

GWI United Nation Representative Advocacy Report Geneva 2019

GWI 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.

Submitted by Helen Lom

GWI UN Representative Geneva

Meeting attended:

Women's Economic Empowerment and the SDGs "Closing the gender gap in a rapidly changing society" 5 November 2019; Palais des Nations, Geneva

Subject of meeting:

The meeting revolved around empowering women in the economy and the incorporation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The session aimed to identify challenges and develop solutions to overcome the challenges. Additionally, the panel discussed the need for social transformation to lead to economic empowerment of women in addition to adapt solutions to the changing society to address the digital gap as well as supporting women in the STEM field.

Opening Remarks:

Tatiana Valovaya
Hilary Gbedemah

Panel Discussion:

Moderator: Nicole Ameline
Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia
Hiroko Akizuki
Christine Löw
Joanna Bourke Martignoni

Eselot Hasselaar

Hosted By: The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), UN Women, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva Academy, Permanent Mission of Japan, Canada, Finland, France, Mexico and Thailand.

Refers to SDG no #: SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 5, SDG 17

What GWI [resolution\(s\)](#) does your attendance relate to?

- No. 2, 2001: The Future of Women’s Employment - encouraging girls to pursue careers in science and technology.
- No.1, 2010: Work-Life Balance for Women between Professional Careers and Family Responsibilities – advocating for women to continue working after starting a family.
- No. 12, 2013: Globalisation and Its Effects on Women and Girl in Developing Countries – recognize effects of globalization creating inequalities for women and girls worldwide and pushing governments to act on reducing the inequalities.

Personal observations:

In spite of significant progress, especially in certain sectors and countries, major gender gap challenges still persist worldwide, even in G20 countries.

For example, gender pay gaps and segregation by occupation persist. IT transformation and AI developments are complicating international efforts to close the gender gap. Apparently, one billion girls are currently under the threat of being held behind in technological development. Statistics show that the digital gender gap is actually growing. More women than men are also subject to cyber bullying.

At the recent Osaka Summit, G20 leaders “emphasized the importance of providing support for girls’ and women’s education and training, including improved access to STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) education, as well as enhancing girls’ and women’s access to digital technology, especially for those in poverty and in rural areas.”



Tatiana Valovaya, Director General, Hilary Gbedemah, Chairperson (CEDAW), and Nicole Ameline (CEDAW)