

GWU United Nation Representative Summary Report for CSW 63.

GWU advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWU. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWU's mission, our United Nations Representatives are should always promote all GWU key messages and represent GWU professionally.*

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City of UN Representation: New York, UN HQ,

Subject of session/meeting:

7th Plenary meeting of CSW 63, General Session, March 15, 2019

Member states' reports on the primary theme.

Sustainable Development Goals addressed: all, but especially 1,3,4,5 8,9,16

Relevant treaties/conventions/resolutions referenced/addressed:

Summary of session/meeting:

**Member states presented strategies and practices relevant to the Priority theme.
Additional reports are available on the UNWebTV.**

- **United Arab Emirates: 9 ministers are women (7%)
Laws passed for women to be represented in all ministries up to 22% and in national and federal agencies to 50%. Recognize women's rights to education and work.**

- **Saudi Arabia**: 36 strategic goals including removal of barriers to the labor market, equal pay, criminalization of sexual harassment and violence, access to safety networks, and 10 weeks fully paid maternity leave. Provision of child care, social benefits to widows, the disabled and the poor.
- **Japan**: Social protection programs include assistance to single parent households, expanding child care and providing assistance with cost of education, increasing men's participation in unpaid work, public awareness program about the cost of unpaid care, affirmative action for access to jobs and resources, family planning approved recently.
- **Philippines**: Committed to decreasing poverty. Introduced universal health care, 105 paid days of maternity leave, affirmative action for nontraditional work, and free tuition for disadvantaged persons. Population control program to prevent teenage and unwanted pregnancies.
- **Eritrea**: Increased enrollment of girls in school, due to free boarding schools, child care for teachers, free menstrual napkins, vocational training as well as affirmative action in higher education. Also provide access to microfinance, equal access to land, and equal access to employment. Have laws against gender discrimination.
- **Tajikistan**: Laws guarantee equal rights in all spheres. Between 1998 and 2018 # of women and girls employed in education rose from 52 to 70% and in health care from 45,000 to 51,000 workers. Government gives grants to women for entrepreneurship. Government promotes water issues globally.
- **Antigua and Barbuda**: Small island state, recent review by CEDAW identified problems. Violence against women and girls is widespread. Women's contribution as breadwinners and caregivers is not acknowledged. Workers are excluded from social protection. Investment in welfare for women and girls is necessary. Recently social protection assessed by UNICEF, UN Women and World Bank resulted in recommendations for meeting the 2030 agenda.
- **Uruguay**: Enacted laws against gender violence, and trafficking and murder of women. Voluntary interruption of pregnancy accepted, provide free contraceptives and care for victims of violence.

70% of all workers have social security. Government and community bear joint responsibility with family for early child care. Retirement pension is equal for all but with additional allocation payment for each child born per year. Women are organized and monitor government activities.

- **Cuba**: Constitution ratifies gender equality and non discrimination. Women can exercise full reproductive rights. Decent work is guaranteed. Universal education is free. Women represent 65% of university enrollees, 53% of graduates in science and mathematics, 66% medical school graduates and 66% of higher education

teaching staff. 53% of parliamentarians and 77% of judges are women. 60% of budget is earmarked for social protection.

- **Uganda:** National plan for implementation of social protection in place. Women comprise 51% of population and 80% of population is below 30 years of age. Grants are provided for entrepreneurship by women and young people. Programs to address GBV, assistance for older persons most of whom are women, safe transportation, electricity and renewable energy. Women provide health services in communities.
- **Afghanistan:** Resolution 1325 implemented. In spite of 40 years of conflict, women comprise 27% of parliament, 38% of school attendees, 23% university students, 32% of voters in recent parliamentary election, 4 ministers and 5 ambassadors. 50% of teaching positions must be women. Maternal mortality is lower. Afghan women's chamber of commerce for entrepreneurship and industry formed. 3.7 million children are out of school, 70% are girls, due to safety concerns and because of infrastructure issues such as lack of buildings.
- **Mexico:** Will host the Global Forum for Beijing 25. Now there is parity in government-50% of ministers and parliamentarians are women. National system for child care and for universal health coverage. Home workers receive the same social services as other workers including medical coverage and disability allowance. Program in place for prevention of young pregnancies and provision for training young people for work with pay for 1 year. Plan to end corruption. Government and industry cooperate in programs.

Next steps: (What needs to be done?)

- Monitoring actual implementation of laws and programs. Holding member states accountable.
- Advocating for eradication of illiteracy. Illiteracy is a barrier to accessing full human rights as well as social services and social protection. ***According to the Director General Ministry of Social Affairs and Gender Equality (female) of Equatorial Guinea 88% of women age 15 to 49 are illiterate.***
- Disrupting local traditions and customs (good for agriculture and protecting the environment) but bad for women's rights.