

## **Political declaration on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women**

We, the Ministers and representatives of Governments,

Having gathered at the sixty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in New York, on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, to undertake a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”, including an assessment of current challenges and gaps that affect its implementation and its contribution towards the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the development, economic, social, environmental, humanitarian and related fields, [\(Based on CSW64 PD, chapeau\)](#)

1. Reaffirm the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declarations of the Commission on the Status of Women on the tenth, fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women and commit to their implementation; [\(Based on CSW64 PD, PP1\)](#)
2. Recognize that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the fulfilment of the obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women are mutually reinforcing in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the realization of their human rights, and call upon States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto as well as limiting the extent of any reservations, formulating any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Conventions; [\(CSW64 PD, PP2 verbatim\)](#)
3. Reaffirm the need to respect, protect and fulfil all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, for all women and girls without distinction of any kind while respecting the rule of law, the principles of equality and non-discrimination and ensure equal justice for all women and girls; [\(New Based on Beijing PfA, para 232 a\) and Agenda 2030, para 8\)](#)
4. Reaffirm also that gender equality, rights and the empowerment of all women and girls is an essential prerequisite for sustainable development and to achieve all the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and emphasize its mutually reinforcing relationship with the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and relevant major

United Nations conferences and summits and their outcomes and follow-up; (based on CSW64 PD, PP3 and A/RES/79/1 PP19)

5. Welcome the Pact of the Future and its annexes, including the commitments on gender equality and the mandate to explore options to revitalize the Commission on the Status of Women to promote the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, to achieve gender equality, the empowerment of all women and girls, and promote and protect their human rights and to ensure that the Commission is fit for purpose; (Based on A/RES/79/1, Action 43, para (d))

6. Welcome the progress made towards the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action through concerted policy action at the national, regional and global levels, further welcome the review activities undertaken by Governments in the context of the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, as well as the convening of the regional reviews that have been undertaken by the United Nations regional commissions, taking note of the outcomes of these intergovernmental processes at the regional level, and noting the important contributions made by civil society, youth and all other relevant stakeholders; (Based on CSW64 PD, PP4 and PP5)

7. Recall General Assembly resolution 78/182 of 19 December 2023, and look forward to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in the margins of the general debate of the Assembly at its eightieth session, and the opportunity to identify concrete actions for accelerating the realization of gender equality, rights and the empowerment of all women and girls and its contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; (Based on CSW64 PD, PP5)

8. Express concern that, overall, progress has not been fast or deep enough, that in some areas progress has been uneven, that major gaps and obstacles, inter alia, structural barriers, discriminatory practices, violence against women and girls, armed conflict and the feminization of poverty, remain, that significant levels of inequality persist globally, including under-representation in decision-making at all levels, and that many women and girls experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, vulnerability and marginalization throughout their life course, and that they have made the least progress; (Based on CSW64 PD, PP6)

9. Recognize that women and girls play a vital role as leaders and agents of change in the development, peace and security agendas, that the achievement of full human potential is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities, and that gender equality is critical for the Sustainable Development Goals to be achieved for all; (Based on CSW64 PD, PP8)

10. Also recognize the contributions of all girls, including adolescent girls, to their societies, and the opportunities to amplify these contributions through their active participation in decision making processes and as agents of change as well as access to digital technology and education to empower them and fulfill all their human rights, and end discrimination and violence against them; (New Based on UNGA A/RES/78/188, PP11, PP23, PP26)

11. Recognize further the role of young people, including young women, as leaders and innovators and the need for intergenerational dialogue and engagement to be taken into consideration in policy and decision-making processes in order to safeguard the needs and interests of future generations, in a society free from discrimination, harassment, violence and harmful practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage; (New based on PP8 of the Declaration on the Future Generations)

12. Further recognize the importance of men and boys fully engaging as strategic partners and allies, as well as agents and beneficiaries of change, for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including their economic empowerment, rights and fundamental freedoms, and the need to design and implement national policies and programmes in this regard; (CSW64 PD, PP9 and CSW68, para 54ttt)

13. Reaffirm the need to ensure transparent and impactful allocation of resources to reduce inequalities and create meaningful opportunities for all women and girls as well as investments in universal, gender-responsive social protection systems and public services which are critical for addressing structural disparities and fostering inclusive development, and recognize the urgent need to mobilize domestic and international resources through innovative and equitable mechanisms, such as implementing progressive tax systems, increasing public investments, and meeting official development assistance (ODA) commitments, particularly for least developed countries, by reorienting fiscal and monetary policies and adopting systematic gender-responsive budgeting; (Based on CSW68, paras f), qq, rr), ppp) and the SG Report, para 351)

14. Recognize that new challenges have emerged, and strongly reaffirm our political will to tackling the existing and emerging challenges and remaining implementation gaps in all 12 critical areas of concern, namely, women and poverty, education and training of women, women and health, violence against women, women and armed conflict, women and the economy, women in power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, human rights of women, women and the media, women and the environment, and the girl child and recommit to take further concrete action to ensure the full, effective and accelerated implementation and resourcing of these critical areas of concern as well as the Sustainable Development Goals, including by: (Based on CSW64 PD, PP10 and 12)

[All recommendations below are based on the SG report]

### **Inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work**

- a) Prioritizing public investments to develop and expand integrated care systems, including care leave policies, the provision of universal care services across the life course and the proper recognition and reward of paid care givers;
- b) Promoting, respecting and fulfilling the rights of women to and at work, through enforcing labour rights, granting entitlements for informal workers, adopting all necessary measures to reducing labour market segregation, and closing the gender pay gap;
- c) Harnessing the transformative power of technology to advance gender equality and bridge the gender digital divide;

### **Poverty eradication, social protection and social services**

- d) Taking comprehensive and targeted measures to address the root causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as well as structural inequalities, including economic inequality, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stigmatization and gender stereotypes, discriminatory laws, policies and negative social norms, unequal power relations, the unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work and all forms of violence affecting women and girls;
- e) Ensuring that all women and girls enjoy equal access, both in law and in practice, to social protection systems, public and financial services, productive resources, sustainable infrastructures, markets and networks, as well as technologies;
- f) Developing and investing in gender-responsive social protection systems, as well as public education and health services, including in sexual and reproductive health care and services;
- g) Removing structural barriers and improving the financial inclusion and literacy of all women and girls and promoting the full and equal access of women to formal financial services, resources and products;

### **Freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes**

- h) Adopting and funding national action plans to prevent, eliminate and respond to violence against women and girls in all its forms and manifestations;
- i) Ensuring victims and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence have prompt access to health care and services, including psychological, sexual and reproductive health and other counselling services, as well as free or low-cost legal aid, and justice to end impunity, while also addressing gaps in legal protection;
- j) Investing in whole-of-government and whole-of-society, evidence-based and long-term approach to violence prevention strategies;

### **Participation, accountability and gender-responsive institutions**

- k) Accelerating gender parity and women's full, equal and meaningful participation, leadership and influence in decision-making across sectors and at all levels, including in national and local government through temporary special measures;
- l) Ensuring strong and well-resourced national gender equality machineries with a clear mandate to promote gender equality, women's and girls' human rights and ensuring that they lead on and coordinate the development and implementation of gender equality policies;
- m) Adopting and implementing a comprehensive approach to gender-responsive budgeting across all sectors;

- n) Increasing the production and use of gender statistics to inform actions and monitor progress on gender equality;
- o) Creating safe and enabling environments for women's and girls' rights and youth organizations, and significantly increasing flexible funding for such organizations, to hold decision-makers to account;

### **Peaceful and inclusive societies**

- p) Strengthening implementation and financing of national action plans on women, peace and security, and humanitarian action, and funding local women's organizations in conflict and crisis settings;
- q) Ensuring women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in all aspects of peace and security and humanitarian action, including through the adoption of targets and quotas;
- r) Developing and/or strengthening accountability mechanisms on peace and security and monitoring systematic violations of women's rights in conflict-affected countries;
- s) Ensuring that gender equality and non-discrimination are taken into account when shaping, reviewing and implementing policies and infrastructure to respond to armed conflict or humanitarian crises as well as counter-terrorism measures, while also ensuring the full and effective participation of women in these processes;

### **Environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building**

- t) Centering women and girls in a global just transition towards low-carbon economies to benefit equally from jobs in the green, blue and care economies;
- u) Ensuring women's full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership in decision-making related to environmental conservation, natural resource management, disaster risk reduction and response, environmental governance and climate action;
- v) Guaranteeing women's rights to land and productive resources and equal inheritance;
- w) Enhancing the integration of gender equality considerations in climate and environmental finance provided through public, philanthropic and private sources in the fulfillment of the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance.

15. Reaffirm the primary responsibility of the Commission on the Status of Women for the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and recall the follow-up work of the Commission in that regard, also reaffirm its contribution to the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda and catalytic role in promoting and realizing gender equality, the human rights and the empowerment of all women and girls, in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system, and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action, ([Based on CSW64 PD, PP13](#))

16. Strengthen the human and financial capacities and coordination of national statistics and data production offices, government institutions and other research organizations to collect, analyse, disseminate and use gender statistics and data disaggregated on the basis of income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, marital status, migration status, disability, geographical location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, while safeguarding privacy rights and data protection, to inform the conception, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes that are evidence-based; [\(New Based on CSW67, para \(hhh\)\)](#)

17. Acknowledge the fifteenth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and reaffirm its important role in promoting gender equality, the rights and the empowerment of all women and girls and in supporting Member States and coordinating the United Nations system and mobilizing civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders, at all levels, in support of the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; [\(Based on CSW64 PD, PP14\)](#)

18. Welcome the Secretary-General's system-wide strategy on gender parity and the United Nations System-wide Gender Equality Acceleration Plan and call upon the United Nations system to continue to support the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, including through systematic gender mainstreaming, multistakeholder partnerships, the mobilization of resources to deliver results and the monitoring and assessment of progress with data and robust accountability systems; [\(Based on CSW64 PD, PP15 and A/RES/79/223, OP61\)](#)

19. Welcome the contributions made by civil society, including non-governmental organizations and feminists', women's and community-based organizations, youth-led organizations and all other stakeholders such as national human rights institutions where they exist, to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and pledge to continue supporting with increased, flexible and sustainable resources, at the local, national, regional and global levels, civil society efforts for the advancement and promotion of gender equality, the rights and the empowerment of all women and girls, including by promoting and ensuring a safe and enabling environment for them, and recognize the importance of having an open, inclusive and transparent engagement with civil society as a contribution to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls; [\(Based on CSW64 PD, PP16\)](#)

20. Commit to the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Agreed Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women by strengthening our collective efforts towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including full enjoyment of their human rights. [\(Based on CSW64 PD, PP17\)](#)