



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-eighth session

Item 26 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Advancement of women: implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly**

### **Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly**

#### **Report of the Secretary-General**

##### *Summary*

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/142](#) and is aimed at supporting the Assembly in monitoring the implementation of the guidance provided therein. It is focused on the extent to which selected intergovernmental processes of the United Nations integrate a gender perspective into their work. It provides a quantitative and qualitative assessment of progress achieved and remaining gaps, in comparison with previous years. The report contains recommendations for further measures to enhance the implementation of gender equality mandates throughout the work of the United Nations.

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\* [A/78/150](#).



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## I. Introduction

1. In its resolutions on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, the Assembly has consistently called upon the bodies of the United Nations system to increase efforts to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all issues under their consideration and within their mandates and requested the Secretary-General to report on measures taken and progress achieved in that regard. As mandated in resolution [76/142](#), the present report covers progress made in selected intergovernmental processes since the seventy-fifth session of the Assembly.

2. The findings herein confirm that, on a year-to-year basis, the incorporation of a gender perspective into the documents of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions has shown a pattern of fluctuation. After a period of stagnation in the incorporation of a gender perspective into the reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly, progress increased at the seventy-sixth session with a new peak, followed by a slight decrease at the seventy-seventh session. Similarly, the overall percentage of Assembly resolutions that include a gender perspective reached a new peak at the seventy-sixth session, followed by a decrease at the seventy-seventh session. Concerning the Council and its functional commissions, results have fluctuated over the past six years, likely owing to the small number of reports submitted to and resolutions adopted by those bodies.

## II. Integration of a gender perspective into the work of selected intergovernmental bodies

3. The present report is based on a content analysis of the reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh sessions and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly during those sessions, as well as the reports of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions in 2021 and 2022. Resolutions adopted by the Council and its functional commissions during the corresponding period were also analysed. The documents examined (reports, resolutions and declarations) were those available in the Official Document System of the United Nations as at 10 June 2023. Where documents were submitted to more than one intergovernmental body or committee, they were considered only once, by the higher body. The same methodology has now been used for more than 12 years, and the analysis of trends therefore gives a comprehensive view of change over time. Because the present report is prepared on a biennial basis, data from the seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh sessions of the Assembly and the 2021 and 2022 sessions of the Council and its functional commissions have been included in the analysis, tables and figures, as applicable.

4. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic continued to have an impact on the business continuity of intergovernmental processes during parts of the period under review. During the seventy-sixth session, informal meetings, including consultations on draft resolutions, continued to be held online. The seventy-seventh session saw the return to pre-pandemic working methods and fully in-person arrangements.

## A. Methodology

5. The documents reviewed for the present report were examined for evidence of the incorporation of a gender perspective, as determined by the presence of keywords including gender, sex, woman, man, girl, boy, widow, female, male, feminization, menstruation, sexual, reproductive, pregnant/pregnancy, maternal/maternity and rape (as well as their plural forms). Documents containing at least one occurrence of a keyword were considered to include a gender perspective. False positive results, such as “man-made disaster”, were discounted.

6. The selected words indicated above are those most often found in reports and/or resolutions that address issues related to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Documents that passed through the first filter were analysed in depth in order to assess the extent to which they reflected a gender perspective, including by analysing the quantity, quality and placement of such references within each document. For further details, see section C, “In-depth analysis”.

## B. Quantitative findings

7. In total, 248 reports of the Secretary-General and 313 resolutions adopted by the intergovernmental bodies whose work was reviewed<sup>1</sup> were considered for the present analysis. As at 10 June 2023, the General Assembly alone had considered 221 reports of the Secretary-General and adopted 284 resolutions. At its 2022 session, the Economic and Social Council considered six such reports and adopted 25 resolutions. The functional commissions, excluding the Commission on the Status of Women, considered 21 such reports and adopted four resolutions. The intergovernmental bodies under analysis therefore had many opportunities to incorporate a gender perspective into their work.

Table 1  
Reports and resolutions, 2017–2022

Body	Reports						Resolutions					
	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
General Assembly	221	216	222	233	243	231	284	267	283	277	298	279
Economic and Social Council	6	9	8	8	7	11	25	31	23	34	30	32
Functional commissions	21	33	23	30	35	32	4	6	6	14	17	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>328</b>

8. Table 1 illustrates the trends over time in the number of reports and resolutions per body, from 2017 to 2022.<sup>2</sup> The total number of reports submitted has varied somewhat over the preceding six years but shows a declining trend overall. The total number of resolutions adopted by all bodies in 2022 was comparable with that of

<sup>1</sup> The intergovernmental bodies whose work was reviewed are the following: the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, namely the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Statistical Commission, the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission for Social Development and the United Nations Forum on Forests. The Commission on the Status of Women was not included owing to its exclusive focus on gender equality issues.

<sup>2</sup> Information for the period 2015–2020 is contained in the previous report (A/76/185).

2020. Reports submitted to and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly continue to make up the vast majority of all documents included in the analysis.

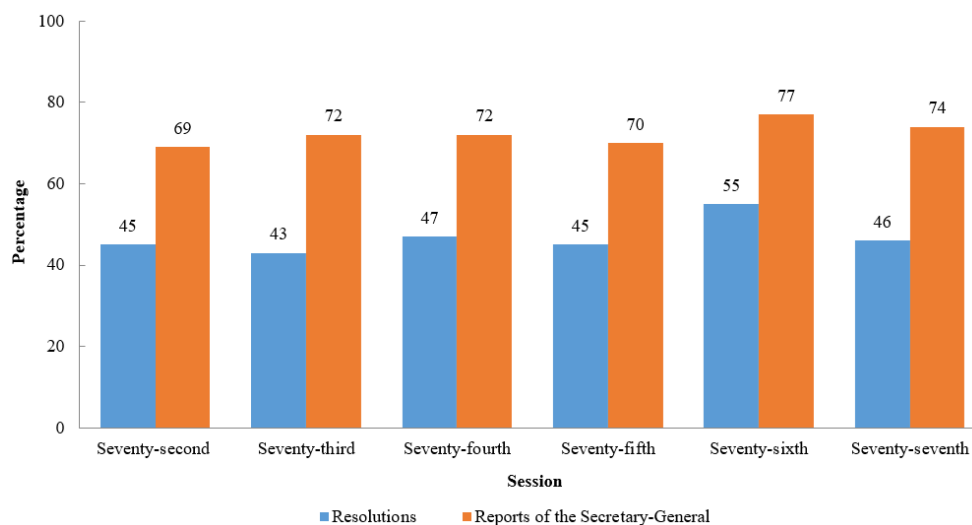
9. The General Assembly, at its seventy-sixth session, adopted six resolutions focused exclusively on gender equality issues, namely resolution [76/140](#) on the improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas, resolution [76/141](#) on violence against women migrant workers, resolution [76/142](#) on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, resolution [76/146](#) on the girl child, resolution [76/252](#) on addressing the situation of widows and resolution [76/304](#) on international cooperation for access to justice, remedies and assistance for survivors of sexual violence. At its seventy-seventh session, the Assembly adopted six such resolutions, namely resolution [77/55](#) on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, resolution [77/181](#) on women in development, resolution [77/193](#) on intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: gender stereotypes and negative social norms, resolution [77/194](#) on trafficking in women and girls, resolution [77/195](#) on intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation, and resolution [77/196](#) on intensification of efforts to end obstetric fistula.

10. The Economic and Social Council continued its practice of adopting an annual resolution on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (resolution [2022/18](#)). The Council also adopted two resolutions recommended by the Commission on the Status of Women, namely resolution [2022/4](#) on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women and resolution [2022/5](#) on the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. Although it is crucial that intergovernmental bodies address gender equality issues in a targeted and focused manner, it is equally important that a gender perspective be mainstreamed across all areas of work.

## 1. General Assembly

11. Figure I illustrates that the percentage of reports of the Secretary-General that include a gender perspective tends to fluctuate. The percentage at the seventy-seventh session was four percentage points higher than at the seventy-fifth session, although it remained lower than its peak of 77 per cent at the seventy-sixth session. The overall percentage of Assembly resolutions that incorporated a gender perspective increased by one percentage point at the seventy-seventh session compared with the seventy-fifth, although the percentage of resolutions also failed to reach the peak of 55 per cent at the seventy-sixth session, showing that the pattern of fluctuation continues.

Figure I  
Percentage of General Assembly documents that include a gender perspective



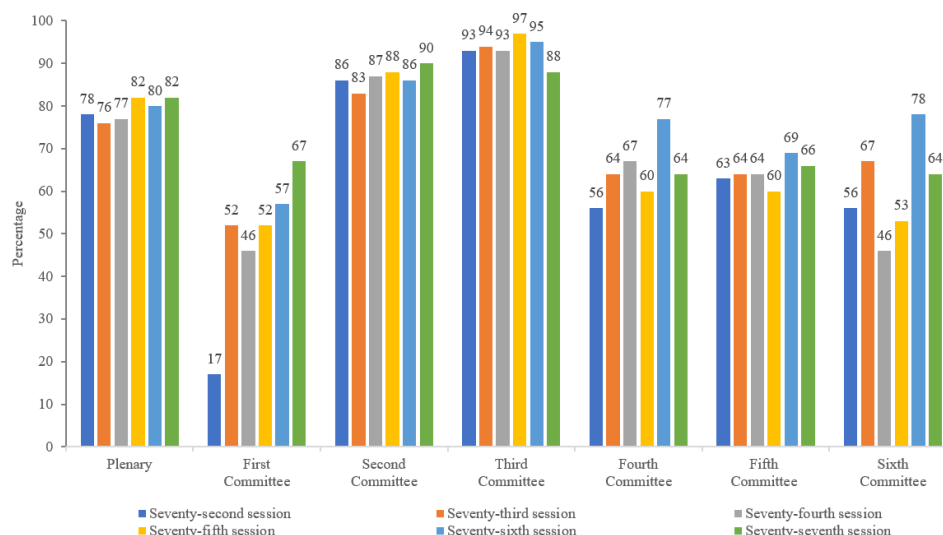
(a) **Reports of the Secretary-General**

12. Reports of the Secretary-General support intergovernmental discussions and can inform resolutions adopted by intergovernmental bodies. Of the 221 such reports submitted at the seventy-seventh session, 164 (74 per cent) included a gender perspective (see table 2), an increase of 4 percentage points compared with the seventy-fifth session (see figure I). The relatively high percentage indicates that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are considered across a broad range of substantive areas.

Table 2  
**Reports of the Secretary-General submitted at the seventy-seventh session that include a gender perspective**

<i>Body</i>	<i>Number of reports</i>	<i>Reports that include a gender perspective</i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Plenary	39	32	82
First Committee	30	20	67
Second Committee	29	26	90
Third Committee	25	22	88
Fourth Committee	11	7	64
Fifth Committee	73	48	66
Sixth Committee	14	9	64
<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>74</b>

**Figure II**  
**Reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly that include a gender perspective, by body**



13. Between the seventy-fifth and seventy-seventh sessions, eight more reports of the Secretary-General included a gender perspective, representing an increase from 70 to 74 per cent. This improvement can be attributed to an increase in such reports submitted to the First Committee (Disarmament and International Security), Second Committee (Economic and Financial), Fourth Committee (Special Political and Decolonization), Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) and Sixth Committee (Legal), by 15, 2, 4, 6 and 11 percentage points, respectively (see figure II). The First and Second Committees reached their highest ever percentages. In contrast, reports submitted to the Third Committee that included a gender perspective decreased by 7 percentage points at the seventy-seventh session, reaching its lowest percentage in recent years. The proportion of reports integrating a gender perspective submitted to the plenary remained the same (82 per cent).

**(b) Resolutions**

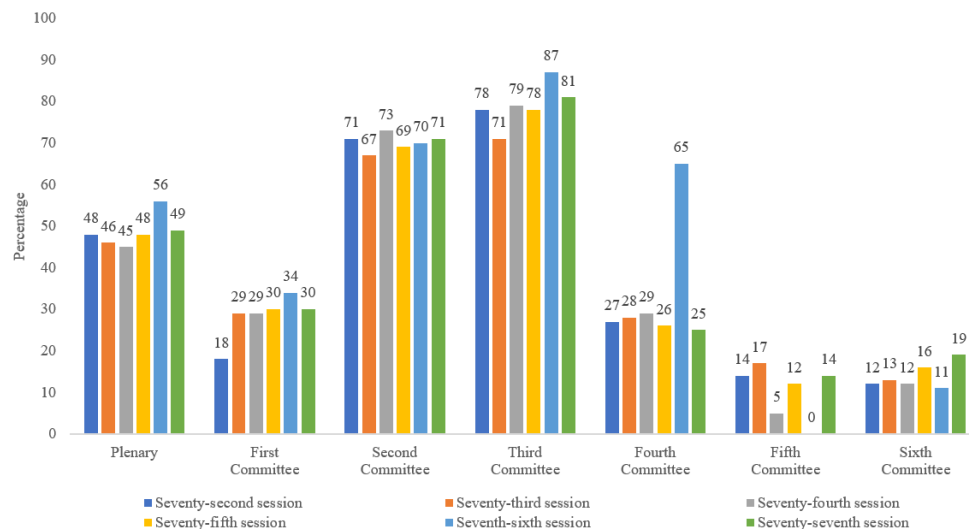
Table 3

**General Assembly resolutions adopted at the seventy-seventh session that include a gender perspective**

Originating body	Number of resolutions	Percentage of total resolutions	Resolutions that include a gender perspective	
			Number	Percentage
Plenary	49	17	24	49
First Committee	67	24	20	30
Second Committee	41	14	29	71
Third Committee	53	19	43	81
Fourth Committee	32	11	8	25
Fifth Committee	21	7	3	14
Sixth Committee	21	7	4	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>46</b>

14. In total, 46 per cent of the 284 resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session (131 resolutions) included a gender perspective, compared with 45 per cent (127 resolutions) at the seventy-fifth session. That 46 per cent figure is on par with previous years and below the all-time high of 55 per cent for such resolutions, reached at the seventy-sixth session.

Figure III

**Resolutions of the General Assembly that include a gender perspective, by body**

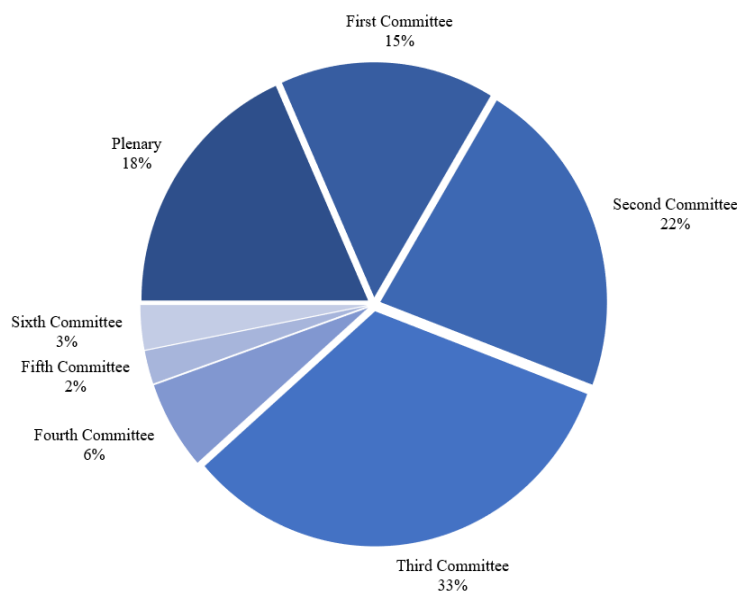
15. The proportion of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective increased among resolutions adopted in most of the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly between the seventy-fifth and seventy-seventh sessions (see table 3 and figure III). As in previous years, the proportion of such resolutions was highest in the Second Committee (71 per cent) and the Third Committee (81 per cent), representing an increase of 2 and 3 percentage points, respectively, compared with the seventy-fifth session.

16. As in previous years, in the plenary and the First, Second, Third and Fourth Committees, comparatively more resolutions were adopted, while fewer resolutions were adopted by the Fifth and Sixth Committees, which affects the proportional increase in the share of resolutions that incorporate a gender perspective (see table 3). There was a decrease in the total number of resolutions adopted at the seventy-seventh session, compared with the seventy-fifth session, by the plenary (18 fewer), Fourth Committee (2 fewer) and Sixth Committee (2 fewer). There was an increase in the number of resolutions adopted by the First Committee (six more), Second Committee (six more), Third Committee (three more) and Fifth Committee (four more).

17. Figure III illustrates trends over the previous six sessions in the share of resolutions of the General Assembly that include a gender perspective. From the seventy-fifth to the seventy-seventh session, the most notable increases occurred in the Fifth and Sixth Committees, in which the percentage of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective increased from 0 to 14 per cent and 11 to 19 per cent, respectively, with the Sixth Committee reaching a new all-time high. The percentages in the plenary and the First, Second, Third and Fourth Committees fell short of their highest levels. Together, the Assembly in plenary and the First, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Committees adopted approximately two thirds of all resolutions. Several of those bodies have yet to approach the 50 per cent mark in terms of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective, which suggests that there is a significant opportunity for increased attention to the matter.



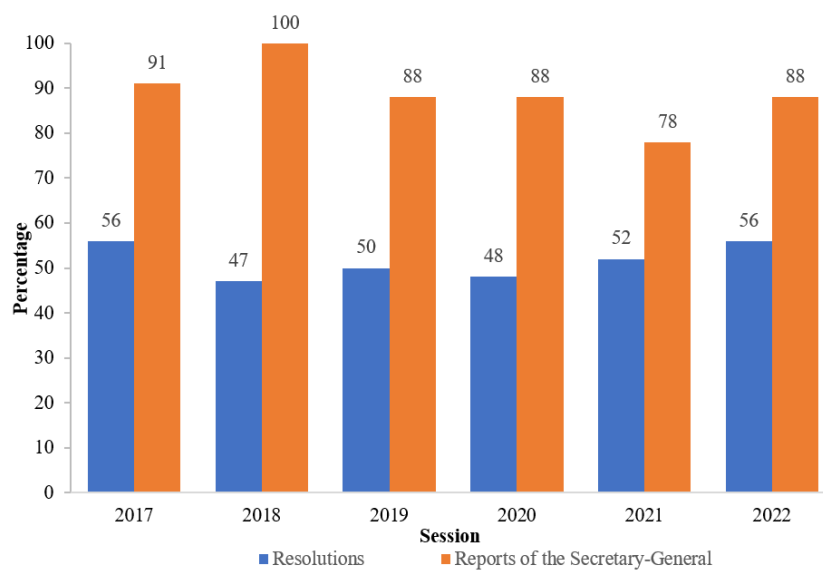
Figure IV  
**Origin of all General Assembly resolutions adopted at the seventy-seventh session that include a gender perspective**



18. Figure IV illustrates that the Third Committee continues to contribute the largest share of resolutions with a gender perspective, accounting for 33 per cent of the total. The Second and Third Committees combined contribute over half of all resolutions that include a gender perspective. Overall, the contributions by the Committees remain uneven, and significant additional opportunities remain for a more effective and consistent incorporation of a gender perspective, in terms of both coverage and quality, into their work.

## 2. Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions

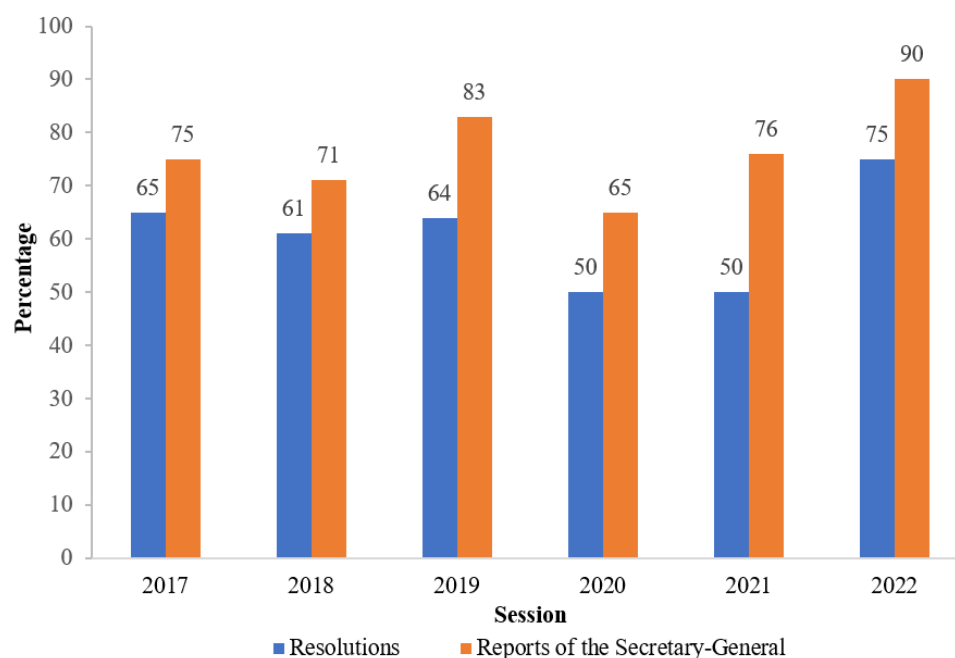
Figure V  
**Economic and Social Council documents that include a gender perspective, 2017–2022**



19. Figure V illustrates the inconsistent trend in the work of the Economic and Social Council in incorporating a gender perspective into its resolutions. The percentage of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective increased from 48 per cent in 2020 to 56 per cent in 2022, a peak last achieved in 2017. In 2022, the percentage of reports of the Secretary-General inclusive of a gender perspective submitted to the Council was 88 per cent, down 12 percentage points from the record high of 100 per cent in 2018. In absolute terms, the number of reports in 2018 was seven, compared with six in 2022. It should be noted that the sample size for the analysis, as in previous years, is small (six reports in 2022) (see table 1), which results in a significant fluctuation in the percentage from year to year.

Figure VI

**Documents of the functional commissions that include a gender perspective, 2017–2022**



20. Figure VI illustrates an increase of 25 percentage points in the proportion of resolutions adopted by functional commissions that contain a gender perspective, from 50 per cent in 2020 to 75 per cent in 2022. However, it should be noted that the absolute number of resolutions remained the same at these two sessions (3 resolutions with a gender perspective). The figure also shows an increase in the proportion of reports of the Secretary-General submitted to functional commissions that include a gender perspective, from 65 per cent (15 reports) in 2020 to 90 per cent (19 reports) in 2022.

**(a) Reports of the Secretary-General**

Table 4

**Reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions that include a gender perspective, 2022**

<i>Body</i>	<i>Total number of reports</i>	<i>Reports that include a gender perspective<sup>a</sup></i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Economic and Social Council	6	5	83
Functional commissions of the Council	21	19	90
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	5	5	100
Commission on Narcotic Drugs	–	–	–
Commission on Science and Technology for Development	2	2	100
Statistical Commission	8	6	75
Commission on Population and Development	3	3	100
Commission for Social Development	3	3	100
United Nations Forum on Forests	–	–	–

<sup>a</sup> Results do not include the Commission on the Status of Women, owing to its exclusive focus on gender equality issues.

21. As in the case of the General Assembly, reports of the Secretary-General submitted to the Economic and Social Council included a gender perspective at a higher rate than the resolutions (see table 4 and figures V and VI). In 2022, five of the six reports (83 per cent) submitted to the Council integrated gender equality issues.

22. Of the 21 reports submitted by the Secretary-General to the functional commissions in 2022, 19 reports (90 per cent) reflected a gender perspective (see figure VI and table 4), a record high. All reports submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Population and Development and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development included a gender perspective. Of the reports submitted to the Statistical Commission, 75 per cent included a gender perspective, which is a significant increase from 40 per cent in 2020.

**(b) Resolutions**

Table 5

**Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions that include a gender perspective, 2022**

<i>Originating body</i>	<i>Total number of resolutions</i>	<i>Resolutions that include a gender perspective<sup>a</sup></i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Economic and Social Council	25	14	56
Functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council	4	3	75
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	–	–	–
Commission on Narcotic Drugs	4	3	75
Commission on Population and Development	–	–	–
Commission for Social Development	–	–	–

<i>Originating body</i>	<i>Total number of resolutions</i>	<i>Resolutions that include a gender perspective<sup>a</sup></i>	
		<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Commission on Science and Technology for Development	–	–	–
Statistical Commission	–	–	–
United Nations Forum on Forests	–	–	–

<sup>a</sup> Results do not include the Commission on the Status of Women, owing to its exclusive focus on gender equality issues.

23. In 2022, the Economic and Social Council adopted 25 resolutions (see table 5), two more than in 2020.<sup>3</sup> Fifty-six per cent were inclusive of a gender perspective, representing an increase of 8 percentage points compared with the Council's 2020 session (see figure V and table 5). The percentage of Council resolutions in which gender-related issues were considered therefore continued to fluctuate.

24. Eleven of the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council that include a gender perspective were initially drafted by the functional commissions, namely the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (three), the Commission for Social Development (two), the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (two), the Commission on the Status of Women (two), the United Nations Forum on Forests (one) and the Statistical Commission (one), and were recommended for adoption by the Council. Those resolutions constitute 64 per cent of the Council's resolutions that include a gender perspective, which confirms the critical importance of the functional commissions in the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of the Council. Of the 12 resolutions originating from the Council, only 5 contain a gender perspective, which indicates that there are opportunities for increased attention to be paid to gender-related issues.

25. The number of resolutions adopted by each of the functional commissions has varied greatly. In 2022, the majority of the functional commissions only adopted decisions or prepared draft resolutions for action by the Economic and Social Council. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs was the only functional commission to adopt resolutions, 75 per cent of which included a gender perspective.

26. As in previous years, the work of the Commission on the Status of Women was not included in the analysis in order to avoid biased results. During the biennium 2021–2022, the Commission further strengthened the global normative framework for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. Its work was instrumental in the accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Commission adopted two resolutions and submitted two draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council.

### C. In-depth analysis

27. The level of attention given to gender equality issues and the placement of references to such issues within reports and resolutions provide an indication of the importance given to the incorporation of a gender perspective. In-depth analysis suggests that reports and resolutions often vary greatly in the level of attention given to gender-related issues. Corresponding data from the seventy-fifth session of the

<sup>3</sup> Draft resolutions of functional commissions submitted for action by the Economic and Social Council or the General Assembly through the Council are counted once, under the body that finally adopts them.

General Assembly and the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council, which are used as the main point of comparison throughout the analysis, are available in the previous report (A/76/185).

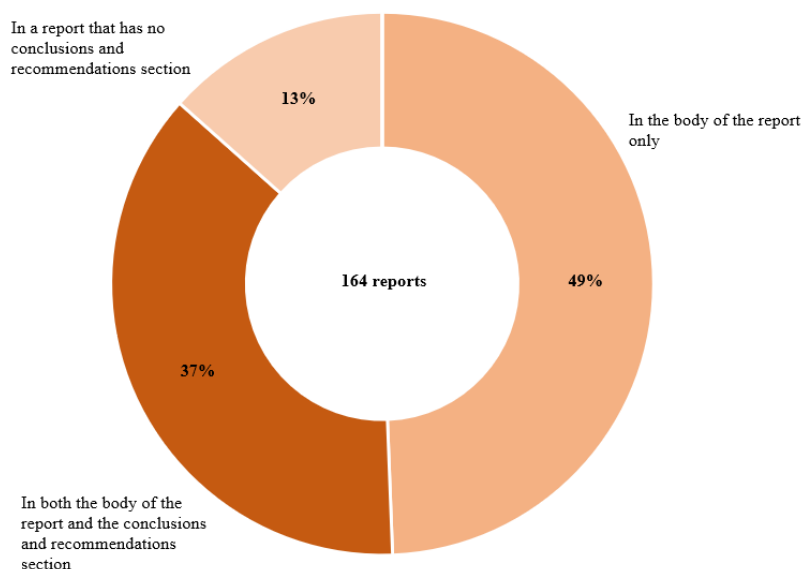
## 1. Placement of references to gender-related issues

28. The reflection of a gender perspective throughout intergovernmental documents could increase the likelihood of follow-up actions. More attention is drawn to gender equality issues in the reports of the Secretary-General when such references are included not only in the body of the report but also in the conclusions and recommendations. Likewise, the emphasis on gender equality issues in resolutions is stronger when those issues are referred to in both the preambular and operative part and when a specific action or commitment to address the gender-related issue under consideration is included.<sup>4</sup>

### (a) Reports of the Secretary-General

Figure VII

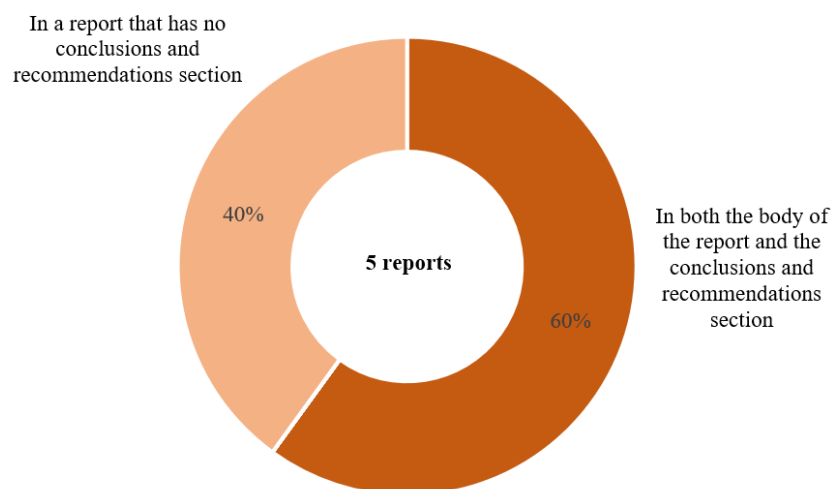
#### Placement of references to gender-related issues in reports of the Secretary-General at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly



29. An analysis of the placement of the relevant references in the 164 reports of the Secretary-General inclusive of a gender perspective indicates that the largest proportion of reports (49 per cent) contained dedicated attention to gender-related issues only in the body of the document. That figure is 12 percentage points higher than in 2020. The proportion that contained dedicated attention to gender-related issues in both the body of the report and the conclusions and recommendations section was 5 percentage points higher than in 2020, at 37 per cent, indicating that there has been improvement in the inclusion of a gender perspective in both parts of reports. A total of 13 per cent of reports into which a gender perspective had been integrated had no separate section on conclusions and recommendations, a decrease of 18 percentage points since 2020 (see figure VII).

<sup>4</sup> In line with previous practice, an assessment of the placement of references to gender-related issues was not carried out for documents of the functional commissions.

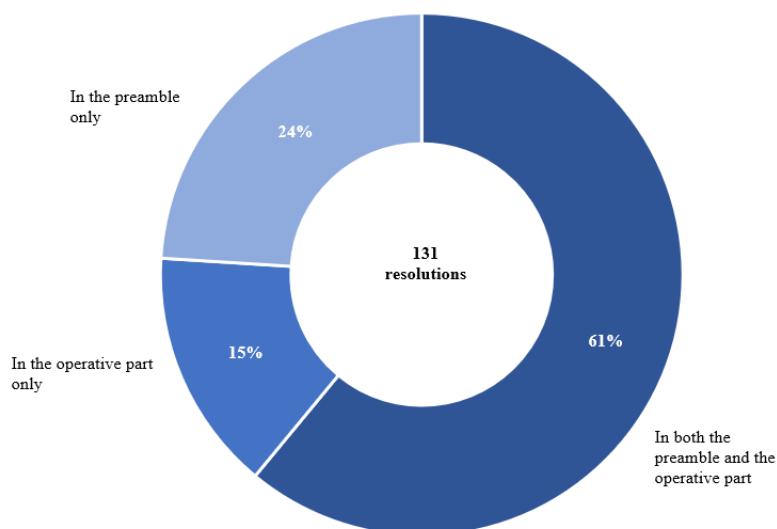
Figure VIII  
**Placement of references to gender-related issues in reports of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council in 2022**



30. As illustrated in figure VIII, of the five reports inclusive of a gender perspective that were submitted to the Economic and Social Council in 2022, three (60 per cent) contained references in both the body of the report and the conclusions and recommendations section, up from two (29 per cent) in 2020, which is a positive trend. Two (40 per cent) had no separate conclusions and recommendations section, down from three (57 per cent) in 2020. There were no reports that had references to gender in the body of the report only, down from one (14 per cent) in 2020.

**(b) Resolutions**

Figure IX  
**Placement of references to gender-related issues in resolutions adopted at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly**

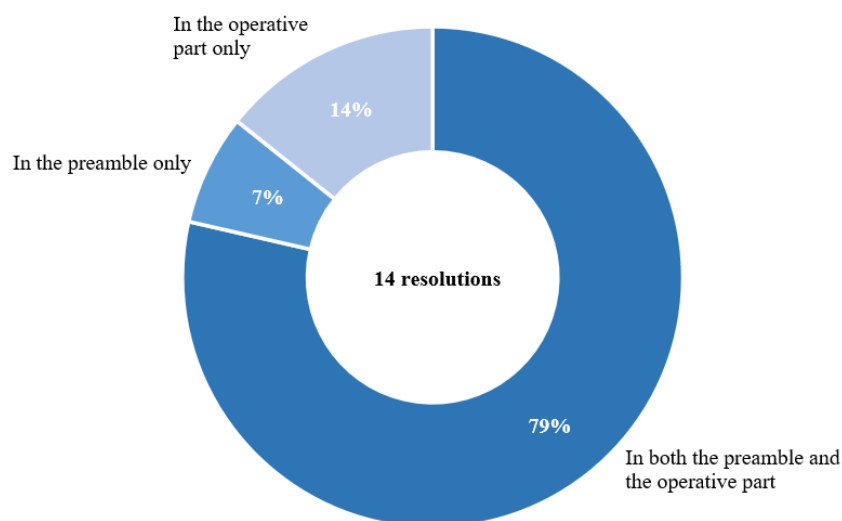


31. The analysis of the placement of gender-specific references in resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Economic and Social Council revealed that such references were most frequently included in both the preamble and the operative part (see figures IX and X).

32. Of the 131 resolutions adopted at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly that were inclusive of a gender perspective, 61 per cent included references in both the preambular and operative paragraphs (see figure IX), a slight decrease of 2 percentage points compared with the seventy-fifth session. This indicates that there is a need for further improvement in this area. Twenty-four per cent of the resolutions contained gender-specific references solely in the preamble, which is on par with the seventy-fifth session. Fifteen per cent included a gender perspective in the operative part only, up from 13 per cent at the seventy-fifth session. The decrease in the number of resolutions with references in both the preambular and operative paragraphs indicates that opportunities should be sought by the Assembly and its Main Committees at the seventy-eighth and future sessions to include a gender perspective throughout all resolutions.

Figure X

**Placement of references to gender-related issues in resolutions of the Economic and Social Council in 2022**



33. Of the 14 resolutions (see figure X) inclusive of a gender perspective that were adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 2022 (56 per cent of the total number of resolutions adopted by the Council that year), 11 resolutions (79 per cent) contained a gender perspective in both the preamble and the operative part, an increase of 34 percentage points compared with 2020. Meanwhile, two resolutions had gender-related references in the operative part only. One resolution (7 per cent) contained a gender perspective in the preamble only. The increase in resolutions with a gender perspective in both the operative and preambular parts is a positive trend that should be continued.

## 2. Qualitative assessment

### Methodology

34. Although a gender perspective may be reflected in key sections of a report or resolution, its impact depends on the strength of the analysis and language used. To assess that strength, reports of the Secretary-General and resolutions were reviewed

against two qualitative variables, namely the coverage of gender equality issues and the quality of the gender equality analysis.

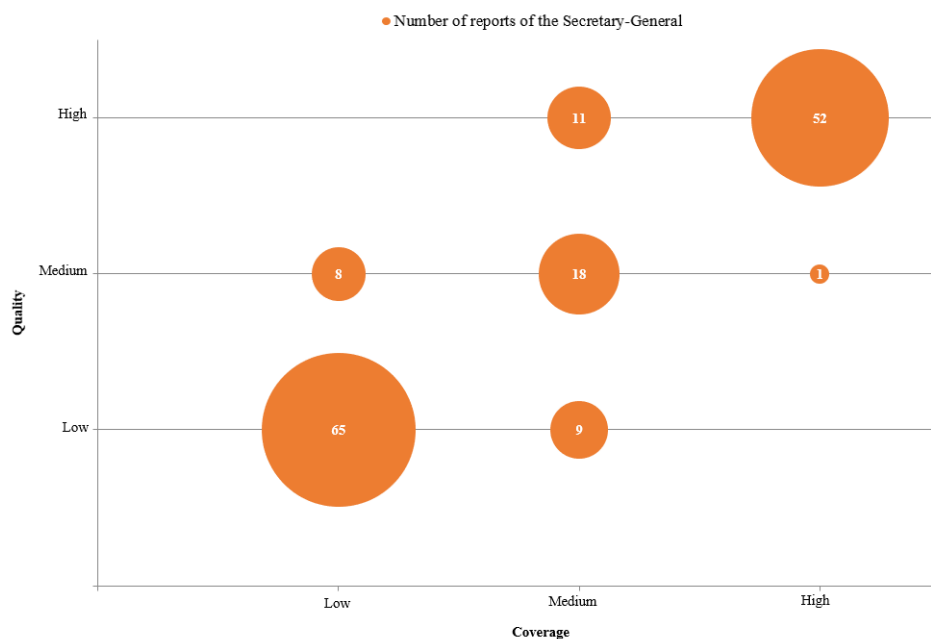
35. Reports that included a specific section on gender-related issues and several references throughout the rest of the report were considered to have a high level of coverage, whereas a single reference or a few short references were defined as a low level of coverage, with medium coverage falling somewhere in between. In the quality analysis of reports, cursory references such as “including women” were characterized as low quality, whereas reports that provided precise facts and evidence, including quantitative data disaggregated by sex and/or explicit gender analyses, ranged from medium to high quality. Assessing the quality of such reports is an important step towards differentiating cursory references to gender-related terminology from more substantive analyses of gender equality issues.

36. Resolutions were analysed against one variable only and categorized as having a low, medium or high level of focus on gender equality issues. Resolutions that included a single or a few passing references were considered to have a low level of focus. Resolutions with a high level of focus on gender-related issues were identified by the occurrence of keywords in several paragraphs and the inclusion of specific language on the situation and needs of women and girls and/or men and boys.

(i) *Reports of the Secretary-General*

Figure XI

**Coverage and quality of gender equality references in the reports of the Secretary-General at the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly that include a gender perspective, by frequency**



37. The distribution of the reports of the Secretary-General across the two variables of quality and coverage, as illustrated in figure XI, demonstrates the wide variation in both the coverage of gender equality issues and the characteristics of those references. There tended to be a correlation between coverage and quality: reports in which little space was devoted to gender equality issues were also likely to have only superficial references, whereas reports with extensive coverage tended to include more detailed information and deeper analysis.



38. At the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, 52 reports (32 per cent) of the 164 that incorporated a gender perspective were rated as having high levels of coverage and quality, an increase compared with the seventy-fifth session, which had 44 reports (28 per cent) rated as having high levels of coverage and quality. A total of 18 reports (11 per cent) make up the cluster at the centre of figure XI, indicating medium levels of coverage and quality; at the seventy-fifth session, 25 reports (16 per cent) were in that category. The largest cluster of reports in figure XI is the group of 65 rated as having low levels of coverage and quality, accounting for 40 per cent of the total number of reports inclusive of a gender perspective. The corresponding cluster at the seventy-fifth session comprised 53 reports (34 per cent).

39. In the smaller clusters outside of those with a direct correlation between coverage and quality, namely the low-medium, high-medium, medium-low and medium-high clusters, some changes can be observed. The number of reports with medium coverage and high quality decreased to 11 reports (8 per cent) at the seventy-seventh session, compared with 14 at the seventy-fifth session. In the group of reports with low coverage and medium quality, there was also a decrease from 14 reports (9 per cent) to 8 (5 per cent). There was a slight increase in the number of reports with medium coverage and low quality, from six reports (4 per cent) to nine (5 per cent). Taken together, the absolute number of reports rated high-high, high-medium or medium-high increased from 58 to 64, an increase from 37 per cent to 39 per cent. The group of reports rated low-low, medium-low and low-medium remained the same in absolute numbers, with 73 reports, but decreased in proportion from 57 per cent to 45 per cent. The group of reports rated medium-medium decreased from 25 reports (16 per cent) to 18 (11 per cent).

40. For example, the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities ([A/77/213](#)) is considered to be of high quality and coverage because of the focus on sexual and gender-based violence, as well as on security and justice for women and girls. Another example of a highly ranked report is the report entitled “Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing” ([A/77/134](#)), as it explores the gender gap between older women and men with regard to technology through sex-disaggregated data and emphasizes the need to ensure equitable access to technology for both women and men. The report on eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([A/77/209](#)) is considered to be of high quality and coverage because it explores how women and girls are particularly affected by rural poverty and how they represent the largest proportion of the global poor population. Some reports improved significantly in terms of the quality and coverage of gender equality references compared with previous iterations. For example, the report on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa ([A/77/121](#)) ranked higher than previous iterations because of new gender analysis, including language on the women and peace and security agenda and a focus on gender mainstreaming in arms control.

41. Examples can also be found of reports that had previously ranked highly in terms of coverage and quality, but did not include a gender perspective at the seventy-seventh session, such as the report on the status of the human rights treaty body system ([A/77/279](#)). The report on the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent had previously ranked highly in terms of coverage and quality, but the report submitted at the seventy-seventh session ([A/77/333](#)) reflected a decrease in the integration of a gender perspective.

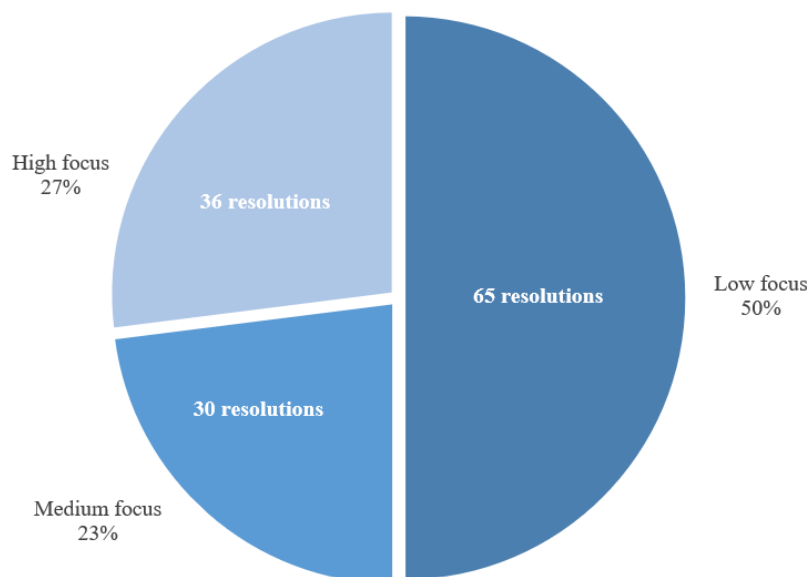
42. Overall, the findings of the qualitative assessment indicate that progress has been made in the integration of a gender perspective into reports of the Secretary-General, best illustrated by the increase in the percentage of reports with a high level of coverage and/or quality of gender analysis. However, the cluster of reports with a

low level of coverage and/or quality of gender analysis continues to comprise the largest share of reports inclusive of a gender perspective.

(ii) *Resolutions*

Figure XII

**Extent of focus on gender equality issues in the resolutions of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly that include a gender perspective**



43. The number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session that incorporated a gender perspective was 131 (see table 3), slightly higher than the 127 such resolutions adopted at the seventy-fifth session. As illustrated in figure XII, 27 per cent (36 resolutions) had a high level of focus on gender equality issues, which constitutes an increase compared with the seventy-fifth session (22 per cent, or 28 resolutions). The percentage of resolutions with a medium level of focus on gender equality issues decreased from 24 per cent (29 resolutions) to 23 per cent (30 resolutions). Meanwhile, the percentage of resolutions with a low level of focus on gender equality issues decreased from 54 per cent (69 resolutions) to 50 per cent (65 resolutions). The overall qualitative improvement is a positive trend that should be continued to ensure further gender mainstreaming in the resolutions of the Assembly.

44. Further analysis indicates that resolutions that included a gender perspective for the first time were more likely to contain cursory references only. On the other hand, resolutions that had contained a gender perspective at previous sessions were more likely to include a medium to high level of focus on gender-related issues. Results also indicate that, once a high level of focus is obtained in a given resolution, that focus tends to be maintained year on year. Going forward, the General Assembly and its Main Committees should continue to deepen the attention paid to gender equality issues.

45. Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly addressed gender equality issues in various ways, including through general calls to integrate a gender perspective into the area under consideration, recognition of the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the area under consideration, and recognition of gender-specific vulnerabilities and gender gaps. Some resolutions contained a call for the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in decision-making in the area

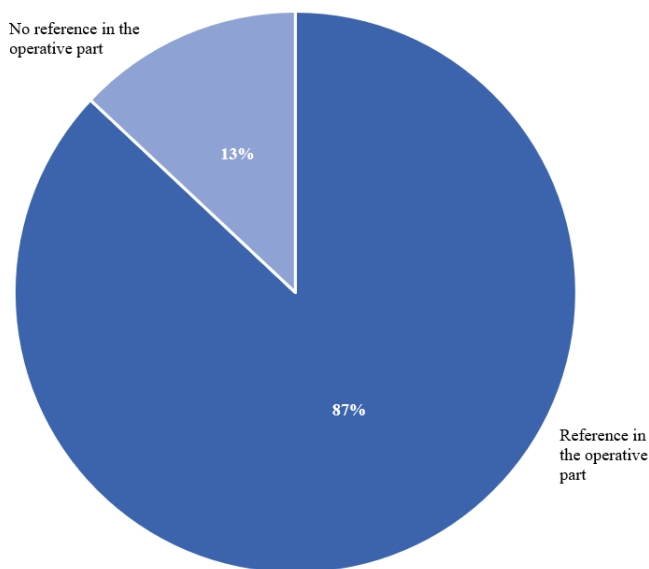
under consideration. There were also many calls for the gathering of data disaggregated by sex.

46. The above analysis revealed that several resolutions contained a high level of focus on gender equality issues. For example, in its resolution [77/160](#) on entrepreneurship for sustainable development, the General Assembly highlighted the importance of having women entrepreneurs in order to achieve sustainable development. Another resolution with a high level of focus on gender issues is resolution [77/55](#) on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control, in which the General Assembly calls for the promotion of the women and peace and security agenda and the inclusion of women in disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. In its resolution [77/28](#) on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, the Assembly recalled the disproportionate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls and expressed concern about the rise in sexual and gender-based violence during that time. It also reiterated the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance and integrate a gender perspective into all disaster risk reduction efforts.

47. The analysis identified examples of resolutions that positively increased their focus on gender issues compared with the previous year, such as General Assembly resolution [77/159](#) on enhancing the role of parliaments in accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which there was a significant increase in the integration of a gender perspective.

Figure XIII

**Placement of gender references in resolutions related to reports of the Secretary-General that contain references to gender in the conclusions and recommendations sections**

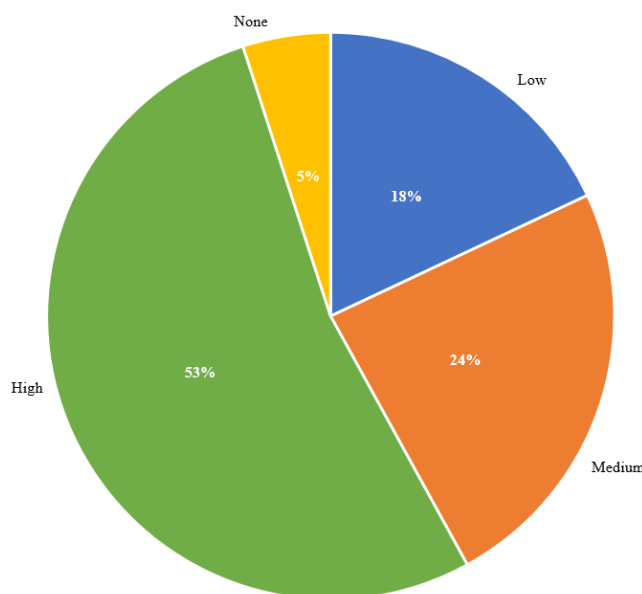


48. As indicated in figure VII on the placement of references to gender-related issues in reports of the Secretary General, 61 reports (37 per cent) had references to gender in the conclusions and recommendations sections. Thirty-eight of these reports led to resolutions on the same topic that were adopted by the General Assembly at the same session. A focused analysis of the placement and attention to gender in these related resolutions indicates some interesting links.

49. Figure XIII shows that of the resolutions related to reports that contained references to gender references in the conclusions and recommendations, 87 per cent (33 resolutions) had references to gender in the operative part of the resolution, while only 13 per cent (5 resolutions) did not. These numbers should be compared to figure IX, which indicates that of all General Assembly resolutions containing references to gender, 76 per cent contained such references in the operative paragraphs, while 24 per cent did not.

Figure XIV

**Extent of focus on gender equality issues in resolutions related to reports of the Secretary-General that contain references to gender in the conclusions and recommendations sections**



50. Figure XIV shows that the majority of resolutions associated with reports that contain references to gender in their conclusions and recommendations had a high level of focus on gender equality (coverage and quality), at 53 per cent, while 18 per cent had a low level of focus. This is a significant improvement compared with all Assembly resolutions containing references to gender, 27 per cent of which had a high level of focus and 50 per cent a low level of focus (see figure XII). These findings suggest a positive correlation between references to gender-related issues in the recommendations and conclusions of reports of the Secretary-General and good attention to gender in the related resolutions, including through action-oriented operative language.

### **III. Contribution by the United Nations Entity on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to the integration of a gender perspective into intergovernmental processes**

51. During the period under review, the United Nations Entity on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) continued to play the central role assigned to it by Member States in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, 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. It has responded to new and expanded guidance from Member States and supported the development of a comprehensive set of global norms, policies and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women (see [E/CN.6/2022/2](#) and [E/CN.6/2023/2](#)).

52. As in previous years, the provision of substantive support to the Commission on the Status of Women, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council and other intergovernmental bodies remained a central feature of the normative work of UN-Women, within the constraints created by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the aim of strengthening the integration of a gender perspective into the work and outcomes of those bodies, UN-Women continued to focus on synergies between achieving gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls, and the promotion of their human rights and progress in other areas of sustainable development. With the lingering impact of the pandemic threatening to undermine or even reverse gains in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, UN-Women has taken a leading role in responding to the crisis and offering sustainable gender-responsive solutions towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

53. UN-Women continued to support the General Assembly in its consideration of gender-specific agenda items and to strengthen the integration of a gender perspective into a range of resolutions. It also assisted in other processes, including the Economic and Social Council and its high-level political forum on sustainable development, and provided inputs to reports and policy papers covering a broad range of topics related to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

54. The Commission on the Status of Women remained a key focus of the normative support of UN-Women. As the substantive secretariat, UN-Women continued to support the Commission in its role as the principal intergovernmental policymaking body that sets global standards and formulates policy recommendations to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and their human rights worldwide. At its sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions, the Commission produced agreed conclusions on the respective priority themes: “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes” (see [E/2022/27-E/CN.6/2022/16](#)) and “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” (see [E/2023/27-E/CN.6/2023/14](#)). These outcomes built on the Secretary-General’s reports to the respective sessions and made critical contributions to the global normative framework on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the realization of their human rights by addressing some of the most pressing global challenges affecting the lives of women and girls.

55. At its sixty-sixth session, the Commission on the Status of Women also recommended two draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council: resolution [2022/4](#) on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women and resolution [2022/5](#) on the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. Both resolutions built on the report of the Secretary-General on ways and means to further enhance the impact of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women ([E/CN.6/2022/6](#)).

56. In its resolution [2022/5](#), the Economic and Social Council decided that at its sixty-ninth session, in 2025, the Commission on the Status of Women would undertake a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, including an assessment of current challenges that affect the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Platform for Action and the

achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through a gender perspective. The Council also called upon all States to undertake comprehensive national-level reviews of the progress made and challenges encountered in this regard and encouraged the regional commissions to undertake regional reviews. UN-Women will support these review processes through its regional and country offices.

57. At the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN-Women raised the profile of gender equality and leadership by women and girls in the context of climate action and response. At the twenty-seventh session, UN-Women provided technical support to parties during the negotiations on the draft decision on gender and climate change and the intermediate review of the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan, and engaged in a number of high-level and other events. As a result, the revised gender action plan included a proposal for a new activity, with the support of UN-Women, to enable dialogue between national gender and climate change focal points and other relevant stakeholders on how their work contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the plan.

#### **IV. Conclusions and recommendations**

58. **During the reporting period, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions continued their efforts to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as the enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls across the full spectrum of their work. The Assembly, at its seventy-eighth session, should seize the opportunity to further advance that commitment.**

59. **Progress in gender mainstreaming remains uneven among the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations that were reviewed. The proportion of reports of the Secretary-General inclusive of a gender perspective increased slightly. With regard to the General Assembly, the percentage of reports inclusive of a gender perspective reached a new peak at the seventy-sixth session. With regard to the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, results have fluctuated over the past eight years, likely owing to the small number of reports submitted to them, resulting in a small sample size.**

60. **The qualitative assessment of reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly indicates that the cluster of reports with high levels of coverage and/or quality of gender analysis increased to its highest level to date. These findings indicate a positive trend that should be built on to ensure the further strengthening of the quality of gender analysis and the inclusion of a gender perspective in conclusions and recommendations sections.**

61. **The percentage of General Assembly resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective reached a new peak at the seventy-sixth session. Although it decreased slightly at the seventy-seventh session, the percentage remained above the level reached at the seventy-fifth session. At the same time, resolutions categorized as having low levels of quality and coverage continued to comprise the largest share of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective and to increase disproportionately in relation to other categories.**

62. **The proportion of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective varied significantly across the Main Committees, with a majority of the Committees yet to achieve 50 per cent. The Economic and Social Council repeated its peak result**

of 56 per cent from 2017 in 2021. The functional commissions reached a record high with 90 per cent of resolutions inclusive of a gender perspective, although the low number of resolutions adopted in 2022 must be taken into consideration. There are therefore significant opportunities for greater attention to be paid to the incorporation of a gender perspective into the work of all intergovernmental bodies.

63. The analysis showed that General Assembly resolutions that built on reports of the Secretary-General that contained references to gender in the conclusions and recommendations sections were more likely to have a high level of focus on gender equality issues and were more likely to include action-oriented operative language in this regard. Accordingly, greater attention to gender-related issues in the conclusions and recommendations sections of reports of the Secretary-General should be encouraged.

64. UN-Women was able to provide effective normative support to intergovernmental processes and bodies. It will continue to support the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and other intergovernmental bodies, including as they strengthen the global normative framework for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, as well as the realization of their human rights.

65. The General Assembly may wish:

(a) To reiterate its call upon all intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system to fully mainstream a gender perspective into all items under their consideration and within their respective mandates;

(b) To urge all Governments and all other stakeholders to address gaps and challenges and take specific, measurable, time-bound and fully funded new actions for the accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in line with the commitments made in the political declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women;

(c) To commit itself to intensifying its own efforts to integrate a gender perspective into its work in plenary meetings and in its Main Committees, and to encourage the President of the General Assembly and the bureaux of its Main Committees to monitor progress in integrating a gender perspective into resolutions at each session;

(d) To call upon the Economic and Social Council to accelerate the inclusion of a gender perspective into its resolutions and to call upon the functional commissions to ensure that their resolutions, as well as draft resolutions prepared for action by the Council or the General Assembly, are inclusive of a gender perspective;

(e) To request author departments to take further steps towards ensuring that reports of the Secretary-General reflect gender analyses and to encourage further measures to improve the quality of such analysis, including through the use of data disaggregated by sex and age and the reflection of the contribution of women and girls as agents of change and of the impact of proposed policies and programmes on gender equality, rights and the empowerment of women and girls, and also encourage the inclusion of a gender perspective in the conclusions and recommendations of all reports prepared for intergovernmental bodies;

(f) To continue to strengthen the capacity of UN-Women to fully implement its normative support function, provide policy analysis, knowledge and evidence in support of intergovernmental deliberations, continue to raise

**awareness about opportunities to mainstream a gender perspective into the work of intergovernmental bodies and processes, and provide technical assistance on strengthening the integration of a gender perspective, in terms of coverage and quality, in resolutions and other outcome documents of intergovernmental bodies.**

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