable development framework through:
 - a. WHO's Integrated Management of Pregnancy and Childbirth Care which will provide the necessary resources to developing countries aimed at decreasing and eventually eliminating all preventable maternal and child mortality,
 - b. Looking at both physical and mental health in all aspects,

- c. Additionally addressing the need for counselling for pre-and postnatal maternal, as well as those who experience miscarriages;
- 19. *Requests* the European Union's, African Union's, the Caribbean and the Pacific's, and WHO's Renewed Partnership on Pharmaceutical Policies to work in cooperation with Member States in formulation and implementation of the post-2015 development framework aimed at providing adequate access to medicines, as well as medical facilities thereby by allowing women to flourish within the international community:
 - a. Keeping in mind intellectual property rights and having preferential treatment for developing countries,
 - b. Through the extension of the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property agreement (TRIPs) until 2035, which will serve as a means to extent its exceptions, which expires in 2015, to beyond 2015, on least developed countries regarding intellectual property rights, specifically on pharmaceutical policy, and to continue to offer poor country government specific policy flexibility,
- 20. *Supports* the expansion of UNESCO and HP's Brain Gain Initiative in the post-2015 framework in order to enable it to provide further incentives for trained professionals, specifically in healthcare, to stay in their country of origin aimed at ensuring that there are well-trained professionals available to women and girls throughout developing countries;
- 21. *Emphasizes* the importance of the transfer of environmentally sound technology to developing countries, on mutually agreed terms, to be continued and maintained in and beyond 2015 through bodies such as the UNSSC's SS-GATE platform, with preferential treatment for women and other vulnerable populations, aimed at ensuring there is equitable access to technology for all peoples;
- 22. Encourages the continuation of progress and discussion of women's empowerment and women's rights at the national, regional, and international levels aimed at promoting economic, social, and political well-being within the post-2015 development agenda.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

Topic: Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the sovereignty of all Member States as recognized by Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided by the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and its mandate to bring together various resources and agencies to create a greater impact for women,

Reaffirming Charter III, Article 8 of the *UN Charter* which highlights the equal participation of both genders in any capacity and advocates the empowerment of women,

Bearing in mind that Article 2 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) establishes that all persons are warranted rights and freedoms,

Drawing attention to the importance of education in equipping women with the skills they need to secure stable and decent employment as supported by Section 1, Article 26 in the UDHR,

Emphasizing specifically the importance of training women in the fields of business, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in order to promote the turnout of employment in such fields as well as encourage entrepreneurial endeavors,

Recognizing the important role of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its commitment to Member States ending all forms of discrimination against women and creating equal opportunities across the public and private sectors of the economy,

Congratulating the Member States for the efforts and progress made in 2011 with regards to the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs) in that 40 out of every 100 wage earning jobs in the non-agricultural sector were held by women,

Further acknowledging the accomplishments that have been made in achieving MDG3 with significant advancement in the achievement of gender parity in single and national governments with an increase to 20.4 percent involvement in 2012, as illustrated by the MDGs Report 2013,

Noting the exceptional advancements of the MDGs in improving awareness of the gap in gender equality for women in the fields of education and participation in public and private spheres,

Bearing in mind the need to build upon the progress achieved toward gender equality and the empowerment of women in the post-2015 development agenda,

Being aware of the vital role women play in the eradication of poverty and sustainable development in the post-2015 agenda, as stated in the Rio+20 outcome document on Sustainable Development Goals,

Having devoted attention to narrow focus of MDG3's indicators and its failures to address vital issues such as unpaid care work, access to assets, sexual and reproductive right,

Deeply concerned that inequalities continue to exist among women on the basis of class, race, ethnicity and rural or urban location, which serve as obstacles to the realization of the objectives of MDG3,

Guided by Paragraph 44 of the agreed conclusions of the 58th session of CSW recommending Member States and all other stakeholders to undertake appropriate national and regional reviews of progress towards achieving MDGs as direction towards its 59th session,

52 Expressing deep appreciation to the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women 53 (OSAGI), the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the General Assembly (GA) for incorporating gender 54 mainstreaming within the UN,

Emphasizing the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for Accountability Charter in its establishment of accountability and transparency for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and NGOs,

Drawing attention to the 2005 International Year of Microcredit that the UN established to utilize resources to increase capabilities in Member States by implementing the examples of the Grameen Bank and Women Advancing Microfinance (WAM),

Recalling the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) that works with microfinance institutions throughout 48 developing countries,

Further recalling the fact that over 50 percent of UNCDF clients are women,

Emphasizing the crucial interrelationship between economic backgrounds and educational practices in order to promote the empowerment of women socially as well as economically,

Keeping in mind General Assembly resolution A/RES/63/229 and how microfinances are utilized to empower women by enabling them to receive the microcredit loans,

Noting that the resolution has far reaching implications on literally all aspects of substantial development,

Reiterating Article 13 of CEDAW and its encouragement that Member States take all appropriate measures in assuring family benefits, the right to bank loans, mortgages and financial credit,

Respecting the obligations of the *Beijing Platform for Action* (BpFA) which addressed the twelve critical areas of concern with women's empowerment, to provide access to ownership over land and other forms of property, credit and inheritance,

Recognizing the strong correlation between gender equality and the empowerment of women with high levels of intra-national economic growth as supported by the findings of CSW report E/CN.6/2014/3,

Further noting that reports regarding the implementation of the MDGs have reflected the need for increased financial and resource support,

Acknowledging the generosity of developed Member States who have provided resources in the spirit of cooperation with developing Member States which facilitates development, in some cases acting as a catalyst for change,

Deeply concerned with macro-economic policies, which focus on the total amount of goods and services produced within an economy, that ultimately adversely affect the capital available to produce resources that subsequently support women's entrepreneurial activities,

Emphasizing that some macroeconomic policies have contributed to and exacerbated various political and social conditions such as poverty and unemployment, which have been most detrimental to women, especially in developing Member States,

Recognizing the importance for a comprehensive post-2015 action plan that emphasizes the need for a national action plan of each Member State that includes a women's leadership programme,

1. Calling for ECOSOC's attention to the importance of creating resources available to women towards reaching their full potential in a developing society and the necessity of determining specific causes that inhibit women's empowerment and gender equality;

108 2. *Invites* all Member States to eliminate inequalities in access to education for girls and women, specifically for those living in rural areas or those which are otherwise due to social status and or gender;

- 3. *Encourages* all Member States to eliminate areas that impose upon women such as gender-based standards, low female participation in decision-making processes or gender-insensitive public sector spending;
 - 4. *Further encourages* all Member States to actively sensitize their population about the existence of specific gender roles that prevent women from pursuing further education without disrupting cultural heritage;
 - 5. *Recommends* the appropriate UN bodies to consider policy regarding the physical safety and financial security of female citizens, especially during times of conflict, economic crisis, and/or during pregnancy and:
 - **a.** Recommends that access to proper and adequate healthcare that address the health needs of citizens while respecting the respective policies of all Member States,
 - Suggests age-appropriate, evidence-based and comprehensive sexual education for all gender and for an end to threats that hinder sexual and reproductive health through continued collaborations with UN Women, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Population Funds and World Health Organization (WHO) that implement programs focusing on awareness raising community mobilization and inclusive educational programs while respecting Member States' cultural diversities;
 - 6. Further recommends continuing gender mainstreaming efforts throughout the UN and its policies, such as ECOSOC, GA and OSAGI, in the post-2015 agenda as a means of enhancing gender equality and women's empowerment;
 - 7. *Endorses* the development of targeted educational programs which serve a dual purpose in advancing women in the specific areas equipping them to fulfill needed jobs in their respective countries and to promote overall economic growth by:
 - a. Training women in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and skilled labor disciplines,
 - b. Utilizing the funding opportunities the Global Digital Solidarity Fund which grants developing countries financial resources,
 - c. Partnering developed Member States with developing Member States for purposes of sharing curriculum, technical access and knowledge, which can be executed by:
 - i. Bringing educational and technological leadership from the developed countries to teach both teachers and students in developing countries.
 - ii. Allowing for educationally-based exchange programs where citizens from developing countries could live in a developed country for a predetermined amount of time with the intent of learning the advancements in curriculum for sciences and engineering to bring back to their home country,
 - d. Partnering further for the purpose of developing interpersonal skills, management skills and leadership abilities;
 - 8. *Suggests* for all Members States to ensure universal access to the credit system and for an end to discrimination in credit policy and focusing on making women understand that economic independence is the way for social emancipation by:
 - a. Encouraging the cooperation between international and local companies, individual persons, and NGOs with the UN sponsorship of microcredit initiatives,
 - Sponsoring a fund made by the returns gained off of financial transaction fees managing the fund in cooperation with banks and NGOs for winning informative asymmetry in some economic environment,

a. Making the research collected transparent by allowing access to all Member States in public forums,

b. Encouraging Member States to utilize the data when creating and implementing domestic policy and

c. Asking for more gender disaggregated indicators to be monitored by using the Human Development

Forging new partnerships for mutually beneficial purposes such as through trade agreements that will

b. Supporting initiatives that enhance business skills, access to finance, and other productive resources

general portfolio investment fund for developing states, for the purpose of greater regional non-Governmental

organizations and UN mechanisms that support and facilitate women's needs and entrepreneurial activities and

Using UN mechanisms such as UN Global Compact that would educate women on developing

Professional Women to provide a forum on better practices of becoming an entrepreneur,

b. Encouraging developing Member States to collaborate greater with regional NGOs such as All

leadership skills as well as collaborating with UN Women, International Federation of Business and

Women's Society (AWAM), the Asian Resource and Research Center for Women (ARROW), to

12. Emphasizes that Member States consider the consequences macroeconomic policies have on women, especially

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national action plans,

contribute to economic growth,

ambitions through training based program by:

Index, specifically the gender inequality index;

in developing countries, in the creation of the post-2015 agenda and suggests:

and technologies that will improve gender equality and empower women;

13. Encourages that developed Member States allocate a portion of the Official Development Assistance to a

220 221 222	recommend necessary action plans to increase access and opportunities for women to become entrepreneurs;
223 224 225	14. <i>Expresses its hope</i> that with the end of the MDGs in 2015, Member States will continue their efforts to establish the goals illustrated in this document in order to create sustainable development;
226 227	15. <i>Recommends</i> that Member States continue to discuss the empowerment of women and create gender equality in the post-2015 agenda in current and future endeavors.