



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
5 December 2022

Original: English

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### **Commission on the Status of Women**

**Sixty-seventh session**

6–17 March 2023

**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 Intervention Council for Women in Africa, 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.

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\* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



## Statement

There is no gain saying that gender equality is important in technology. Having more women in higher positions can improve the social status of women and their treatment in society. We know that tech roles get some of the highest pay in the world, so higher inclusion of women can enable them to ensure a better economic position for themselves as well assist in poverty eradication.

Strategic efforts are required in creating empowered girls who will thrive in a digital world. That can only be feasible when girls have equal access to education, and technology as much as boys do. Beyond that, if digital environments are made safe for girls we shall see a good number of women and girls creating digital technology.

Even in the family, parents would rather allow the male children to fiddle with technical equipment rather than tolerate girls and their mothers getting close to tampering with any of it.

Addressing some of these social norms that affect women's full access and participation in technology could help close the gender digital divide.

Removing social barriers would allow women to thrive and even take on other rural women's equal economic rights, economic and digital empowerment and independence are essential to the achievement women's economic rights.

Digital technologies could help women access new markets, work flexibly and distantly, acquire and interact with customers, receive training and provide mentoring, improve financial autonomy and access finance for their ventures.

Social events and the nature of politics in many developing countries have necessitated that legislative reforms are imperative in realizing equal rights of women and girls to access economic and productive resources, including land and natural resources, property and inheritance rights as well as appropriate technology.

Financial products and services, including microfinance, and women's productive employment and decent work, in both agricultural and non-agricultural activities even in rural area taking into consideration the role of women as critical agents in the eradication of poverty and in enhancing sustainable agricultural and rural development.

Women were also more motivated to learn and better at communicating online and managing their learning tasks than men mostly because they can easily engage in digital communication from the privacy of their homes.

There is therefore no doubt that use technology, would also help close the digital gender divide.

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