



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
13 December 2020

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Sixty-fifth session

15–26 March 2021

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 African Cultural Promotion Inc,
Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre, Heal the Land
Initiative in Nigeria, Irene Menakaya School Onitsha, Law
Explorer Development & Assistance Initiative, Leah Charity
Foundation, Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry, and
Women and Child Watch Initiatives, non-governmental
organizations 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

The 25 years of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action has paved way for many successes in the life of women and girls across the world. It created pathways for active participation of women in public and political services, killed greater percentage of cultural bias towards education of the girl child and triggered positive action in realization of gender equality and empowerment of women and girls.

Challenges were rooted in:

Gender Gaps

Cultural values and belief system

Religious bias

Domestic roles

Institutional marriage system

Family upbringing clues

Career intimidation and discrimination

These challenges hindered the totality involvement of women's full and effective participation and decision making in public service. With the 4th World Women Conference that led to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, United Nations took to set the pace on world women in public service and resolved to:

Implement existing and adopt new employment policies and measures in order to achieve overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by the year 2000, with due regard to the importance of recruiting staff on as wide a geographical basis as possible, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

Develop mechanisms to nominate women candidates for appointment to senior posts in the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

Continue to collect and disseminate quantitative and qualitative data on women and men in decision-making and analyze their differential impact on decision-making and monitor progress towards achieving the Secretary-General's target of having women hold 50 per cent of managerial and decision-making positions by the year 2000.

Member States through its Governments, national bodies, the private sector, political parties, trade unions, employers' organizations, sub regional and regional bodies, non-governmental and international organizations and educational institutions committed to advance the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action:

Provide leadership and self-esteem training to assist women and girls, particularly those with special needs, women with disabilities and women belonging to racial and ethnic minorities to strengthen their self-esteem and to encourage them to take decision-making positions;

Have transparent criteria for decision-making positions and ensure that the selecting bodies have a gender-balanced composition;

Create a system of mentoring for inexperienced women and, in particular, offer training, including training in leadership and decision-making, public speaking and self-assertion, as well as in political campaigning;

Provide gender-sensitive training for women and men to promote non-discriminatory working relationships and respect for diversity in work and management styles;

Develop mechanisms and training to encourage women to participate in the electoral process, political activities and other leadership areas.

(The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women Beijing, China – September 1995 Action for Equality, Development and Peace)

Further to the United Nations theme: “the future we want, the UN we need”. Reaffirming our collective commitment to multilateralism, and the assigned responsibility on Civil Societies to advocate at all levels to enable women to influence political, economic and social decisions, processes and systems, and work towards seeking accountability from elected representatives on their commitment to gender concerns, our organizations took to enact action across communities to create awareness about the need for full participation and effective presence of women to public service. Through their various initiatives, African Cultural Promotion Inc. through ACPI MUSICULTURE Project organizes Summit on African Lifestyle to promote cultural practices. African Cultural Promotions Inc. provides education on community understanding about Women participation in public life and campaigns for gender equality and empowerment of girls

Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (CISLAC) in its mission to strengthen the link between civil society and the legislature through advocacy and capacity building for civil society groups and policy makers on legislative processes and governance issues advocates to government, political parties to allow women inclusion in elected position on grounds of affirmative action. The organization works for national legislative engagement for women in all facet of development addressing gender balancing institutional strengthening, knowledge management systems and sustainable resource mobilization mechanisms for stronger organization.

Heal the Land Initiative in Nigeria (HELIN) enacts action on health of women in decision making and utilizes qualitative and compassionate services through promotion of good health, education and general development of women and girls in communities

Irene Menakaya School Onitsha through “My Child is My Pride Project” created Mothers Forum as platform to educate mothers about gender generation and equality as well as best practices in furthering action for women repositioning and status for community Development.

Law Explorer Development Initiative & Assistance Initiative (LEDIAI) enacted action on Gender Rights to address rights of women to decision making and Violence Against women. LEDIAI through Gender Rights has advocated for rights of women violated at work place and moved bill in the state legislative house to extreme violence against women.

LEAH Charity Foundation: Through the initiative on S.H.E work to fight against underdevelopment based on the Social Welfare, Health and Education and raises communal campaign to educate women on right to good health with strongly believe that the world can be a better place if every stakeholder contributes to eradicating the development deficits confronting women and girls across the world.

Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry utilizes its project on 1000 Women in Religion for Global Peace to educate women in religion about gender equality, provide education on UNSCR1325 and SDG16 and Targets to empower with knowledge about violence against women and management on peace in their community. Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry also advocate for rights of

women in decision making on religious matters and position in the community. The 1000 Women in Religion for Global Peace created community Marshalls as community advocates to minister to couples facing violence against women in various communities.

Women and Child Watch Initiatives considers women and girls as vital for development and utilizes:

Legal: protection and defence of the rights of women and children.

Health: free eye treatment and surgery for adult & children-, advocacy on prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS).

Education: Spelling Bee Competitions among Secondary Schools in Kwara State to advocate for women participation in developmental issues and girls education. WCWI use multi-pronged and consistent approach to advocate and promote laws, policies or practices that enhance the mental, physical and socio-economic status of women and children.

Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls

Our Organizations will, in responding to the mission of Commission on Status of Women 65th Session, seek to create platform that will work on women and girls to self-orient their mindset and help develop hidden ideas in the minds of women and girls that are worthy ideas that could benefit the:

Development Goals by 2030 in addressing gender equality across the world;

Address global appraisal of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

Provide call for action vehicle of delivery for the next 25 years of BDPA on women positions and leadership participation;

Build a network of civil society and non-government organizations for continuous promotion of women positions in the private and public sectors;

Build a legacy with lasting impact in the annals of history for the future the world wants for all women and the BDPA sustained outcome;

Highlights holistic approach methods for concrete actions with measurable outcomes to ensure comprehensive inclusion of women and girls in all round participation of women in Decision making, and elimination of violence against women and girls;

Enable opportunities for Global Peer collaboration and Gender Generation partnerships.
