



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Plenary

GA/2nd/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Women in development

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Plenary

The General Assembly Plenary,

1 Recommends Member States encourage privately and publicly owned companies with over fifty employees
2 to include women at all levels by,

3 *Believing* that development of rural areas is a key component of offering greater economic opportunity for
4 women,

5 *Affirming* the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
6 passed by the United Nations General Assembly,

7 *Recalling* resolution 72/234 of December 20 2017 "Women in Development",

8 *Reaffirming* that equal access to quality and inclusive education and training at all levels, in particular
9 in business, trade, administration, information and communications technology, science, technology, engineering,
10 mathematics (STEM) and other new technologies, and fulfillment of the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all
11 levels are essential for gender equality,

12 *Acknowledging* the need for womens' education and entrepreneurship, particularly the need for basic literacy,
13 to enable womens' economic prosperity,

14 *Reaffirming also* that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequality,
15 through paid work, at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a
16 critical factor in the promotion of world peace,

17 *Commending* programs such as Determined to Develop, which have been successful in encouraging womens'
18 involvement in development through improvement of primary education and empowering women in entrepreneurial
19 roles,

20 *Recognizing* that the state of rural education is less than adequate in many nations and that rural education
21 should be prioritized,

22 *Further recognizing* the need for investment and trading partnerships in financially disadvantaged countries
23 to enhance the infrastructure necessary to prudently promote womens' financial development,

24 1. Strongly encourages the implementation of a Women in Government (WiG) programme, which will act
25 to increase the number of women in economic and educational sectors, primarily of local and regional governments
26 through:

27 (a) Self-assessments conducted by senior management and a communication liaison to the assessed
28 institution in coordination with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Office's Gender
29 Committee which will;

30 (i) Assess the Organization's readiness to perform according to the number of resources and staff
31 available that can be allocated to the implementation of the WiG programme;

32 (ii) Provide weekly initial briefings on the WiG process, content and benchmarks of self-assessment
33 and future action plans to senior management of the government sector;

34 (iii) Consist of an online self assessment with 100 short responses, reviewed by the UNDP Country
35 Office, which will score the sectors;

36 A. Effectiveness of current management systems for gender equality including any Gender Focal
37 Teams, or teams that work for gender equality;

- 38 B. Environment for its ability to enable and protect women through;
- 39 I. Policies, human resources, and advocacy for gender equality in the workplace that are localised
40 and implemented, as well as guidelines on gender parity that are localised and applied;
- 41 II. Programmes or projects, guided by gender experts' recommendations for strategies and frame-
42 works, and that programme's planning, design, program implementation, technical expertise, mon-
43 itoring and evaluation;
- 44 III. Systems in place for integration of gender concerns into project cycles;
- 45 IV. Collaborations with key actors for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) gender equality
46 goals, including gender committees, gender experts and researchers;
- 47 V. Systematic participation in inter-agency coordination mechanisms for gender equality and wom-
48 ens' empowerment;
- 49 (b) Courses of action created and enacted by the local government for the course of one to two years,
50 dependent on the score given to the local government, with the assistance and recommendations of UNDP Country
51 Offices by;
- 52 (i) Having check ups on a timeframe determined by the local government in the UNDP country
53 offices, and short evaluation by the UNDP Country Offices and/or designated gender experts of the
54 area;
- 55 (ii) Utilizing the self-assessment to target low score areas;
- 56 (iii) Referencing cultural and local research done by the General Assembly Second Committee and
57 other designated UN bodies mentioned in this paper to develop a plan specific to gender relations
58 in specific areas;
- 59 2. Encourages reflective processes carried out for one month after the implementation of the action plan
60 where local governments intensively find areas of success and improvement in coordination with the UNDP Country
61 Office;
- 62 3. Recommends Member States encourage privately and publicly owned companies with over fifty employees
63 to include women at all levels by:
- 64 (a) Improving occupational mobility within public and private sectors for women through the vol-
65 untary creation of company policies and company quotas for at least 30% women qualified in their field as suggested
66 by the Gender Equality Seal Programme;
- 67 (b) Encouraging companies to increase the quantity of women engaged in job training programs that
68 qualify them for the same professions as their male counterparts;
- 69 (c) Awarding a Certificate for Gender Equality in their company that may encourage national
70 incentives to follow Seal's regulations or suggestions;
- 71 4. Revises existing microloan programs sponsored by The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and
72 the Empowerment of Women (United Nations Women) in order to:
- 73 (a) Incorporate financial literacy programs to empower women financially;
- 74 (b) Promote domestic microloan programs for women entrepreneurs;
- 75 5. Calls on the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to create projects for the purpose of building the
76 capacity of local governments to promote economic development for women by:
- 77 (a) Working to extend microcredit to women and womens' cooperatives through partnerships be-
78 tween North-South and South-South countries, especially between local governments;
- 79 (b) Partnering with agricultural programs in Member States to train and provide women with new
80 technologies, such as drought-resistant seeds and agricultural technology, to improve their yields and raise their
81 income;

82 6. Recommends that international bodies such as the United Nations Population Fund and World Bank,
83 Youth Peer Education Network (Y-PEER), and Advocates for Youth to cooperate with State and Non-State actors
84 to enable voluntary family-planning services through:

85 (a) Strengthening of supply-chain management for family-planning resources for the purpose of
86 assuring women bodily autonomy and agency;

87 (b) Training of local individuals to provide services in local clinics for women, as well as the promotion
88 of sexual education to specifically combat HIV & AIDS;

89 (c) Centralizing financial data on cost expenditures along supply chain management of family-
90 planning resources for women;

91 (d) Focusing on the training of those whom these services will impact, namely local women;

92 7. Supports the promotion of educational programs for women, specifically by calling upon the World Bank
93 to provide low-interest loans for womens' educational programs regarding:

94 (a) The promotion of womens' literacy, including a focus on reading and writing capabilities in
95 indigenous persons' languages;

96 (b) Programs designed to encourage entrepreneurial education, modelled specifically after successful,
97 existing programs which have entrepreneurial curricula;

98 (c) The provision of funding for the education of Women in STEM;

99 8. Recommends that nations dampen the effects of violence against women in the workplace and outlaw
100 discrimination in employment based on gender in order to provide environments conducive to womens' entrepreneurial
101 success by:

102 (a) Promoting educational programs designed to educate women and men about workplace sexual
103 violence with respect to the cultural context of the society;

104 (b) Considering necessary reforms to ensure that womens' voices are heard, complaints are faithfully
105 prosecuted and appropriate discipline is given;

106 (c) Further recommending psychological and legal advice to women who have experienced violence,
107 workplace discrimination or are unaware of their rights;

108 (d) Expanding the availability of healthcare to women by working with local hospitals and healthcare
109 providers to alleviate the economic burden of medical bills for victims of sexual and domestic abuse;

110 9. Calls on UNDP to extend the Gender Equality Seal Programme to improve womens' access to the private
111 sector and improve their business knowledge and skills by:

112 (a) Improving access for companies to take part in the Seal assessment through;

113 (i) Removing language barriers by expanding the number of languages in which the assessment is
114 available;

115 (ii) Reviewing Seal benchmarks in regards to local contexts to ensure their accessibility and usability;

116 (iii) Expanding the period of implementation for the Seal assessment from twelve to eighteen months;

117 (b) Disseminating Seal assessment results to recognize the achievements of companies and increase
118 their visibility to possible trading partners both regionally and beyond;

119 (c) Ensure the sustainability of this program by;

120 (i) Using previous successful models of Gold-Certified companies by sharing their models;

121 (ii) Supporting more face-to-face training for companies involved to ensure understanding of best
122 practices;

123 (iii) Establishing check-ins with the participating programs through the Gender Seal Programme to
124 check benchmark success and provide support for companies who may face struggles in implementing
125 suggestions;

126 (iv) Encouraging Country Offices of the same region to reflect on failures and successes together and
127 share recommendations for future actions for gender equality;

128 (v) Creating a Woman Ambassador for this program that will bring together certified women and
129 local women entrepreneurs, allowing women to share best practices, knowledge, train for interviews
130 and allow them to expand their business network;

131 10. Calls upon the World Bank, United Nations Population Fund, and voluntary donations from Member
132 States to fund all initiatives suggested by this document;

133 11. Strongly urges the committee to remain seized upon this issue.

Passed, Yes: 53 / No: 10 / Abstain: 6