Seventy-eighth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 18
Sustainable development

Mexico: draft resolution

Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls for sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Welcoming and reaffirming the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, particularly through Sustainable Development Goal 5 and all its targets,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, by which it endorsed the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and reaffirming also its recognition that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and women’s full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to the achievement of sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, and the commitment to enable women’s equal access to decision-making processes and leadership,

Reaffirming also the Beijing Declaration1 and Platform for Action,2 and acknowledging the progress made since its adoption, and the international commitments made at relevant United Nations summits and conferences in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development3 and the key actions for its further implementation,4

Recalling its relevant resolutions on women in development and the resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women,

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2 Ibid., annex II.
4 Resolution S-21/2, annex.
Noting the importance of ensuring the respect, promotion and consideration of gender equality and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change\(^5\) and the Paris Agreement,\(^6\) in accordance with the enhanced Lima work programme on gender and its gender action plan, and recognizing that the full, meaningful and equal participation and leadership of all women, in particular those belonging to groups in situations of vulnerability, is vital for achieving long-term climate goals,

Recognizing that gender equality multiplies and accelerates the drivers of human progress, economic growth and sustainable development,

Deeply concerned that, halfway through the 2030 Agenda, the world is failing to achieve gender equality,

Recognizing that unpaid care and domestic work remains invisible, undervalued and unaccounted for in national statistics, and neglected in economic and social policymaking, and that women and girls, including adolescent girls, undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work from one generation to the next, as well as the need to adopt measures to reduce, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work by promoting the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men within the household and by prioritizing, inter alia, sustainable infrastructure, social protection policies and accessible, affordable and quality social services, including care services, childcare and maternity, paternity or parental leave,

1. Reaffirms that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, that the achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities, and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development\(^7\) is crucial;

2. Calls upon States to repeal all laws and policies that exclusively or disproportionately target or criminalize the actions or behaviour of women and girls, and laws and policies that discriminate against them on the basis of any grounds, including any custom, tradition or misuse of culture or religion, and to create accountability mechanisms to end impunity and prevent, eliminate and remedy the discriminatory application of the law;

3. Urges Member States to take comprehensive, multisectoral, coordinated, effective and gender-responsive measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls and to address structural and underlying causes and risk factors, including by:

   (a) Targeting diverse forms of violence against women and girls, involving women and men, and girls and boys, challenging deeply rooted harmful norms, and linking the multiple components and sectors that must respond to victims’ immediate and long-term needs, including for health services, education, skills building, access to the justice system and income support;

   (b) Combating all forms of violence, harassment and abuse against women and girls, including online;

   (c) Designing and implementing legislation and policies to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and harmful practices against all women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence, domestic violence, including intimate partner violence and marital rape, online violence, sexual harassment, gender-related

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\(^6\) See *FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1*, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

\(^7\) Resolution 70/1.
killing of women and girls, including femicide and female infanticide, child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, to ensure their full access to justice and to end impunity for such cases;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to promote a gender-equitable division of unpaid care and domestic work, bearing in mind that women spend 2.8 more hours than men on unpaid care and domestic work and that, on the current trajectory, the gap between the time spent by women and men on unpaid care will narrow slightly, but by 2050, women globally will still be spending 9.5 per cent more time or 2.3 more hours per day on unpaid care work than men;

5. *Urge*s Member States to ensure that women in all their diversity have leadership roles and seats at decision-making tables, bearing in mind that, at the current pace, women’s share of workplace management positions will reach only 30 per cent by 2050;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, as agreed in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences, by, inter alia:

   (a) Addressing biased social norms that deny women bodily autonomy;

   (b) Providing comprehensive sexuality education, access to modern contraceptives, and quality maternal health care;

   (c) Increasing the proportion of women and adolescents who make informed decisions on reproductive health;

   (d) Enacting laws on equal access to reproductive health care, information and education;

7. *Encourage*s Member States to prioritize women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including by investing in data and innovative research and analysis;

8. *Reaffirm* the commitment to women’s equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation, to the removal of all barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, and to the resolve to undertake legislative and administrative reforms to give women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology;

9. *Calls upon* Member States to take targeted measures to address the growing gender digital divide, including policies that promote universal digital learning and literacy and policies that support women’s equal participation in senior management positions, including in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics sectors;

10. *Urge*s Member States to promote empowering interventions that are comprehensive and well resourced and target gender inequality as a priority;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eightieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, a sub-item entitled “Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls for sustainable development”.