

24-28 March 2019

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Entity for
Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women



Conference A

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

Committee Staff

Director	Brian Tomblin
Assistant Director	Johanna Barton
Chair	Christina Sachi
Rapporteur	Naomy Dussault

Agenda

- I. Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making
- II. Eliminating Child, Early, and Forced Marriage by 2030
- III. Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies and Post-Disaster Recovery

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNWomen/1/1	Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making	27 votes in favor, 1 vote against, 0 abstentions
UNWomen/1/2	Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making	Adopted without a vote
UNWomen/1/3	Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making	27 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 1 abstention
UNWomen/1/4	Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making	26 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 2 abstentions

Summary Report

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Eliminating Child, Early, and Forced Marriage by 2030
- II. Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies and Post-Disaster Recovery
- III. Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making

The session was attended by representatives of 29 Member States and one Observer. On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda of III, I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of “Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making.”

On Monday afternoon, the Dais received a total of six proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics including gender quotas, data reports, and educational programs aiming at expanding women’s political participation on a national and regional scale. Even before Dais feedback, the delegates accepted the challenge of exchanging ideas and determining where similarities were present in their proposals. By Tuesday night, with Dais feedback and a high level of collaboration, delegates, were able to focus their ideas into four refined working papers.

On Wednesday, four draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais, one of which had an unfriendly amendment. The committee adopted all four draft resolutions as UN-Women resolutions, one of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including creating a new educational and mentorship program for males and females of all ages to promote women in leadership positions. Throughout the week, passionate speeches and constant deliberation could be seen in the body as the delegates found solutions to the global underrepresentation of women in governance and decision-making.



Code: UNWomen/1/1

Committee: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Topic: Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making

1 *The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,*
2
3 *Guided by* Article I of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), which calls for international cooperation in
4 solving transnational problems of economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian issues and promotes the
5 respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction of race, sex, religion, or language,
6
7 *Keeping in mind* Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5, achieving gender equality and empowering all
8 girls, and especially target 5.5, which addresses the importance of women in decision-making,
9
10 *Bearing in mind* the Independent Evaluation Service (IES), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
11 and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) evaluation program which provides evidence for a more
12 relevant, effective, and efficient UN-Women with greater impact on the lives of women and girls it serves,
13
14 *Reaffirming* the efforts of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to review policies and laws in
15 Nepal as well as multiple African countries to identify legal barriers that hinder women to have a career
16 and live a self-determined life,
17
18 *Noting* the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women strategic plan,
19 2018-2021 (2017) on empowering women does not propose enough resources, such as security, to
20 Member States,
21
22 *Addressing* the importance of Making Every Women and Girl Count (MEWGC) for developing evidence-
23 based policies and solutions towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment,
24
25 *Recognizing* the Inter-Parliamentary Union's *Women in National Parliaments Report 2019* in conjunction
26 with data from the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance database on well-formed
27 gender quotas to show that Member States with quotas have found success,
28
29 *Reaffirming* the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women and Peace and
30 Security" in underlining the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace
31 negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response, and in post-conflict reconstruction,
32
33 *Highlighting* the work done by various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Women's
34 Leadership Partnership, which focuses on learning resources training and advocacy, and the International
35 Civil Society Action Network, an organization dedicated to promoting pragmatic guidance for the inclusion
36 of female peacebuilders and offering proactive steps to broaden women participation,
37
38 *Recognizing* the *National Strategies for the Development of Statistics* (NSDs), which has created a
39 greater vision and development for statistical capacity,
40
41 *Appreciating* the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and their programs, including the actions
42 made by in the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative,
43
44 *Recognizing* the success of social media movements such as the HeForShe campaign, which promotes
45 gender equality,
46

47 *Taking into account* the regional platform for the consideration of barriers to gender equality and women
48 empowerment in regions such as India, the Middle East and Africa provided by the 2019 #WeSeeEqual
49 Summit,
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51 *Noting further* that Geospatial Information System (GIS) data has been collected, monitored and publicly
52 distributed by the UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) to
53 accurately determine women in leadership positions within these regions,
54

55 *Affirming* the important work done by the Women in Public Service Project's Leadership Index, a
56 database compiling where women are in governments around the world, their authority in said power, and
57 how they reached their role,
58

59 *Acknowledging* that, in 2012, the Secretary-General appointed several government leaders called the
60 High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons (HLP) that provides counsel and guidance on how to best achieve
61 the Post-2015 Development Agenda,
62

63 *Stressing* the success of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21),
64 which was created by the Economic and Social Council in 1999 to promote evidence-based policy making
65 that monitors all Member States to create policies based on quality data and evidence-based statistics,
66

67 *Taking into account* the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011, which created the
68 Statistics for Transparency, Accountability, and Results: A Busan Action Plan for Statistics (2011) that
69 adopts an approach to integrate national activities that supports greater transparency and encourages the
70 use of new methods and technologies to increase the reliability and accessibility of statistics,
71

72 *Guiding* Member States to further consider SDG 16 (2015), which promotes peace, justice and strong
73 institutions, in order to create pathways for women to participate in governance and decision-making
74 through safer electoral processes, affirmed justice institutions, and removing barriers that hinder women's
75 participation in such,
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77 *Recognizing* the Inclusive Electoral Processes: A Guide for Electoral Management on Promoting Gender
78 Equality and Women's Participation (2015) published by UN-Women and the United Nations
79 Development Programme,
80

- 81 1. *Calls upon* the IES to evaluate effectiveness of women's participation in leadership and furthermore
82 study the barriers preventing women from participating in policy and decision-making by:
83
- 84 a. Analyzing the effectiveness of peace treaties, deals, and resolutions concluded by women;
85
 - 86 b. Emphasizing the international and national accomplishments by women in political and
87 decision-making roles;
88
 - 89 c. Estimating the efficacy of governments based on their inclusion of women through:
90
- 91 i. Comparisons of percentage of women which constitute these governments;
 - 92 ii. Assessing the inclusiveness of their national and international policies;
 - 93 iii. Specifications of women's role in government;
 - 94 iv. Analyzing the social, cultural, and traditional barriers to the involvement of women in
95 governance and decision-making;
 - 96 v. Emphasizing gaps in education, training, and implication levels for women's
97 leadership roles;
 - 98 vi. Writing a report containing their 3-year evaluation results and recommendations to
99 the UN-Women Evaluation Committee by March 2022;

- 101 2. *Suggests* that Member States focus on using the HLP to improve higher quality of data and statistics
102 to aid governments and decision-makers to track progress and ensure that their data regarding
103 gender equality is evidence-based to strengthen decisions by:
104
- 105 a. Partnering with PARIS21 to improve statistical capacity and advocate for better use of
106 statistics regarding women in governance-making decisions;
107
 - 108 b. Refocusing national statistics to emphasize national development priorities by utilizing the
109 *Statistics for Transparency, Accountability, and Results: A Busan Action Plan for Statistics*
110 (2011);
111
 - 112 c. Collaborating with the UN-GGIM, the Leadership Index, and other NGO's to:
113
 - 114 i. Collect, monitor, and publicize information pertinent to the Leadership Index
115 database;
 - 116 ii. Compliment the current Leadership Index information to provide Member States with
117 a streamlined system of recording women in decision-making positions;
 - 118 iii. Provide Member States with the opportunity to take advantage of GIS data with the
119 expertise from UN-GGIM and local, state, or national agencies and organizations;
120
- 121 3. *Approves* the allocation of additional subsidies from the UN-Women's Fund for Gender Equality to
122 expand the efforts of MEWGC in collecting relevant data;
123
- 124 4. *Further promotes* the expansion of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the
125 Empowerment of Women strategic plan, 2018-2021 (2017), which provides a roadmap for gender
126 equality and women's empowerment, with particular focus on their responses to Member States'
127 requests and leaving no woman or girl behind, by:
128
- 129 a. Reviewing the application process in order to close the gender gap by, but not limited to:
130
 - 131 i. Giving women the access to have the same opportunities as men during the
132 postpartum period;
 - 133 ii. Eliminating all types of discriminatory questioning of woman while applying;
 - 134 iii. Reaffirming the importance of NGOs and their supportive roles towards least-
135 developed Member States;
 - 136 iv. Empowering young girls and boys to include females in decision-making processes
137 through the partnering of several academic institutions to allow youth to highlight the
138 importance of education, health, and social security;
139
- 140 5. *Authorizes* the expansion of future #WeSeeEqual Summits by:
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- 142 a. Including other developing regions as an effort to promote gender equality and female
143 empowerment;
144
 - 145 b. Ensuring a dialogue that encompasses best practices for developing leadership skills and
146 civics for young women and girls;
147
 - 148 c. Collaborating with the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor the effectiveness of
149 initiatives passed as a result of this summit;
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 - 151 d. Diversifying public and private partnerships to encourage further funding and resources;
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 - 153 e. Encouraging participation at a local level through the inclusion of local NGOs and community
154 leaders;
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- 156 6. *Recommends* the empowerment of justice institutions and electoral bodies to protect women in
157 electoral processes, in the achievement of SDG 16 (2015) to promote gender equality and the
158 involvement of women in governance and decision-making, by:
159
- 160 a. Encouraging Member States to work individually and collectively to create safe electoral
161 processes and remove obstacles that hamper women's participation in elections by working
162 with national police forces and electoral commissions of Member States through:
163
- 164 i. Conducting trainings for law enforcement agencies and staff of electoral commissions
165 to ensure gender parity during elections;
166 ii. Creating a system where polling centres are assigned based on place of residence to
167 ensure that women have access to polling centers close to their homes;
168 iii. Introducing the use of information communication technology to make electoral data
169 such as voter status and polling station location easily accessible to women through
170 text message, online web platforms, and social media platforms;
171 iv. Conducting trainings and seminars for judicature members, including judges,
172 lawyers, and other law related personnel, to ensure that women's rights are placed
173 as priority in the judicial system and laws are used as a tool to ensure the
174 involvement of women in governance and decision-making;
175
- 176 7. *Further invites* Member States to increase women's participation in decision-making through
177 expanding the HeForShe Campaign by:
178
- 179 a. Promoting women's decision-making in the sector's high positions, such as management,
180 programming, and research, in order to combat stereotypical gender images that reinforce
181 the limitations of women's advancement;
182
- 183 b. Supporting the expansion of the existing social media programs and social campaigns
184 through the HeForShe Campaign by creating programs unique to each Member State to
185 allow further participation from men and women in the Global South through:
186
- 187 i. The incorporation of various languages that target audiences would be able to better
188 understand;
189 ii. Creating specific campaigns to incorporate the various cultures and values of
190 participating Member States in order to accurately represent the population in each
191 state;
192 iii. Calling upon collaborations between Member States, women's organizations, and
193 professional media organizations to facilitate the increased participation of women in
194 communication and promote the political rights of women and gender equality;
195
- 196 8. *Encourages* Member States to support the Women's Learning Partnership to promote education that
197 recognizes gender differences by:
198
- 199 a. Providing young girls with mentors who have experience in decision-making fields to inspire
200 them in primary school as well as inviting prominent international speakers from diverse
201 backgrounds to inspire young girls and women with their stories and efforts with gender
202 equality practices;
203
- 204 b. Encouraging teachers through actions such as integrating school projects about diversity and
205 cultural differences;
206
- 207 c. Motivating girls currently in schools to reach out and promote the importance of education in
208 order to instill confidence in girls who are not currently being educated;
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- 210 d. Increasing educational opportunities for children with the help of UNICEF;
211

- 212 e. Informing men and women of the benefits of women’s participation in governance and
213 decision-making;
214
- 215 9. *Recommends* that specialized voluntary quota systems be created to provide accurate
216 representations of women’s interests and quota use based on the region through:
217 a. Allowing autonomy among Members States and regions to determine which quota type best
218 fits, such as:
219
- 220 i. Reserved seats, which reserves a set number of seats for women in the legislature
221 as Rwanda has successfully done, or legislated candidate quotas, which requires a
222 certain number of female candidates in elections as implemented by Mexico and
223 Bolivia;
224
 - 225 ii. Adding voluntary political party quotas depending on parliamentary systems that elect
226 parties rather than candidates, such as Canada;
227
 - 228 iii. Whether quotas should be enforced through constitutional law, as utilized by France;
229 electoral law, as employed by Senegal; or both;
230
- 231 b. Using data from the aforementioned studies, statistics, and surveys to tailor the individual
232 needs to the women by:
233
- 234 i. Using states like Rwanda, Bolivia, and Mexico as models of voluntary quotas for
235 Member States with historically lower female participation in governance and
236 decision-making;
237
 - 238 ii. Making sure that women are empowered in a culturally sensitive way to ensure that
239 they are aware of their voice and impact in local politics;
240
 - 241 iii. Creating individualized voluntary quota systems tailored to specific regions to make
242 sure women are effectively reached by:
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 - 244 v. Recognizing that each Member State is unique and may not fit into a regional
245 grouping;
246
 - 247 vi. Allowing each Member State implementing quotas to maintain autonomy to
248 determine which method best fits with the Member States’ values and ideals;
249
 - 250 vii. Setting timelines in order to ensure that these quotas are being properly followed and
251 requiring all Member States with quotas in place to report their progress to UN-
252 Women regularly to keep statistical data consistent among participating Member
253 States by:
254
- 255 1. Re-evaluating implemented quotas every five years, to improve the efficacy
256 of the quota;
 - 257 2. Requiring participating Member States to write a paper during each
258 evaluation term, marking their growth to call attention to each state’s
259 momentum and success;
 - 260 3. Reaching a goal of equal representation of women.



Code: UNWomen/1/2

Committee: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Topic: Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making

1 *The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,*

2
3 *Recognizing* that the enhancement and empowerment of women not only rely on regional and national
4 government bodies but also local communities, acknowledging that each Member State has its own
5 cultural values and beliefs,

6
7 *Believing* that promoting the involvement of women in governance will lead to greater prosperity and the
8 realization of fundamental human rights for both males and females,

9
10 *Observing* the profound effects that educators have on their pupil's lives and noting the importance of
11 educators having relevant materials and knowledge necessary to teach their students in a gender
12 sensitive manner,

13
14 *Bearing in mind* Sustainable Development Goal 5 which stands for the achievement of gender equality
15 and highlights the necessity of including men and women in the discussion surrounding female
16 empowerment and women's rights,

17
18 *Acknowledging* the work done by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
19 (UNESCO) in collaboration with UN Women with programs like the UNESCO eAtlas of Girls' and
20 Women's Education (2017), among others,

21
22 *Reaffirming* the commitment to the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against*
23 *Women* (1979), and especially noting article seven which recognizes women's equality in political and
24 public life,

25
26 *Expressing its satisfaction* with the impact of the Fund for Gender Equality, which has achieved many
27 successes including elevating more than 6800 women into leadership positions as detailed in the
28 *Independent Global Programme Evaluation of the Fund for Gender Equality, 2009-2017* (2018),

29
30 *Highlighting* the United Nations Development Programme Strategic Plan for 2018-2021 (2017) which
31 advocates for more female engagement in political processes and institutions,

32
33 *Having examined* the HeForShe campaign which promotes the inclusion of men in further actions
34 directed to the empowerment of women and recognizing its success in garnering male support for female
35 participation,

36
37 *Alarmed by* the lack of the involvement of youth in the HeForShe campaign,

38
39 *Noting with deep concern* the female representation proportion of 24.3%, published by the Inter-
40 Parliamentary Union (IPU) in its annual report of all national parliaments, and alarmed by the evidenced
41 lack of equality in women representation among most Member States,

- 42
43 1. *Recommends* educating youth, starting at a young age, by providing them with necessary tools,
44 training materials, and information developed by experts in the matter, UNESCO, and the United
45 Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) ambassadors and
46 funding from the Fund for Gender Equality in order to empower them to have a voice in their
47 government and decision-making processes by:

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- a. Creating the Mentoring, Opportunities, Vision and Education (MOVE) project which will be developed and hosted by local communities' teachers and educators in the form of workshops, school assemblies, and clubs and shall be open to:
 - i. Early education stages where:
 - 1. Teachers will receive special training regarding empowerment and women's rights;
 - 2. Girls and boys will have the opportunity to learn and develop capacities guided by prepared educators;
 - ii. The general public through community centers, especially for those rural areas where girls and boys are not able to attend school and receive education;
 - b. Creating a MOVE website to upload actualized material and new information;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to continue to empower women in governance by establishing mentorship programs by:
 - i. Providing a Family and Mentorship Service program (FAMS) for young girls and boys until they reach the job market by:
 - 1. Including advice about work-family conciliation, information on the job market, and a networking service so parents can help each other;
 - 2. Giving the opportunity for mothers to work;
 - 3. Providing them with better chances of successful career, better salaries, job promotions, and education;
 - ii. Implementing an experiential learning program between political and community leaders and youth in educational institutions at their local communities that will:
 - 1. Be started by local educators and teachers who will work to connect their female students with mentors in their community;
 - 2. Have trained mentors made up of local government, business, and community leaders that will be paired with students and educators and can be found on the UN-Women MOVE website;
 - 3. Provide a list on the MOVE website of possible mentors and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners by region that are committed to helping youth find mentors and gain an education;
 - 4. Connect with mentors that will guide and teach young women the necessary knowledge and practical skills that are needed in order to enter leadership positions and provide young girls with the opportunity to experience politics and decision-making first hand from both male and female leaders;
 - iii. Encouraging participants and leaders involved in the mentorship program to submit personal testimonies and records when they conclude detailing their experiences in order to create a working mechanism to measure the success of the program;
 - d. Organizing community and cultural events to encourage supportive cultural mindsets about women in governance bodies and women's rights by:
 - i. Coordinating MOVE sport events oriented to join boys and girls together in recreational and pleasant activities;
 - ii. Planning oriented Q&A sessions and assemblies for young men and women when requested to address gender equality by means of:

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1. Inviting men to local schools to speak about the importance of women in governance;
 2. Encouraging an open discussion with men and women on their own ideas about what women empowerment and feminism is;
 3. Welcoming boys to express their ideas about what feminism is and if they have female role-models in their lives;
 4. Educating boys about the importance of women empowerment and involvement in government;
 5. Providing boys and girls with the opportunity to talk with women in leadership positions;
 6. Discussing the international achievements of women throughout history;
 7. Discussing what boys can do to promote MOVE;
- iii. Inviting Member States to create inclusive cultural and educational programs that promote women in governance on local, regional, and national levels by:
1. Inviting local artists and filmmakers in creating art, in all forms, in order to:
 - a. Reflect the cultures and identities of all members of the community;
 - b. Highlight the achievements of women within local communities;
 - c. Feature and educate all members of the community in regard to how women in governance and decision-making have a positive impact on the betterment of society;
 2. Incorporating social media as a platform to promote already existing movements and future ones by:
 - a. Including social media influencers, celebrities, and athletes to promote MOVE by providing personal testimonies about their experience;
 - b. Employing social media to promote women’s rights in fun and engaging ways, such as having celebrities post facts about women’s rights and having them provide testimonials or question and answer opportunities;
- e. Recommending training workshops to be held and supported by UN-Women to educate young girls on their rights, by implementing these workshops in elementary and high schools, and inviting women politicians specific to the region to speak at these workshops;
- f. Extending the already-existing HeForShe social media platform to promote MOVE by:
- i. Creating a social media series that reflects the experiences of the students and faculty who participate in the programs;
 - ii. Highlighting the achievements of educators who participate in the MOVE program;
 - iii. Highlighting students who used what they learned within the MOVE program for the betterment of their society;
 - iv. Using the hashtag “MOVEtowardswomenequality” in social media posts;
- g. Intending to begin the MOVE project as a pilot program in two Member States with differing economic backgrounds to measure its impact by:
- i. Tracking the following data points within a two-year period: how many schools started HeForShe clubs, number of school assemblies held, the number of cultural and sporting events held, personal testimonials from participants describing their experience, satisfaction surveys collected from participants, and number of interactions on media accounts related with all MOVE project events

- 161 ii. Urging each Member State's ministry of education to collect this information which
162 can then be included in the annual *HeForShe Impact Report*;
- 163 iii. Measuring the long-term impact of the MOVE project through monitoring the IPU
164 female representation percentage, expecting an increase from 23.8% to 30% by
165 2030;
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- 167 2. *Recommends* the expansion of the HeForShe campaign for young children, which can be developed
168 and hosted by local communities' teachers and educators by offering additional material on their
169 current website by:
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- 171 3. *Encourages* creating HeForShe clubs in not only Universities, but also earlier educational stages and
172 encouraging teachers and society to be part of the HeForShe campaign and be part of the MOVE
173 project.



Code: UNWomen/1/3

Committee: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Topic: Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making

1 *The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,*

2
3 *Understanding* the urgent need to support the involvement of women in governance and decision-making,

4
5 *Recognizing* the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular Goal 5.5, which aims to ensure
6 women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-
7 making in political, economic, and public life, as well as Goal 17, which aims at strengthening global
8 partnerships to support and achieve the targets of *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for*
9 *Sustainable Development* (2015) by bringing together Member States, the international community, civil
10 society, the private sector, and other actors such as UN organs and non-governmental organizations
11 (NGOs) in order to accelerate progress of targeting issues on a local level through the exchange of
12 challenges and solutions between partners,

13
14 *Guided by* the Commission on the Status of Women's plan to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Fourth
15 World Conference on Women (1995) and the adoption of the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*
16 (BPfA) (1995) during their 46th session in 2020,

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18 *Approving* the efforts that have been done by NGOs and initiatives such as the Organization for
19 Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD/DAC) Network, HeForShe, the Global Women's
20 Leadership Organization, Women on the Frontline, the Equal Futures Program, or the Bridging Rural
21 Integrated Development & Grassroots Empowerment (BRIDGE),

22
23 *Confident* in the UN entities and the work they have achieved towards gender equity such as the United
24 Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and their efforts to
25 work with Member States to identify country-specific policy and program priorities,

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27 1. *Advocates for* the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-
28 Women) to intensify the support and collaboration with other UN organs with already existing
29 programs which focus on the empowerment and involvement of women by:
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- 31 a. Continuing the Joint Program on gender equality and women empowerment by UN-Women,
32 UNDP, and UNFPA for training sessions on leadership and public speaking, especially in
33 developing Member States, through increasing joint gender programs within Member States
34 that will aid in supporting commitments to raising awareness of gender issues within the
35 national dialogues and prompting policy changes by promoting programs including, but not
36 limited to:
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 - 38 i. The UN-Women's Regional Leadership Program, which was introduced in Member
39 States in order to train young female leaders;
 - 40 ii. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Women's
41 Leadership Program, which aims to deliver training and awareness-raising activities
42 to government officials and to build skills in leadership, negotiation, chairmanship,
43 and effective communication;
 - 44
 - 45 b. Supporting UNDP's Global Program for Electoral Cycle Support in their focus on enhancing
46 the involvement of marginalized groups and youth, especially amongst the women in
47 democratic elections as voters, as well as candidates by establishing joint projects and
48 knowledge-sharing regarding challenges, political participation, and opportunities of
49 leadership by promoting programs including, but not limited to:

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- i. The Making Women's Voices and Votes Count program, which was implemented in India, to run and manage information centers that connect women representatives and women's groups across geographically dispersed area;
 - ii. The Youth Council and Women Council, which was implemented in Rwanda, to allow youth to contribute to national agenda setting;
 - 2. *Encourages* UN-Women to further support NGOs and existing initiatives through providing them with knowledge and funding in order to promote their efforts to advance women's political participation and decision-making as appropriate by:
 - a. Continuing the accountability provided through the 2012 partnership between UN-Women and the OECD/DAC Network on Gender Equality supporting the elaboration of gender equality and women's empowerment indicators that measure efforts to track public resources;
 - b. Intensifying exchange and collaboration through providing experts to NGOs and programs such as HeForShe, the Global Women's Leadership Organization, and Women Deliver in order to make global efforts more cohesive and in-line with UN Women's aims towards empowering women to take the global stage;
 - c. Reinforcing the funds given by Oxfam and the Netherland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Women on the Frontline, which supports women in becoming active leaders in building peace within states facing conflict, extremism, repression, and polarization;
 - d. Establishing the precedent that UN-Women cooperates with Equal Futures Partnership by providing technical advice, knowledge and capacity development, facilitating and sharing of best practices, and supporting implementation of commitments with all possible resources;
 - e. Supporting the BRIDGE program, which partners with UNDP in their focus on involving women in electoral processes, by providing experts concerned with women being hindered from participating in elections as both voters and candidates to improve:
 - i. Already existing workshops that encourage participants, such as Member States, to reflect on how to improve their organization, providing comparative examples and alternative approaches and generating blueprints or support for organizational reform;
 - ii. The support network for stakeholders in electoral processes in order to encourage a culture of sharing information and experiences;
 - iii. BRIDGE's goals of enhancing the skills and confidence of stakeholders in the electoral process;
 - 3. *Invites* Member States to contribute to an expert panel that shall commemorate the 25th anniversary of the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women and shall be created by UN-Women and the BPfA for the purposes of offering guidelines which will focus on:
 - a. Creating best practices for Member States on how to better install leadership skills in young women;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to participate by reporting and sharing local achievements and challenges;
 - c. Publishing a report accessible to the public, which focuses on:
 - i. Integrating leadership skills into primary and secondary education for young women and girls;

- 105 ii. Potential policy recommendations to accommodate women’s productive and
106 reproductive goals while operating in the public sphere;
107 iii. Advising governments on working with civil society groups on how best to reach
108 women in rural areas, particularly those in developing countries;
109 iv. Eliminating gender stereotypes through campaigns such as the HeForShe campaign;
110
111 4. *Invites* Member States to raise awareness of the efforts by UN-Women to fully involve women in
112 governance and decision-making.



Code: UNWomen/1/4

Committee: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Topic: Supporting the Involvement of Women in Governance and Decision-Making

1 *The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women,*
2
3 *Recalling* article 7b of the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*
4 (1981) which promotes equal political participation for men and women, along with the *Beijing Platform for*
5 *Action* (1995), that aims to achieve greater equality and opportunities for women,
6
7 *Noting interest* in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency's (UNRWA) Young Women Leaders
8 Programme, currently available only in the Gaza Strip, that aims to enhance the skills of young female
9 graduates and to improve their access to opportunities within the labor market,
10
11 *Acknowledging* the effective training framework laid out in the report *Gender-Transformative Evaluation of*
12 *Training for Gender Equality* (2018), created by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the
13 Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) Training Center,
14
15 *Recognizing* the initiative Led by HER that offers courses, workshops, and individual mentoring sessions
16 to help women succeed in their own projects,
17
18 *Considering* the high level of Rwandan women's involvement in governance, thanks in part to the creation
19 of Youth and Women's Councils,
20
21 *Further recognizing* the Gender Road Project in Cameroon that aims to accelerate the economic
22 emancipation and empowerment of women through the construction of roads to connect rural women to
23 financial resources,
24
25 *Recalling* the seven principles affirmed in the document *Equality means business*, drafted by UN Global
26 Compact and UN-Women, adapted from the Calvert Women's Principles, which emphasizes the business
27 case for corporate action to promote gender equality and women's empowerment,
28
29 *Bearing in mind* the commitments to the goals and objectives contained in the Twenty-Third Special
30 Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled *Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development*
31 *and Peace for the Twenty-first Century* (2000), in particular those concerning the full participation of
32 women's political participation and decision making,
33
34 *Noting with gratitude* the successful implementation of mentorship programs including the Young Women
35 and Leadership Project, the Global Innovation Coalition for Change (GICC), and the Cherie Blair
36 Foundation for Women Mentoring Women in Business Programme,
37
38 *Aware of* the importance of inspiring and empowering women and young girls in order to achieve equal
39 gender representation in governance and decision-making,
40
41 *Keeping in mind* the United Nations Fund for Gender Equality, which has successfully financed civil
42 society organizations and projects such as the Women Empowerment and Political Participation Project
43 in Pakistan towards women's political participation,
44
45 *Drawing attention to* the obstacles women face in obtaining the resources and funding required to run
46 effective political campaigns, the global pervasiveness of gender inequity, and the global under-
47 representation of women in governance and decision-making, as examined in the 2005 *Division for the*
48 *Advancement of Women* report,
49

50 *Noting* interest in the online training administered by the UN-Women Training Center as an important
51 educational framework that aims to support the UN and other stakeholders in the improvement of gender
52 equality in all fields,
53

54 *Calling attention to* the World Assembly for Women held in Japan in March 2019 that aimed to promote
55 the movement of enhancing women's empowerment by gathering prominent female figures for a
56 celebration of women and a discussion of women's rights issues,
57

58 *Acknowledging* General Assembly resolution 66/130 (2011) on "Women and political participation," which
59 emphasizes the importance of the participation of women in political life,
60

61 *Further considering* the Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 (1990) and the fulfillment of the
62 targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), notably Goal 5.5 which seeks to ensure political
63 representation of women across all areas of leadership, including governance and decision making, and
64 Goal 10 which seeks to promote political inclusion and equal opportunities for all,
65

66 *Cognizant of* the existence of youth leadership programs including the Global Network on Young Women
67 Leaders and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) Youth Program, and the immense potential
68 these programs have to inspire and empower young women and girls,
69

70 1. *Proposes* to promote female empowerment and involvement in decision-making through the
71 introduction into local communities of annual events based on the framework of the World Assembly
72 of Women by:
73

74 a. Gathering prominent local, national, and global female figures in communities across the
75 world to give speeches and hold panels celebrating women and discussing women's rights
76 issues;
77

78 b. Inviting local girls and women to these events in order to expose them to strong female role
79 models and inspire belief in their own agency;
80

81 c. Providing funding and resources to aid of local organizations in implementation;
82

83 2. *Requests* the creation of a mentorship scheme based on the framework of the Led by HER initiative,
84 in conjunction with the governments of Member States, non-governmental organizations, civil society
85 groups, and the private sector to implement healthy role modelling and create a support system which
86 would foster the involvement of women in governance and decision making by:
87

88 a. Inviting women in positions of political power such as former and current female
89 representatives to the United Nations and other national key figures in governance to fully
90 embrace their role as role models for women and young girls;
91

92 b. Creating a support network where women and girls can have access to men and women in
93 politics through forums, workshops, seminars, and internships;
94

95 c. Encouraging Member States to finance, with additional help from UN-Women, the creation of
96 short national training courses for these mentors in accordance with the curriculum provided
97 by the UN Women Training Centre in order to ensure they provide adequate and appropriate
98 mentorship to the women and girls;
99

100 d. Welcoming current and former female representatives to local and Member State
101 governments to step forward to lead training and capacity-building workshops for prospective
102 female candidates in conjunction with UN-Women's regional and country offices;
103

104 e. Suggesting Member States implement national mentorship and advising programs to support
105 women entrepreneurs in small communities grow as leaders in the business field based on

106 the models provided by GICC and the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women Mentoring Women
107 in Business Programme;

- 108
- 109 3. *Encourages* the United Nations Fund for Gender Equality to focus more on proposals with social
110 entrepreneurship models towards women's involvement in governance and decision making, in line
111 with the 4th Cycle of the Fund (2018 - 2019), to drive sustainable funding in the long-term by:
- 112
- 113 a. Giving grants to more proposals for women's participation in governance and decision
114 making with the social entrepreneurship model;
- 115
- 116 b. Creating awareness campaigns to promote the reach of the Fund for Gender Equality and
117 facilitate more proposals from non-governmental organizations (NGOs);
- 118
- 119 4. *Supports* the expansion into all Member States of initiatives like the Youth and Women Councils
120 established by UN-Women in Rwanda so as to provide girls and women a platform from which to
121 enact policy they wish to see realized locally;
- 122
- 123 5. *Further invites* United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with the support of NGOs such as Amnesty
124 International and Pencils of Promise to introduce two-years educational and skill-building courses in
125 local schools for girls who leave school before graduating, aimed at training them and providing them
126 with the necessary knowledge to build a career for themselves;
- 127
- 128 6. *Welcomes* the broadening of the Gender Road Project in developing Member States in order to
129 prepare women for a better future through access to bigger markets along with the economic support
130 of the World Bank, teaching women financial and entrepreneurial skills, and improving working
131 techniques that will facilitate their access to public services and work fields;
- 132
- 133 7. *Further encourages* Member States and local companies to evaluate their trainings in reference to the
134 Gender-Transformative Evaluation of Training for Gender Equality (2018) created by the UN Women
135 Training Center;
- 136
- 137 8. *Recommends* broadening the impact of existing youth leadership programs, thereby spreading the
138 message of female empowerment to young women and girls across the world by:
- 139
- 140 a. Proposing to expand the reach of youth leadership programs such as the Global Network on
141 Young Women Leaders and the CSW Youth Program to local communities so as to spread
142 their message of female empowerment to young women and girls across the world;
- 143
- 144 b. Requesting that Member States implement a Young Women Leaders Program within regional
145 and national schools based on the model of UNRWA's Young Women Leaders Programme.