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Documentation of the Work of the Commission on the Status of Women

Committee Name

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- 1. The Role of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- $2.\,Addressing\ the\ Promotion\ of\ Gender\ Equality\ and\ Empowerment\ of\ Women\ in\ the\ Post-2015\ Agenda$
- 3. Promoting Women's and Girls' Access to Education, Training, Science and Technology

Delegate Awards

- Pakistan
- Paraguay

Resolutions adopted by the committee

Document Code	Topic
CSW/1/1	Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda
CSW/1/2	
CSW/1/3	
CSW/1/4	
CSW/1/5	
CSW/1/6	
CSW/1/7	
CSW/1/8	

Economic and Social Council Summary Report

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) held its annual session to consider 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 very first session was attended by representatives of 44 Member States however for the remaining session we had a total of 46 Member States. Delegates were eager to start quickly as they began caucusing prior to the first session for an hour. Equally important, delegates motioned for all possible topic orders. While the vote was very close, the final order of topics 2, 3, 1 was chosen for the Commission on the Status of Women. The delegates were quite happy to have chosen this topic order. We began with a new speaker's list right after without worries of it being exhausted. Immediately delegates began working in groups to collaborate on their ideas about what would work best. Overall it seemed as if delegates wanted to integrate gender equality along with women's empowerment as a goal in the Post-2015 Agenda.

After the session reconvened, the committee began substantive discussion of Topic II: Addressing the Promotion of Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women in the Post-2015 Agenda. During the first suspension, the committee quickly formed five principle working groups and the main issues being addressed were: domestic violence, economic sustainable development, empowering women through education and renewing Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Beginning from the third suspension, different working groups started to interact with each other and some delegates started to promote their working papers. Among all the working groups, People's Republic of China, Paraguay and Japan did make efforts to contribute ideas to their working papers and promote them to other working groups.

In formal session, most of the speakers expressed their gratitude toward other delegates and their complement of working papers, which shows that the discussions in committee were operating well. By the time the session was ended, the Dais had received nine working papers, namely Working Paper A to Working Paper I, in total. The themes of the working papers are mainly about increasing women's access to education, education against violence and harassment, promoting reproductive health, increasing women's involvement in public affairs and economic empowerment of women. Though the committee is quite productive, most of the working papers are addressing issues concerning education. Therefore, there are needs that some of the working papers be merged. Overall, the committee was amazing for the hard work done by all the delegates.

Delegates utilized formal session to explain the content of their working papers and further introduced them to the committee through formal speeches. Before the committee went into suspension, the Director announced that 7 out of 9 working papers received had been edited. Among all working papers, 4 of them were addressing education issues. In addition, many of the ideas proposed by the delegates were similar to each other. The Director encouraged the committee to merge their working papers as there were currently 11 on the floor. There were some debates between developed Member States and developing Member States as well as between NGOs. The three NGO's present in this body were: Amnesty International, Oxfam International and Third World Network. Delegates remained in character throughout suspensions to defend their national interests while simultaneously looking for cooperation among Member States.

This session required attention of all Member States as they focused their efforts in re-reading all working papers that were on the floor there were similar themes across the floor. There were 3 working papers based on implementing education for women in the Post-2014 Agenda. The body attempted to change the speaker's time to 60 seconds from the set time of 90 seconds; however this motion failed each time. The overall body seemed very cooperative and collaborative. Not intimidated by the merging process, papers were edited quickly and kept the Dais busy in terms of feedback.

During the caucus, delegates worked very hard to communicate with each other to seek possible ways to integrate their ideas and working papers. Most of the working papers went through deep discussions on details, and proposed ideas which were developed into more concrete ones. Also, delegates often called for

cooperation in their speeches. By the time the session ended, the Dais had received Working Paper HIF and Working Paper ED. This was a proud moment as delegates came to understand the cohesiveness of this body.

Wednesday's session began with several speeches stating the result of merging working papers. Some of the speakers also addressed the importance of reaching consensus within the committee. During the first suspension, delegates were working on finalizing their working papers. They discussed on further details such as wording and the order of the clauses. Delegates placed the preambulatory clauses from broad to specific while the operative clauses were placed from specific to broad. By the time the session was ended, 3 working papers were coded and accepted as draft resolutions. The session winded down with tense negotiations as to what should be included or annexed out. The delegate representing Gambia encouraged other delegates in her block to entertain a motion for the division of the question during voting procedure.

Delegates gave several speeches to introduce the draft resolutions at the beginning. The committee went into caucus twice before voting procedure and drafted several friendly amendments. There were no unfriendly amendments leaving the body feeling accomplished. Heading into voting procedure, there were 8 draft resolutions on the floor. The whole voting procedure went smoothly, and all the 8 draft resolutions were adopted by the committee as resolutions. Draft resolution 1/6 however was adopted by acclamation. The committee continued debate with their second agenda item Topic III: Promoting Women's and Girls' Access to Education, Training, Science and Technology by 3:45pm, entertaining speakers. We followed with a short suspension but finished the rest of committee delegates discussing ideas. The Russian Federation announced a working paper they quickly formulated as they stated his State policy to be quick and effective.



Committee: The 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 principles and purposes enshrined in the United Nations Charter,

Acknowledging as paramount the inclusion of women in all economic sectors, both public and private, as well as in the Sustainable Development Goals of the post-2015 agenda in accordance with General Assembly resolution 60/210 of 22 December 2005,

Recognizing the role of innovation and entrepreneurship as key elements for empowering women and allowing them to take control of their lives and futures,

Emphasizing the ideals realized in the 57th session of the Commission of the Status of Women, including women's economic empowerment, access to resources, and integration into economic decision-making, for the purpose of the prevention of gender-based violence,

Further recognizing the importance of women's work in the informal economy in addition to the formal economy,

Alarmed by the increasing gender gap in the global economic sphere and women's continuing lack of access to decent employment opportunities, in addition to the heightened impact of poverty on women,

Noting the efficiency of grants and microfinance programs in allowing women to enter the economy as entrepreneurs,

Noting with approval the generosity of developed Member States that have provided assistance to developing economies, which experience particular difficulty in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals,

Keeping in mind that rural and indigenous women specifically face extreme hardship in becoming involved in the economic and development sectors,

Reaffirming the importance of creating a target related to the economic inclusion of women in the post-2015 development agenda,

1. *Calls for* the inclusion of women in entrepreneurship opportunities through grants, and the promotion of microfinance-based investment through programs such as the UN Women's Trust Fund for Gender Equality, as well as Women Deliver's program known as Catapult, as a target for the empowerment of women in the post-2015 development agenda;

2. *Encourages* the implementation by Member States of policies that institute voluntary gender quotas in corporations, including executive and non-executive positions, in order to provide equal access to employment and control of productive assets as a means of achieving gender equality in the economic sphere;

3. *Recommends* that equal property rights for men and women with regard to land ownership and inheritance be included as a target of a goal for gender equality and the empowerment of women in the post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Encourages* Member States to engage with international non-governmental organizations such as Third World Network, Amnesty International, and Oxfam International via programs that promote women's access to economic participation, such as Oxfam's Movimiento de Mujeres Mélida Anaya Montes (MAM);

5. *Stresses* the special need for the inclusion of rural and indigenous women in the economy of their Member States through:

a. Targeted grants and microfinance programs aimed at enabling the entrepreneurship potential of indigenous and rural women;

55 b. UN programs under the umbrella of UN Women, which has worked in areas like Zimbabwe to help
56 women enter local fishing markets;
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58 c. National programs, such as the Sustainable Development Programme for the Chaco Region in
59 Paraguay, that establish training programs for rural and indigenous women;

- d. Sustainable development goals as part of the post-2015 agenda that specifically target the economic empowerment of rural and indigenous women;
- 6. Calls for the monitoring of the progress of aforementioned programs by organizations such as the International Labor Organization, the United Nations Development Program, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which have submitted reports on the MDGs in the past, on an annual basis in order to determine through best practices how to effectively engage women in the economy;
- 7. Calls upon Member States to encourage companies to create a gender equality friendly work environment including child care and paternity leave.



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,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010 on the commitment of all Member States to the realization of the Millennium Development Goals,

Affirming that women's rights must remain an international priority in the post-2015 Agenda,

Convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is the most comprehensive global framework that should guide the actions of all Member States for the realization of women's rights,

Believing that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, provide the legal framework necessary to promote gender equality, enable the empowerment of women and eliminate gender-based violence,

Fully believing in the importance of the State to protect women's rights in the event of natural disaster, economic crisis, illegal occupation of territories, or colonisation,

Recognizing that an increased participation of women in the civil society contributes to the stability of democratic institutions and peace consolidation as stated in the Program of Action at the International Conference on Population and Development,

Reaffirming the need for women to be more active participants on the local issues as their knowledge and experience are invaluable assets to the community,

Emphasizing increased coordination with the private sector in order to have solutions that are feasible and more effective.

Having studied the positive results shown by gender quotas within government by increasing the participations of women to 21% worldwide in 2013 as stated in the MDG report of 2013,

Fully believing that NGO's such as Women's Major Group and Women's Leaders Forum as well as relevant UN initiatives such as United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women should involve local women in their programs from the beginning in order to encourage a bottom up approach,

Recalling the importance of gender mainstreaming in the entire post-2015 agenda and a stand-alone goal for gender equality including a sub-target on women's social inclusion as women's active participation in civil society is the basis to change structures that favor gender disparity,

1. *Encourages* Member States to implement training programs and training centers led by women in the areas of political participation and domestic finance such as Democratic Governance Training Online and Goldman's 10,000 Women Project that train women in specific skills to facilitate their contribution to the society;

2. Suggests that Member States adopt voluntary gender quotas within government and private firms to increase the proportion of seats held by women in national parliament and executive positions in accordance with the MDG's third goal and our commitment to see the progress continue in the post-2015 agenda;

3. *Expresses* its hope that every Member State will adopt and enforce gender-sensitive legislation that would empower women to defend their rights;

4. Recommends that Member States implement informative campaigns to make women aware of:

a. Their legal and political rights and the legal protections that are available to them in order to protect those rights as done by the Danish Refugee Council in Afghanistan, which benefited over 80,000 women within three years;

- b. Gender prejudice and stereotypes in order to break the cycle of discrimination, violence and exclusion with campaigns like UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign which have shown promising results by promoting gender-sensitive laws and social mobilization;
- 5. *Suggests* that Member States improve the efficiency of their programs and policies focusing on women through better cooperation by using UN-Women offices as a coordinator between NGO's, UN bodies and local initiatives;
- 6. *Encourages* UN-Women offices around the world to improve their cooperation and communication by exchanging best practices and monitoring progress through an annual report comprising of input from each office in order to enhance their effectiveness;
- 7. Suggests the extension of regular forums held by community associations in collaboration with UN Women advisory groups to create a safe space for women to support each other and share their experiences.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

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

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Expecting the active participation of women and men in denouncing gender-based stereotypes,

Welcoming the use of conflict-based violence campaigns to spread awareness of the consequences of domestic violence and war-based violence,

Recognizing that sexual violence has damaging impacts on women's psychological well-being and requires the assistance of professional counseling and awareness campaigns to overcome,

Acknowledging the already existing cooperation between Member States and Non-Governmental Organizations as mentioned in the principles enshrined in the Seoul Consensus for Shared Growth,

Convinced that the nature of poverty creates an environment in which women are more susceptible to gender-based violence in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 68/139 (2013),

Recalling the Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on the protection of women's rights throughout the world especially with regards to armed conflicts,

Fully aware of the near completion of the Millennium Development Goals time frame as outlined in General Assembly Resolution 55/2 (2000),

Reaffirms the need for a stand-alone goal in the Post-2015 Agenda that focuses on the empowerment of
women and specifically recognizes violence against women as a violation of human rights and the most
inhibiting factor in the empowerment of women which constitutes a barrier to all aspects of global
development;

2. Calls for cooperation with non-governmental organizations such as Oxfam International and UN Women in the collection of more quantitative and qualitative data on the available services with the goal of creating a framework designed to evaluate and monitor the efficiency of efforts in the elimination of violence against women based on categories including:

a. The number of support centers available for survivors within a regionally appropriate radius of gender-based violence and their accessibility;

b. The number of gender-based violent crimes reported and investigated, noting that raising awareness of the criminality of these actions will correspond with a rise in the number of cases;

3. *Encourages* Member States to, in cooperation with Non-Governmental Organizations, engage in domestic awareness campaigns that include men and boys for the issue of gender-based violence such as:

a. The \emph{UNiTE} campaign to end violence against women initiated by the Secretary-General;

b. The *If I Were a Girl* campaign which uses social networking and inspirational photographs to empower women;

4. Calls upon Member States to provide gender-sensitive military training that reaffirms:

a. Sexual abuse in conflict as a war crime;

b. The condemnation of the objectification of women;

c. A zero-tolerance policy on gender-based violence during conflict;

5. Suggests to Member States to hold military personnel accountable for any gender-based violence committed in conflict and post-conflict situations;

6. Frowns upon military actions which deliberately displace women from their homes through the method of sex based violence, noting that such sexual atrocities are not acceptable during interrogations, checkpoint stops, house searches, and detention centers;

7. *Encourages* Member States to further adopt and implement measures to ensure the protection and empowerment of indigenous and rural female populations, recognizing that these populations suffer higher levels of discrimination and poverty thus increasing their vulnerability to gender-based violence.



Committee: The 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,

Keeping in mind the Article 2 of the UN Charter which stresses the sovereignty of every Member State,

Alarmed by the expiration of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the lack of focus on the urgency needed to establish a post-2015 agenda especially regarding gender equality,

Reaffirming the international community's commitment to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as the main tool to achieve the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration,

Declaring its support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Cairo Declaration on Human Rights and their guiding principles for the promotion of women's empowerment,

Reaffirming the international community's commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women created at: the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the 2010 High-Level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the 2013 Special Events on the Millennium Development Goals,

Bearing in mind the conclusions of the summit referred to as Challenges and Achievements in the Implementation of the MDGs for Women and Girls: The Road Ahead (2013), and of the report of the Secretary-General, A Life of Dignity for All, and thereby accelerating the progress towards attaining the Millennium Development Goals as well as advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015,

Keeping in mind the solutions proposed by the Report of the General Secretary regarding gender equality and the empowerment of women in natural disasters (E/CN.6/2014/13) such as the incorporation of gender equality and women's empowerment into international negotiation processes and consultations of the post-2015 development agenda,

Fully aware of the effects of armed conflicts, illegal occupations or colonization, and post-conflict challenges on women's rights and gender equality as underlined in the Secretary General Report (E/CN.6/2014/6),

Reaffirming that international data compilation for international monitoring must be based on official statistics collected and produced by national services,

Taking into account the different review mechanisms used by UN Member States to record the rate of development, socially and economically, which should be reported in regards to regional development disparities,

Having considered the lessons learned on the monitoring process in the Final Report of the UN System Task Team on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda Statistics and indicators for the post-2015 development agenda,

Declaring the End of Gender Inequality Framework (ENGINE) as a global framework serving to implement women's empowerment and gender equality goals of the post-2015 Agenda,

1. *Recognizes* the conclusion of the UN System Task on the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda regarding the need to identify the obstacles faced in the implementation of the MDGs in order to use them as a basis for further progress and the implementation of the ENGINE framework;

2. *Proposes* the use of the term gender harmony, which acknowledges the inherent differences between men and women while still advocating equality in its essence, in place of the term gender equality;

3. *Recommends* the standardization of a report within the ENGINE framework that will be submitted every two years and will provide detailed and accurate data that will measure gender harmony within both the private and the public spheres by:

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- a. Having UN regulatory associations review all collected data to ensure that the report produced does not contain any biased or misleading information;
- b. Including regional and national institutions that would help gather qualitative and quantitative information on cultural sentiments about gender equality and the rights of women and girls, with the help of UN Women and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) bodies on a regular basis by:
 - i. Distributing national surveys that are available at public and especially religious institutions;
 - ii. Using modern technology as well as conventional means of communication to ensure that the whole population would be reached;
- Seeking assistance from local NGOs like Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action or Watchlist to collect representative data and reach groups of people in remote areas worldwide;
- 4. Recommends Member States to implement the post-2015 agenda based upon ENGINE's guidelines by:
 - d. Strengthening and monitoring the implementation of the roadmap provided by the Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health by:
 - i. Providing transparency over how funds are collected and distributed,
 - ii. Setting realistic goals within the new post 2015 agenda such as saving the lives of 17 million women and children by 2030;
 - iii. Inviting UN Women, United Nations Population Fund, and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) staff in each UN Member State to elaborate and publish a report on public sentiment on women's health and the status of the achievement of the goals of the post 2015 agenda;
 - iv. Following former successful programs' footsteps such as the African Sex Worker Alliance in order to provide quality health services and goals;
 - e. Ensuring that Member States evaluate women's role in the different social structures, both within the private and public sectors, by:
 - i. Monitoring and evaluating social development amongst women and children through programs such as the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development;
 - ii. Collaborating with the International Family Therapy Association;
 - iii. Systematically monitoring leadership training through implementing the Women's Leadership Partnership step-by-step guide of the Measuring change: Monitoring and Evaluating Leadership Programs;
 - f. Guaranteeing equal access to education by:
 - i. Taking into account the outcome of such as the UNESCO's Institute for Statistics' guideline Measuring Literacy in Developing Countries from an International Perspective;
 - ii. Incorporating the new educational progress indicators cited by the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, which include looking at the differences within individual countries and the quantity versus quality of education in those nations;
 - g. Taking into consideration the results made by programs such as the Southall Black Sisters Campaign, conducted by Oxfam International, such as the establishment of a joint Forced Marriage Unit in January 2005 and a change in the law of murder in England and Wales within

The Coroners and Justice Act 2009 in order to understand successful processes for reaching out to women who have experienced gender-based violence;

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h. Promoting legal and political rights for women across the world and their ability to participate freely and without bias modeling programs such as the Yemeni Women's Union (which provides legal aid to women) that can be used as an example of correct procedures and goals;

 5. Recommends special consideration for indigenous and rural women, who have received little to no assistance and potentially have a need for specific aid or knowledge due to unique cultures or distance, in any new goals of the post-2015 agenda;

6. *Proclaims* the importance of new global and regional partnership to ensure the success of the post-2015 agenda and the women's empowerment all around the world;

7. Supports the integration of a women's empowerment perspective into the post-2015 Agenda and all its future goals, as stated in the Declaration of the Mechanisms for the Promotion of Women of Latin America and the Caribbean prior to the 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (2014), in order to ensure that women do not continue to be ignored;

8. *Requests* that the post-2015 Agenda address the structural problems related to women's empowerment, such as hierarchy and power relations in the home, as discussed in the 58th Commission utilizing ideas such as Oxfam International's "Stages of Change" theory in the We Can End All Violence against Women Campaign;

9. *Encourages* Member States to bear in mind that regional development discrepancies may occur within different areas of the world, including within the Member States themselves.



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,

Reaffirming the need for greater partnership between developing and developed Member States,

Keeping in mind the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the World Conference on Women, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the Millennium Development Goals,

Bearing in mind that sovereignty and cultural diversity must be considered in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting with concern that despite the resolutions, declarations, and recommendations adopted by the United Nations in promoting equality of rights of men and women, discrimination against women continues to exist,

Acknowledging that education provides the basis of promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the Post-2015 Agenda,

Recognizing the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women which states that women living in poverty have the least access to education, training and opportunities to employment,

Fully believing that the introduction of technology in primary schools will increase the ability of girls to better participate in civil society,

Noting with regret the disparity in attendance between primary education, secondary education, and post-secondary education,

Emphasizing the value of using educated local women as role models to promote access to education for girls in local communities.

Recalling the need for gender sensitive training for local police forces and UN peacekeeping forces as mentioned in Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000),

1. Strongly suggests the strengthening of safe infrastructure for the commute of girls and women to school:

a. If needed this safe infrastructure should be fortified by local police, or presently stationed peacekeeping missions;

b. Improve separate and adequate sanitary facilities for boys and girls;

c. Encourages Member States to provide secure transportation services to primary education students within their borders;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States to establish, in accordance with the Member States' existing curricula, a general and comprehensive schooling system in primary, secondary and post-secondary education:

a. Promoting a gender-sensitive education in an environment that teaches boys and girls about gender equality at an early age through the development of new curriculum that addresses issues such as gender stereotypes and gender-based discrimination;

b. Recommends UN Women to develop a course of instruction on the best teaching gender equality strategies and encourages Member States to use this framework, as they see fit, in their schools;

 $c. \quad Introduces \ a \ zero-tolerance \ policy \ concerning \ harassment, \ starting \ in \ primary \ school;$

d. Encourages training programs for women and girls regarding gender violence to include self-55 defense in the event of violent assault and all forms of harassment; 56 57 3. Suggests Member States to establish exchange training programs enhancing currently existing post-secondary 58 education with the potential goal of enabling women to become equal partners in development and economic 59 growth, through opportunities such as: 60 61 One year of living abroad, utilizing student and work visas, to foster women's ability to participate 62 in the society of their home State, involving six months of training and six months of job-site experience, followed by a two year programs of training and education in their State and culture of 63 origin, emphasizing training in skills requisite to the attaining of equality and development in their 64 65 own State; 66 67 b. Forums for women upon their completion of the program in which they can exchange ideas and 68 best-practices policies in consultation with local communities and stakeholders; 69 70 Funding and monitoring through UN bodies and NGOs such as Oxfam International; 71 72 4. Urges assessment reports every two years in accordance with the Post-2015 framework by a third-party body, 73 such as Amnesty International or Oxfam International, which will assist States in: 74 75 Including rates of women in secondary and post-secondary enrollment, number of primary schools enacting gender-equality curricula, and number of women in STEM fields; 76 77 78 b. Creating a poll to evaluate the women's perspective in the aforementioned program upon 79 completion of the exchange when participants return to their State of origin; 80 81 Providing incentivizes through scholarship program for students funded by NGOs, such as Oxfam 82 International; 83 84 5. Encourages regional cooperation to facilitate effective integration of indigenous and rural education programs 85 that identify social and cultural concerns: 86 87 Creates programs that will access social concerns that can be applied to properly trained women in 88 public and private sectors; 89 90 b. Improves rural community's access to education through foreign aid in such areas as childcare 91 facilities and transportation; 92 93 Improves primary education, improves secondary education, and establishes post-secondary education through regional schools in rural communities; 94

6. Recommends that the above programs be funded and supported by:

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- a. North-South and South-South cooperation that retains respect for sovereignty and cultural diversity;
- b. Internal loan programs similar to those provided by the Philippine Conditional Cash Transfer Program or the Bangladeshi Grameen Bank microfinance program that provides low-interest loans:
- 7. Calls upon all Member States to refuse the denial of primary education all girls and boys;
- 8. Reminds Member States that these objectives can only be achieved if gender equality and women's empowerment serve as a transformative stand alone goal supported through education in the Post-2015 framework.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

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

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Deeply concerned by the failure to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015,

Referring to Chapter IX Article 55 and 57 of the United Nations Charter,

Emphasizing the outcome of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as the Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/9,

Desiring to prevent and eliminate all forms of gender-based violence for the protection of women's right and health,

Noting that women and girls living in rural areas around the world are suffering from a lack of access to health care, related facilities medical treatment, and life saving technologies because of high costs due to international copyright and patent laws,

Fully aware that through a proper access to health facilities the empowerment of women can be pushed forward,

Convinced of the need to for UN Members States to improve capabilities concerning women's health treatment, access to health facilities, medication, and reproductive rights,

Recognizing that during the 15 years that international patents on medication last under the international agreement on intellectual property regulation, Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), the opportunity to save lives has been forgone,

Deeply concerned about the prolonged and insufficient progress in the implementation of Millennium Development Goal 6, Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases,

Emphasizing the importance of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS, so as to reaffirm the previous commitments made by Member States and to further progress in the elimination of HIV/AIDS,

Bearing in mind the devastating and disproportionate impacts that HIV/AIDS can have on the lives of women and girls,

1. Emphasizes the importance of reducing gender-based violence, by means such as but not limited to:

a. Promoting the cooperation of Member States, private sector, and NGOs to establish shelters within local communities that provide safe and accessible settings for women to be informed of their rights and receive further education on gender equality and protection such as:

i. One Stop Crisis Center that takes care of women in need of shelter from crisis such as domestic violence and sexual harassment;
 ii. Local community comprised of volunteers and gender-based violence survivors;

iii. Having global or local NGOs such as The Asia Foundation to empower women's rights;

b. Engaging both women and men in culturally appropriate educational courses implemented within primary and secondary educational institutions, as well as community-based programs and campaign, aimed at raising awareness of the negative impacts of violence against women and cultivating respect for women as equals, partners, autonomous beings, providers, and caretakers;

c. Recommending NGOs and UN-WOMEN to continue to collect data through the use of surveys, such as, the Violence Against Women Prevalence Data: Surveys by Country, compiled by UN-WOMEN, which specifies the kinds of violence that women are being subjected to in order to establish an effect ive assessment mechanism;

- 2. *Provides* educational programs for women vulnerable to gender-based violence, and for first responders and law enforcement, through the means of:
 - a. Imbedding gender sensitive language, which includes, encouraging the use of nouns and pronouns that counter the prevalence of negative gender representations, eliminating traditional male bias, and reinforcing positive perceptions of women, into the curriculum of primary education to depolarize stereotypical gender roles;
 - b. Providing adequate healthcare education offered primarily by NGOs, such as Oxfam International, to gradually include locally trained women in order for educational programs to be a lasting progression;
 - c. Providing and invigorating campaigns, programs, and international movements to raise awareness such as:
 - i. The "White Ribbon Campaign," which increases awareness to engaging men in the role of eliminating violence against women;
 - ii. The Campaign for Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA), which helps provide solutions to regions with cultural differences;
 - iii. Amnesty International "My Body, My Rights" campaign, which focuses on sexual and reproductive health rights;
- 3. *Encourages* Member States to take necessary legal actions to eliminate discrimination in employment and economic domains through the inclusion of Gender Focal Points within the work environment to monitor prevailing gender disparities concerning:
 - a. Direct and indirect discrimination in wage and employment policies;
 - b. Sexual harassment and physical violence towards women in the economic sector;
 - c. Disproportionate representation of women in the social and political spheres;
- 4. *Emphasizes* the need to eliminate discrimination in the workplace, the unique vulnerability of women in the paid economy and their continued exploitation, and the urgent need for safeguards and gender-sensitive employment policies to ensure women's equal participation in the workforce and toward ending their exploitation;
- 5. *Promotes* reproductive rights of women through accessible health care by:
 - a. Directing female doctors to rural areas to assist and educate local communities on proper birthing procedures;
 - b. Providing affordable birth control and contraception to both women and men in local communities by distributing safe reproductive resources and encouraging this distribution in a confidential manner wi th the help of NGOs;
 - c. Guided by the inherent right of all women to bodily integrity and capacity for choice, recognizing the need to ensure safe and affordable access to reproductive care for all women, including the right to te rminate a pregnancy for health concerns, as reaffirmed in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Ac tion:
 - d. Dispatching mobile doctors from NGOs or developed nations to help to provide aid to women and gir ls and to assist in basic nursing procedures, in which NGOs such as Amnesty International, can fund and advocate;

Building permanent health care facilities and monitoring the distribution of funds for women and girls, with the assistance and aid of Amnesty International and Oxfam International;

- 6. *Fully engages* the promotion and protection of human rights for all women and girls, with regards to sexual and reproductive health, reinforced in the Beijing Platform for Action, including the development and implementation of policies and legal frameworks, that strengthen the health systems and lead to a universal accessibility to inclusive sexual and reproductive health care services;
- 7. Addresses all partnerships for global health to support Member States in administering and fulfilling responsibilities, such as health coverage, to ensure equal access of women and girls as specified by nationally determined regulations of preventive, restorative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services, and vaccines, without exposing women and girls to financial hardship through the use of these services;
- 8. Urges that the international community ask World Intellectual Property Organization and World Health Org anization to consider the impacts of international treaties, such as the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and the Substantive Patent Law Treaty (SPLT) with 15 years of binding time, and to discuss shortening the patent duration to enable more women and NGOs to purchase them allowing more beneficiaries by:
 - a. Providing incentive and financial support to pharmaceutical corporation that shortens the patent length;
 - b. Raising awareness that the reform will result in improving the public's view on corporations;
- 9. Acknowledges the critical role men and boys have when it comes to AIV/AIDS and women, such as:
 - a. Importance of raising awareness of HIV/AIDS transmission rates amongst women and the role men and boys play in promoting health issues connected with women and HIV;
 - b. Significance of the inclusion of men and boys in achieving full equality and empowerment of women and girls in the context of HIV/AIDS;
- 10. Reaffirms that Member States should in and of themselves accept the responsibilities set before them in all domains of women's and girl's access to fundamental and merited health, but that state sovereignty should be recognized and not infringed upon in the process.



Committee: Commission on the Status of Women

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

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the advances made in women's situation worldwide as a result of the Millennium Development Goals, while acknowledging that shortcomings must be addressed in education, development and economic participation as well as social and political participation,

Acknowledging that each Member State has access to different resources and infrastructures and thus the solutions will vary based on the particular States' political and social structures,

Stressing the importance of each State's sovereignty,

Emphasizing the lack of women in the political and economic fields and the need to bridge this gender gap,

Affirming the importance of education in order to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring women's security in order to increase the probability of continuing their education and that of their children,

Noting with regret that gender inequality is not always taken into consideration in the creation and implementation of legislation,

Recalling the Millennium Declaration adopted through the General Assembly resolution 55/2 (2000) and the Millennium Development Goals, drawing particular attention to MDG 3 focused on the promotion of "Gender Equality and Empower Women",

Further reaffirming the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recognizing General Assembly resolution 66/216 (2011), which highlights the mutual link between poverty eradication and gender equality,

Also recalling the Report of the United Nations Secretary-General 68/202 (2013), which stresses the importance of including gender issues in the post-2015 agenda,

Taking into account the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action that strives to enhance women's advancements, safeguard women's health, and remove legal obstacles as well as gender discrimination,

1. *Urges* all UN entities to create a stand-alone goal called "Gender Equality and Empower Women" within the post-2015 agenda, with specific attention to education, development and economic participation as well as social and political participation;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to increase women's access to education with the help of UN entities and governmental and nongovernmental organizations, if necessary, by:

a. Continuing to address areas targeted in the Millennium Development Goals involving women's education, such as:

i. Increasing teacher training;

 ii. Increasing gender sensitive content in distributed textbooks or other relevant texts used in primary and secondary schooling;

 iii. Respecting cultural differences to ensure that State sovereignty is not infringed upon in the process of improving the quality of education;

53 b. Continuing the development of lunch-assistance programs at schools in order to increase enrolment in 54 primary education overall; 55 56 Improving the quality of education through: 57 Increased infrastructure, such as developing additional classrooms and schools; 58 i. 59 ii. Improving the availability of learning tools and educational devices in developing nations, 60 such as school supplies and technologies depending on their accessibility and demand in 61 specific regions; 62 63 Invites Member States and NGOs such as Amnesty International to launch and enhance awareness campaigns 64 through mass media channels such as radio, television, printed press, and social media, depending on which media is applicable, which would address: 65 66 67 The promotion of women's enrollment in education; 68 69 Informing both men and women of the social and economic benefits women's empowerment will have 70 on society as a whole; 71 72 Encouraging women's participation in the political sphere; 73 74 Expresses its hope that Member States will engage their youth in gender-sensitive programs by including 75 workshops in the primary and secondary curriculum to: 76 77 Dissuade persisting traditional gender stereotypes; 78 79 Condemn gender-based violence 80 81 Educate young men and boys in topics of reproductive health, mutual consent; 82 83 Recommends to include a target called "By 2030, enable all women to equally partake in development", to 84 ensure that they can equally benefit from the development in their country in terms of economic empowerment 85 and employment in order to achieve economic independence and measure this target by the following indicators 86 on a regional, national and international level: 87 88 The ratio of women to men living in relative poverty; 89 90 The share of women living in absolute poverty; 91 92 The proportion of women in the labor force; 93 94 The proportion of female bread winners; 95 6. Appeals Member States to create and reinforce legislation and measures by women's rights organizations to 96 97 promote measures such as stronger enforcement of existing laws and an increase in legal penalties, for faults 98 concerning: 99 100 Gender-based discrimination in the hiring process of the job market, particularly in areas of high-level 101 decision making; 102 103 Sexual harassment in all areas of social life, included but not limited to the workspace, public spaces, 104 and households; 105 106 All forms of gender-based violence; 107 108 Unequal wages between men and women;

- 7. Further invites Member States to work with NGOs such as OXFAM International and regional bodies such as Malaysia's All Women's Action Society to strengthen public health measures allowing men to share responsibilities concerning women's reproductive health in order to increase women's socio-economic standing through: The promotion of family planning; a. Increased availability of reproductive health services;
 - 8. *Suggests* Member States continue to collaborate with organizations like the United Nations Population Fund to improve family planning packages that will provide information regarding young women's health and reproductive rights to girls and women of ages 15-30 through:
 - a. Booklets containing information of women's reproductive health and available resources including education, such as:
 - i. Regional emergency hotlines;

- ii. Contact information of counselors and resource centers;
- 9. *Reaffirms* the aim of indicator 12 under MDG 3 to encourage women's participation on all levels of governments, executive and legislative, from the local to the national level, including the public service and civil society, which should be achieved by, but not limited to, the following means:
 - a. Establishing quotas for the proportion of seats held by women in local and national government;
 - b. Community-based meetings for women to discuss their political concerns and foster political interest;
- 10. Further encourages Member States to implement measures to achieve the above goals and continue providing assistance to these programs in order to promote the advancement of women's rights in the Post-2015 Agenda.



Committee: The Commission on the Status of Women

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

1 The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the unique opportunities and challenges facing rural and indigenous women, such as exclusion from political and economic power, and greater proclivity towards poverty and illiteracy as described in the State of the World's Indigenous Peoples,

Concerned by the lack of access to healthcare, education, and communication technology facing rural and indigenous women, as described by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD),

Noting the propensity of the international community to overlook rural and indigenous women in discussions of gender equality, and the importance of bringing this issue to the attention of the world,

Affirming the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

Keeping in mind the importance of integrating indigenous and rural women into political society, while respecting both national sovereignty and cultural traditions,

Emphasizing the necessity of international cooperation and the responsibility of developed Member States to engage in assistance through NGOs and North-South cooperation,

Encourages Member States to undertake the development of economic and training opportunities specifically targeting rural and indigenous women through:

a. Microfinance programs such as the non-profit organization Microcredit Summit Campaign and increased entrepreneurial programs to establish indigenous and rural women as self-supporting and equal members of the community;

b. The integration of traditional markets and commodities, such as agricultural, artistic, and textile products, into national and regional economic systems through programs such as Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact Foundation (AIPP);

c. The reduction of the amount of unpaid work done by rural and indigenous women in the home and community, emphasizing equitable control of household proceeds between men and women, as suggested by the United Nations Platform for Action Committee's report "Women and the Economy";

d. The recognition of property rights of rural and indigenous women and their equal share in the possessions of their family or community, as recommended by the Joint CEDAW Statement on the Land Rights of Rural Women;

e. Improvement of the integration of women as equal partners in agriculture in regards to both production and profit through programs such as Indigenous Women and the International Fund for Agricultural Development;

2. *Affirms* the importance of establishing rural and indigenous women as equal partners in political and civil status through:

a. The establishment of local councils of women for the purposes of sharing problems and solutions and representing rural and indigenous interests on the local, regional, and international level, through programs such as the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples;

- b. Political training, involving awareness and development of avenues for the voicing of women's concerns to local and national governments, as seen in the Indigenous Women and the United Nations Development Program; Increased international awareness about the high rate of crimes against indigenous and rural women the utilization of aid centers and justice systems to address these issues through increased reporting and enforcement mechanisms; Endorses the creation, support, and development of education accessible to indigenous and rural populations, that includes: Regional schools emphasizing both basic literacy and necessary economic and job-related skills, that are accessible and within reasonable travel distance as applicable to the infrastructure and geographical environment of the community;
 - b. Gender sensitivity training through the development of curriculum for boys and girls that emphasizes the equality of men and women and undermines biases against women and strict gender roles, expanding on programs such as UN Women's Voices Against Violence Campaign;
 - c. Language training, emphasizing informal, economic, and political terminology, allowing indigenous and rural women to integrate into the larger society, as recommended by the fifty-seventh session of CSW;
 - d. Scholarships and grants to support impoverished rural and indigenous families in order to allow and incentivize women and girls to utilize these opportunities;
 - 4. *Encourages* the establishment of maternal and reproductive health services, such as programs instituted by Cuba and Family Care International, that specifically engage with indigenous and rural women through:
 - a. Focusing on reproductive health, psychological health, and chronic diseases;

- b. Providing on-site medical services and information, through programs such as Red Cross' mobile clinics;
- 5. *Requests* the assistance of the international community in the establishment and funding of programs that encompass indigenous and rural women through:
 - a. South-South cooperation through sharing successful practices and proven models addressing societal needs, as described by IFAD;
 - b. North-South cooperation and the sharing of finances, technological, and logistical resources;
 - c. Contributions from NGOs and other private contributors such as Oxfam International;
- 6. *Supports* the establishment of research and measurement mechanisms ensuring that the equality of rural and indigenous women remains an international concern through:
 - a. The establishment of UN bodies producing two year reports on the progress of Member States in these areas:
 - b. The assistance of NGOs and other human rights actors such as the International Indigenous Women's Forum, which engages in studies that serve to monitor the status of indigenous women to ensure their participation in the social, political, and economic spheres;
- 7. *Calls for* the inclusion of targets specifically related to the empowerment of rural and indigenous women across the entire post-2015 development agenda.