



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on the Status of Women

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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 Chibuzor Human Resource Development  
Organization, Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre, Heal the  
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International, Law Explorer Development & Assistance Initiative,  
Leah Charity Foundation, Paradise Mission for Widows & Teenage  
Girls, Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry Inc, 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.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

Since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 26 years ago, efforts have been geared towards ensuring successes on gender equality across member states. Regional, National and community policies have included gender issues making commitments to successful implementation of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action BDPA on women and girls.

In a UN Women Press Release on Women's Rights in Review 25 years after Beijing", a comprehensive stock-take on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, which remains the most comprehensive agenda for gender equality ever agreed, the UN Women Executive Director, Madam Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka noted that despite some progress, no country has achieved gender equality. The report finds that progress towards gender equality is faltering, and hard-won advances are being reversed. Rampant inequality, the climate emergency, conflict and the alarming rise of exclusionary politics all threaten future progress towards gender equality. But progress has been far too slow and uneven:

- Globally, women continue to shoulder the bulk of unpaid care and domestic work, and are on average paid 16 per cent less than men, rising to 35 per cent in some countries.
- Nearly one in five women (18 per cent) have faced violence from an intimate partner in the past year. New technologies are fueling new forms of violence, such as cyber-harassment, for which policy solutions are largely absent.
- 32 million girls are still not in school.
- Women are largely excluded from peace processes, representing only 13 per cent of negotiators and only 4 per cent of signatories.

The emphasis, initiatives, and campaigns on women's right, gender equality has continued to advanced voices, policies and advocacy yet in 26 years of BDPA, women are yet to be inclusively positioned for actual gender equality in all spheres.

Africana Women Working Group at the United Nations, a membership group of NGOs in Special Consultative Status with Economic and Social Council have emphasized that women's inherent potentials are intimidated with violence, abuse, discrimination, and marginalization and these are hindrance to gender equality across nations. The impact of climate change affects women making them unable to voice their specific requirements in spite of women numerous responsibilities in the family, career, community, society and dependency to limited their access to natural resources. Women are denied full access to loans, education, and information. Potentials of women as agents of change for climate mitigation and adaptation remains untapped.

To retrace the mission of Africana Women Working Group at the UN, our organizations continue to emphasize their various missions on gender equality and empowerment of women especially in post COVID19 Recovery that our approach in the field of climate mitigation is the promotion of renewable energies that help to avoid greenhouse gas emissions. Not only are jobs created for women who can be engaged in the upkeep and maintenance of solar plants, but solar-powered lamps extending to productive available time.

In responding to the priority theme of the CSW66 Session on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies, and programs, Chibuzor Human Resource Development Organization (CHIDO) an effective and efficient charity and supporting organization in promoting and changing the lives of women,

children and youth in deprived communities in responding to the CSW66 priority theme envisions a just society where women, children and youth have equal opportunities and are empowered, and have equal economic, social and political opportunities for a sustainable world.

Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre CISLAC considers the need to engage government on gender equality issues for improved policy and legislative frameworks, transparency and accountability in governance for women-oriented development. At CSW66 Session the organization is focused to address Legislative Framework in achieving gender equality and empower women and girls adequately on environmental resources for sustainable economy.

Heal the Land Initiative in Nigeria (HELIN) envision qualitative and compassionate services through promotion of women's good health, education and general development needed for achieving gender equality and empowerment of women in communal development.

Irene Menakaya Schools Onitsha informs on progress in achieving gender parity in education but notes that girls still experience higher percentage of out-of-school, families with limited means who cannot afford costs on education prioritize education for sons instead. Irene Menakaya Schools emphasizes that achieving gender equality by the Decade of Action cannot be made possible if girls, aspiring women are not provided with enabling environment to education and continuous education development.

i-Smile International a Grassroot organization with the mission on empowering women with the knowledge, skills & self-confidence necessary to participate in the society as equals. I-Smile International is focused on gender integrity and "GENDATAINMENT" address and advocate for gender equality towards societal issues hindering women integrity in the society. Utilizing GENDATAINMENT to the Decade of Action especially toward men in leadership position will go a long way to enact action in a social environment to bring gender equality and empowerment of women to positive outcome.

Law Explorer Development and Assistance Initiative has maintained that gender equality cannot be possible without Gender Rights to national issues and participation. For gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs to be achieved, gender rights to participation, to national issues, gender rights to decision making and policies, gender rights to energy resources in the environment and gender rights to protection from climate action must be made possible for all women.

LEAH Charity Foundation is committed to raising awareness and spur affirmative action on issues affecting the survival and development of women and children, through a well-thought-out, realistic, and sustainable strategy. LEAH Charity Foundation is committed to gender equality and empowerment of women through social welfare, health and education of women repositioning their thought process to community development.

Paradise Mission for Widows & Teenage Girls advances the course of gender equality with respect to widows and teen girls. The organization has maintained gender equality success through its Widows Empowerment Outreach, Community Campaign for Girls Education, Widow-Elder Care Support and Community Widows Outreach Skills Fair.

Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministries continues to address the import of gender equality through its initiative on 1000 Women in Religion for Global Peace. The Organization advances the priority theme towards women in religion creating

opportunities for women in religion to the Development Agenda. Through Her Legacy Voice, the organization has taken issues of gender equality to legislative houses to bring attention on gender issues affecting women in religion to legislative attention.

Women and Child Watch Initiatives utilizes 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 through targeted intervention on issues of gender equality to influence government policy on gender equality and empowerment of women.

Our organizations in submitting group focused statement reintegrate;

Gender Equality promises remains unfulfilled and yet too slow to conclusion. Women still experience fewer opportunities for economic participation than men, less access to basic and higher education, greater health and safety risks, and less political and legislative representation, lack equal pay, women in science and technology face more challenges as they are denied equal pay and job opportunities, women are abused out of leadership and career positions.

Assuring the rights of women and giving them opportunities to reach their full potential has remained critical not only for attaining woman's sense of self-worth, her decision-making power, her access to opportunities and resources, her power and control over her own life inside and outside the home, and her ability to effect change but also her space as part of all-inclusive wide range of development goals from rural community.

Women's extensive academic and practical knowledge of the environment and resource conservation should be given due consideration, with concerns on pay equity towards environmental services such as reforestation. Their potential contribution to climate mitigation as part of the economic cycle should be positively exploited.

CSW66 Session priority theme should integrate overall concerns of all women and Member States should avail themselves to agree on practical strategies that could lead to the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women in the Decade of Action.

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