



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
20 December 2023

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Sixty-eighth session

11–22 March 2024

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”

Statement submitted by Miss Caricom Int’l. Foundation CIP, INC, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

Miss Caricom International Foundation CIP INC, an organization dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowerment of women and girls worldwide, are deeply committed to addressing poverty and strengthening institutions through gender perspective. We firmly believe that gender equality is not only a fundamental woman right but also crucial for the overall development and progress for a sustainable future.

Globally women and girls encounter challenges that hinder their ability to fully participate and contribute effectively to the society. From the 4th world women conference, women were recognized as facing poverty, discrimination, violence, and lack of access to education, economic development and basic healthcare services which are only many of the barriers facing today's women. However, from Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, efforts have been geared towards addressing various issues confronting women. Most countries now have place and voice of women in office, others give women opportunity to handle issues concerning women in the country.

Today accelerating the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls have received positive successes which has placed women adequately not only in the global community but at national, and community. Great successes have been achieved in the efforts to accelerate the achievement of gender equality. It is essential therefore, that we accelerate the achievement of gender equality and empowerment by taking a comprehensive approach that addresses these multifaceted challenges on women and girls.

Secondly, addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective, poverty eradication is a necessary precondition for achieving gender equality. Poverty disproportionately affects women and girls, with women representing the majority of the world's poor. To address this disparity, we must implement policies and programs that promote economic empowerment, provide access to decent work, fair wages, and financial resources to women and girls. Furthermore, it is crucial to ensure that these initiatives are designed with a gender perspective, considering the specific needs and realities women face.

Thirdly, we must strengthen institutions to effectively address gender inequalities. This entails promoting women's active participation and leadership at all levels of decision-making, including political, economic, and social spheres. It is through the active involvement of women that we can ensure their needs and concerns are adequately represented and addressed. Additionally, we must invest in capacity-building measures and provide training opportunities that empower women and girls to be effective agents of change within their communities.

Financing with a gender perspective is essential in accelerating the achievement of gender equality and empowerment. Adequate resources must be allocated to national programs and initiatives that prioritize gender equality. This includes funding for education, healthcare services, and economic empowerment programs specifically tailored to women and girls. Furthermore, global financial institutions and development partners must incorporate gender mainstreaming into their policies and provide targeted financial support to countries with the greatest gender disparities.

In conclusion, Miss CARICOM Intl Foundation CIP Inc. commends the committed efforts of UN Women and the Member States towards acceleration on the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the past thirteen years and we further posits that more efforts should be enacted to address poverty and strengthen institutions through gender perspective.

Miss Caricom International Foundation CIP INC remains committed to working towards these goals through our programs that teach life skills to marginalized individuals in several countries. We are pleased to report that to date we have trained over two hundred thousand graduates and helped 20% of those to set up their own businesses, as we believe that to educate poverty, we must be self-sufficient.

We call upon all Member States, civil society organizations, and stakeholders to join hands in this journey to create a world where every woman and girl can thrive and realize their full potential.
