



Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review

Bangkok, 27–29 November 2019

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the outcome document and report of the Conference

Asia-Pacific Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review

Preamble

1. We, the Ministers and representatives of members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, gathered at the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review, held in Bangkok from 27 to 29 November 2019, committed to accelerate efforts to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment and to **{realize ensure [Pakistan, Bangladesh; Islamic Republic of Iran, India]} women's {human [India; Fiji, Marshall Islands, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Australia, Philippines, Pakistan]}** rights for an equal future in Asia and the Pacific,

2. **{Reaffirming Recalling [Islamic Republic of Iran; Japan]}** the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action¹ and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,² as well as the commitments to **{women's {human [India; Australia, Bhutan, Japan]} rights, [Fiji, Australia, Bhutan, Japan]}** gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls made at relevant intergovernmental and United Nations summits and conferences and at the regional and global follow-up to those summits and conferences, which have laid a solid foundation for mutually reinforcing linkages between gender equality and sustainable development,

3. **Reiterating that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,³ the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁴ and the Optional Protocols thereto,⁵ as well as other relevant**

* ESCAP/MCBR/2019/L.1.

¹ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 2131, No. 20378; *ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and General Assembly resolution 66/138, annex.

conventions and treaties, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁶ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights⁷ and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,⁸ provide an international legal framework and a comprehensive set of measures for realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all women and girls, throughout their life cycle,

4. *Reaffirming* further the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,⁹ the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,¹⁰ the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action¹¹ and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,¹² as well as other international instruments relating to human rights, which are deemed to be universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and of the equal rights of men and women in their diversity, and emphasizing the responsibilities of all States to protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind on the basis of, inter alia, sex, {gender [Islamic Republic of Iran; Australia]} race, colour, ethnicity, language, marital status, religion, political opinion or other opinion, national or social origin, birth, disability, and HIV and AIDS as well as occupational, migrant, legal or other status,

5. *Recalling* further Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1612 (2005) of 26 July 2005, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009, 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013, 2117 (2013) of 26 September 2013 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 in which the Council addressed the issues of women, peace and security, the importance of ensuring the protection, rights and well-being of women and girls in all phases of conflict and in post-conflict settings, the equal participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution and in reconstruction and peacebuilding efforts, the inclusion of female ex-combatants in disarmament and demobilization programmes, the prosecution of those who commit crimes against women and girls and the requirement for reparations commensurate with the crimes inflicted on women and girls, [Philippines]

6. *Affirming* further the synergies between the 12 strategic objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that the means of implementation and partnerships are critical to ensure the full attainment of the goals, objectives and actions of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda, as set out in the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the

⁶ See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

⁹ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 48/104.

¹¹ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

¹² *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Pacific¹³ and the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment,¹⁴

7. *Recognizing* that women play a vital role as agents of development, 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 Sustainable Development Goals should be achieved for all nations and peoples and across all segments of society,

8. *Acknowledging* the advances made towards gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in Asia and the Pacific by Governments, particularly in the development, adoption and implementation of laws, regulations and policy frameworks, and with respect to education and health {**legal and justice services {and coordination of these services [India; Samoa]}**},

9. ***Welcoming* the major contributions made by civil society, including women's and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations and trade unions in placing the interests, needs and visions of women and girls, including those living in rural areas, on local, national, regional and international agendas, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing further the importance of open, inclusive and transparent engagement with civil society in the implementation of measures to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, [Philippines]**

10. ***Acknowledging* the importance and legitimate role of women human rights defenders and the protection of women's human rights, democracy, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and the need for appropriate, robust and practical steps to protect them, [Australia]**

11. *Noting* megatrends in Asia and the Pacific, including the rising inequalities within and between countries, the unprecedented pace of population ageing, the youth bulge, unplanned and rapid urbanization, the scale and multidimensional nature of migration, the high rates of informal and non-standard forms of employment, technological advancement, the high rates of unemployment among the young population, the unprecedented climate **{change-crisis, [Kiribati, Fiji; Russian Federation]}** the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, disasters and environmental degradation, and the increasing acts of **{violent [Russian Federation, India; Islamic Republic of Iran]}** {violence, [India; Islamic Republic of Iran]} extremism, **{and the threats of nuclear contaminants [Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Fiji; Russian Federation, Islamic Republic of Iran]}** all of which have a differentiated and disproportionate impact on women and girls,

12. *Expressing concern* that progress has not been consistent or even across the region, that multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, exploitation, marginalization, oppression and subordination of women and girls persist, and that the Asia-Pacific region needs to accelerate its progress to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

¹³ E/ESCAP/73/31, annex II.

¹⁴ Commission resolution 71/13, annex.

13. **Calling upon States to address discrimination based on multiple and intersecting factors which places women and girls at greater risk of exploitation, violence and abuse, and to take appropriate action to protect them and empower them to achieve full enjoyment of their human rights without discrimination, [Philippines]**

14. *Stressing* the urgent need to address intersectional barriers and the underlying gender inequalities prevailing in many countries, **{as well as {sex [Russian Federation] } {gender-based [India]} discrimination [Australia; Russian Federation]}**, including unequal access to and control of resources, opportunities, information and services, which undermine inclusive and sustainable development in the region, including in particular continuing low levels of women's labour force participation, a disproportionate number of women working in the informal economy and shouldering an unequal share of unpaid care work, the prevalence of gender-based violence and harmful practices, poor access to quality health services, and low levels of representation and participation in decision-making,

15. **Expressing grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of women is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the populations in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women and girls, [Islamic Republic of Iran]**

A call to action

16. *Call upon* Governments in Asia and the Pacific, with the support of all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to intensify actions to realize women's equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for an equal future by 2030 through the following actions, **{which are underpinned by the full achievement of sexual and reproductive health and rights, [New Zealand]}** broadly clustered under the following overarching dimensions of equitable and inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work; poverty eradication, social protection and social and public services; freedom from violence, stigma, harmful stereotypes and negative social norms; participation, social dialogue, accountability and gender-responsive institutions; peaceful and inclusive societies; environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building; data and statistics; and partnerships and regional cooperation **{and coordination [Papua New Guinea]}**;

16 bis Call upon Governments in Asia and the Pacific, supported by all relevant stakeholders, to intensify actions to realize women's equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for an equal future by 2030 through the following actions, broadly clustered under the following dimensions [Russian Federation];

Equitable and inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work

17. Ensuring women's economic empowerment and the full integration of women into the formal economy, and extending social and legal protection to women workers in the informal and non-formal economy by, inter alia:

(a) Ensuring that all people, in particular women and girls living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in alignment with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the

Third International Conference on Financing for Development¹⁵ and in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(b) Taking appropriate measures and removing obstacles to ensure that all women throughout their life cycle have equal opportunities for education, decent work and favourable conditions of work, including living wages and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, **{ an enabling work environment for {rural- [India]} women [Myanmar] }**, as well as equal opportunities to diversify their educational and occupational choices and career progression into emerging fields and growing economic sectors, such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and information and communications technology, as well as clean energy;

(c) Enacting or strengthening and enforcing laws and regulatory frameworks, enabling environments and policies that ensure substantive equality by upholding the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, prohibiting discrimination against women, in particular in the world of work, including labour exploitation, **{gender-based [Nepal, Myanmar; Islamic Republic of Iran]}** violence and **{sexual [Nepal]}{harassment [Bangladesh; India, Myanmar]}** violence **[Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Islamic Republic of Iran]}**, eliminating child labour **{in all its worst forms [Papua New Guinea; India]}**, protecting all workers regardless of work status and location, and ensuring equal access to justice and legal assistance;

(c bis) Enacting or strengthening and enforcing laws and regulatory frameworks, enabling environments and policies that ensure substantive equality by upholding the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, prohibiting discrimination against women, in particular in the world of work, including labour exploitation, **violence in all its forms, including gender-based violence, sexual violence and harassment**, protecting all workers regardless of work status and location, and ensuring equal access to justice and legal assistance;

(d) Encouraging Governments to sign and ratify the Violence and Harassment Convention 2019 (No. 190) on the elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work;

(e) Taking measures to facilitate the financial inclusion and financial literacy of women and their equal access to formal financial services, in particular for women entrepreneurs, to start, run and expand their businesses, throughout the supply chain, including by adopting or reviewing financial inclusion strategies, policies and laws, encouraging commercial banking systems and remittance service providers to better serve women, encouraging more private investment in women-owned and women-led businesses, and encouraging the use of innovative tools and platforms, while ensuring that attention is also paid to addressing the unintended consequences of some of the financial services, for example micro-credit schemes that can result in a double burden for women, and of gender-responsive macroeconomic policies;

(f) **Promoting a socially responsible and accountable private sector that engages as a reliable and consistent partner in the development process and takes into account not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of their undertakings, including by respecting principles and frameworks such as the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy”**

¹⁵ General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

Framework,¹⁶ the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, as well as labour, environmental and health standards, and the Women's Empowerment Principles established by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Global Compact;

(g) Recognizing the contribution of migrants, in particular women migrant workers, to global economic growth and sustainable development, by adopting and implementing national gender-responsive migration policies and legislation, facilitating, where feasible, the safe integration of women migrant workers into the labour market and their access to social protection, and supporting the sustainable, safe reintegration of returning migrant women and girls into their local communities;

{(g bis) Recognizing the important role and contribution of women in rural and remote areas as critical agents in the eradication of poverty and in enhancing sustainable agricultural and rural development, as well as sustainable fisheries; [Fiji, Australia; Islamic Republic of Iran]}

(h) Strengthening policies that support diverse economic activities, including smallholder agriculture, livestock and fisheries production, and that ensure improved productive capacities and incomes, with recognition for innovative work approaches in the various sectors, as well as policies that support food security and strengthened resilience, risk management, and the role and the meaningful participation of women in such activities, without distinction of any kind, including by addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers women face, and supporting, inter alia, equal access to, management of and ownership over land resources, marine, and agricultural and fisheries technologies, as well as women's innovation and women-led start-ups;

(i) Developing a harmonized definition of the informal economy for appropriate policies, programmes and services that will address the issues and concerns of the sector [Philippines]

(j) Taking measures to prevent the informalization of formal economy jobs and to address unjust, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions by promoting occupational safety and health protection for workers in the informal economy, and ensuring that measures are put in place to prevent and respond to internal trafficking of women and girls for domestic labour purposes;

(k) Scaling up of efforts, with all urgency, to accelerate the transition of women from informal employment to formal employment, including access to decent work, improved wages, social protection and quality childcare, and to effectively support the recognition, reduction and equitable redistribution of women's unpaid care and domestic work, including through sustained investments in the care economy; [Philippines]

(l) Promoting the transition to formal employment for women employed in informal paid work, including home-based and own-account work, seasonal contracts and part-time work, work in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and work in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, among others;

¹⁶ A/HRC/17/31, annex.

(m) Increasing access to productive resources that enhance women's self-reliance and incomes, the creation of short- and long-term wage employment for women, the recruitment of women and their timely promotion, especially at senior levels, concerns at field levels, and gender sensitivity and the elimination of discriminatory attitudes among management, which enhance women's participation;

(n) Taking all appropriate measures to ensure support for the participation of women with disabilities in the informal and formal economies, with access to financial services, tools and other specifically tailored platforms;

(o) **Refraining from promulgating and applying any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries; [Islamic Republic of Iran]**

Poverty eradication, social protection and social and public services

18. Recognizing women as key contributors and vital agents in combating poverty and inequalities, and ensuring gender-responsive and inclusive social protection systems, public services and infrastructure by, inter alia:

(a) Establishing and strengthening inclusive and gender-responsive social protection **{systems programmes [Islamic Republic of Iran; Marshall Islands]}** and institutions and access to public services that are well coordinated and adequately resourced to ensure full access to social protection and income security for all women and girls throughout their life cycle, without discrimination or stigma of any kind, and taking measures to progressively achieve higher levels of protection towards universal coverage;

(b) **Noting the vital importance of birth registration for the realization of all human rights, particularly given the low levels of birth registration among some marginalized groups of women and girls, as well as of guaranteeing universal registration of births and ensuring timely registration of all marriages, including by removing physical, administrative, procedural and other barriers that impede access to registration, and by providing, where lacking, mechanisms for the registration of births and marriages, including customary and religious marriages, bearing in mind the vital importance of birth registration for the realization of the rights of individuals;**

(c) **Identifying and removing barriers that constrain women's and girls' access to public services, such as geographic, legal and institutional barriers, including in rural and remote areas, in order to guarantee their access to these services on a regular basis and during emergencies; [Philippines]**

(d) Promoting the design and implementation of gender-responsive and participatory social protection, public service and infrastructure programmes, through transparent assessments of gendered risks and analyses of women's and girls' exclusion from existing social protection schemes, as well as through gender-responsive planning and budgeting and by strengthening monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms;

(e) Ensuring that public services are safe and that supportive environments are available, accessible, **{affordable [Philippines]}**, acceptable, gender responsive, culturally appropriate and of sustained good quality for all women and girls;

(f) **Prioritizing investments that contribute to the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including through accessible and affordable childcare and other support services, as well as integrating**

a gender perspective into the planning and use of public spaces, the design and development of smart cities, communities and rural areas and intelligent mobility planning processes, promoting the mobility and empowerment of women and girls, and ensuring that urban, rural and peripheral public transport, including land and water transport systems and infrastructure, are sustainable, accessible, safe, affordable and gender responsive; [Bangladesh, Cambodia; Islamic Republic of Iran]

19. Ensuring equitable and universal access to {available [India; Fiji]}, {safe and [Nepal]} accessible, {acceptable, [New Zealand; Fiji, India, Islamic Republic of Iran]} affordable, good quality and gender-responsive health {care [Australia; Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran]} services and preventive health information for all women and girls throughout their life cycle by, inter alia:

(a) Accelerating progress towards achieving the goal of universal health coverage for all women and girls, including access to HIV and AIDS treatment, throughout their life cycle, while ensuring that the use of such services and medicines does not expose the users to financial hardship, including through the provision of social protection;

(b) Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights 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;

(c) Recognizing that the human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on all matters related to their sexuality including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, as a contribution to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the realization of their human rights, in line with the national context;

(d) Ensuring the survival, protection, development and advancement of the girl child by enacting and enforcing laws and policies aimed at preventing and ending sexual and gender-based violence, domestic violence and harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, and by providing support for married girls, pregnant girls, adolescent mothers and girls in informal unions, to ensure the survival, protection, development and advancement of the girl child;

(e) Addressing mental health issues as an essential first step required for women and children who are victims of violence;

(f) Emphasizing the use of media, including national and local media, mainstream broadcast and print media, and social media, to raise awareness and inform women and girls about available health services, reproductive rights and preventive health information;

(g) Reiterating that economic terrorism, including {through [Bangladesh]} unilateral coercive measures and sanctions by some States, has dire consequences for the ordinary civilians in the targeted societies, especially for women and girls, and that such deliberate measures aiming to achieve illegitimate political objectives have negative impacts on economic well-being and access to health-care services for women and girls in targeted societies; [Islamic Republic of Iran – Japan requests time for consultation]

20. Promoting and respecting women's and girls' right to education throughout their life cycle and at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, by, inter alia:

(a) Ensuring the right of all women and girls to education **{and supporting similar educational outcomes for diverse groups of women [Australia – clarification requested]}** by eliminating discriminatory laws and practices, providing universal access to accessible, inclusive, equal and non-discriminatory quality education, including free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education,¹⁷ and investing in quality public education systems and infrastructure;

(b) Reaffirming that equal access to quality and inclusive education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, management, information and communications technology, science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics, and other new technologies, and the elimination of gender inequalities at all levels, are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication and for allowing women’s full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development;

(c) Addressing changing negative social norms and gender stereotypes in education systems, including in curricula, teaching methodologies and resources, and other instructional materials, that devalue girls’ education and prevent women and girls from having equal access to education and employment opportunities, and by taking all appropriate measures to eliminate all types of violence in educational institutions;

(d) Facilitating the effective transition from education or unemployment to work, including through skills development and lifelong learning opportunities, to enable women’s and girls’ active participation in economic, social and cultural development and women’s active participation in governance and decision-making at all levels;

(e) Eliminating occupational segregation by addressing structural barriers, gender stereotypes and negative social norms, promoting women’s equal access to and participation in labour markets, education and training, supporting women to diversify their educational and occupational choices in emerging fields and growing economic sectors, such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and information and communications technology, and recognizing the value of sectors that have large numbers of women workers;

Freedom from violence, stigma, harmful stereotypes and negative social norms

21. Strongly condemning all forms of violence against all women and girls, which is rooted in historical and structural inequality and unequal power relations between men and women, recognizing that violence against women and girls is a major impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that it violates and impairs or nullifies their full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and intensifying efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against all women and girls in public and private spheres **{by addressing [Bangladesh] }{ sexual and [Australia; Bangladesh] }{gender-based violence [Bangladesh; Australia] }{as both a cause and consequence of discrimination [Bangladesh] }** by, inter alia:

(a) Drafting, reviewing amending, repealing, strengthening, adopting, implementing and enforcing legislation, as appropriate, in line with relevant international human rights law, with a particular emphasis on relevant provisions as contained in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

¹⁷ Based on General Assembly resolution 70/1, Sustainable Development Goal target 4.1.

Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other United Nations human rights treaties and conventions, also taking into consideration laws outside the criminal justice sector, to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination, including online and offline harassment, violence against women and girls and harmful practices such as early and forced marriage or child marriage, female genital mutilation, female infanticide, prenatal sex selection, early age marriage, sexual harassment and victim-blaming, with inclusive voices from diverse women and girls and in line with regional and international conventions and agreements, with a focus on building the capacity of institutions to effectively and consistently translate legislation into implementation;

(b) Adopting, implementing, monitoring and evaluating policies and national action plans that prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, including in digital contexts, and that ensure access to justice, including by ensuring gender-responsive police investigation services that enable completed prosecutions, providing high-quality protection and support services for victims, survivors and witnesses, strengthening data collection and evidence on violence against women and girls, improving rates of reporting, addressing the high attrition rate from reporting to conviction, reinforcing, where appropriate, criminal laws and procedures relating to all forms of violence against women and girls, and countering the attitudes of gender inequality that perpetuate violence against women, with a focus on prevention, protection, rescue, rehabilitation and effective redress, including access, without stigma, to social and care services for victims and survivors and culturally appropriate interventions, developed in consultation with local communities;

(c) Devising, strengthening and implementing, as appropriate, comprehensive anti-trafficking legal and regulatory frameworks and strategies in a gender-responsive and age-, culture- and disability-sensitive manner, to combat and eliminate all forms of domestic and cross-border trafficking in persons, as well as to provide access, as applicable, to rescue, protection, rehabilitation, repatriation and reintegration assistance to victims of trafficking, recognizing the need to protect the confidentiality and the personal data of victims, and enhancing international cooperation, information-sharing, and legislative and other measures to counter all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and girls, including prostitution, online and offline sexual exploitation and forced labour;

(d) **Establishing, strengthening and promoting comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary, accessible and sustained multisectoral services, programmes and responses for all victims and survivors of all forms of violence and for their children, such as health services, legal aid, psychosocial counselling, shelters, 24-hour helplines, one-stop service centres, and forensic DNA facilities, that are adequately resourced and that include effective and coordinated action by, as appropriate, relevant stakeholders, such as the police and the justice sector, as well as providers of legal aid services, health services, shelters, medical and psychological assistance, counselling services and protection, and improving referral systems, as well as, in the case of girl victims, ensuring that such services, programmes and responses take into account the best interests of the child;**

(e) **Strengthening and resourcing national machineries on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women which are responsible for the coordination of reporting on relevant provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, where applicable, including national institutions that address gender-based violence; [Papua New Guinea]**

22. Transforming negative gender norms, discriminatory social attitudes, and adverse social and cultural patterns of conduct, and eliminating historically and structurally unequal power relations that persist between women and men, in order to realize gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls across all areas by, inter alia:

(a) Designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating appropriate legislation, reforms and domestic policies that aim to transform negative gender norms, stereotypes and discriminatory social attitudes in order to prevent and eliminate, in all public, private and digital spaces and spheres of human interaction, unequal power relations at the individual, structural and systemic levels, whereby women and girls are regarded as subordinate to men and boys, which underlie and perpetuate patriarchy, especially with regard to the use of media to perpetuate violence against women and girls, namely pornography;

(b) Collaborating with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and faith-based organizations, women human rights defenders, media, and digital technology companies, as well as through strategic partnerships with and the engagement of men and boys and women and girls, to promote non-discriminatory, culturally appropriate and gender-sensitive portrayals of women and men, by challenging and eliminating gender stereotypes and violence against women and girls, including in digital contexts, and by developing and implementing measures, including regulatory frameworks and monitoring mechanisms, to promote gender-fair attitudes and values;

(c) Closing the digital gender gap by enhancing women's participation as users, content creators, employees, entrepreneurs, innovators and leaders through, inter alia, gender-responsive digital governance frameworks and by increasing access of all women and girls to digital technologies;

Participation, social dialogue, accountability and gender-responsive institutions

23. Ensuring national gender-responsive institutions, as well as participation, accountability and social dialogue by, inter alia:

(a) Ensuring the increased inclusive and effective participation of national gender machinery for gender equality and women's empowerment in the formulation and monitoring of inclusive national development strategies that recognize the specific needs of diverse groups of women, including by strengthening the leadership, mandates, status, and human and financial capacities of national coordination mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment;

(b) Incorporating a gender perspective into the design, financing, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of programmes, especially national programmes and projects to be implemented at all levels throughout all national laws, policies and regulations;

(c) Encouraging a gender-responsive approach to public financial management, including gender-responsive planning, budgeting and tracking across all sectors of public expenditure, for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

(d) Taking measures to remove barriers and provide all women and girls with economic empowerment opportunities to achieve full, equal, substantive and effective participation and access to leadership and senior-

level positions at all levels and in all spheres, including through temporary special measures, as appropriate;

(e) Noting the important role of civil society and human rights institutions and private sector and faith-based organizations in promoting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women and girls, and further encouraging open, inclusive and transparent engagement and dialogue with civil society actors, including women's organizations, in government decision-making processes related to national development policies and their implementation at all levels;

(f) Strengthening the meaningful engagement and protection of women's civil society organizations, including women's and community-based organizations, **{feminist groups [Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation; New Zealand, Australia, Fiji], }** women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations, and trade unions, leaders and activists, as well as the integration of a gender perspective into the creation of a safe and enabling environment that ensures that violations or abuses are prevented or promptly and properly investigated and that those responsible are held accountable;

(g) Promoting gender equality and providing a gender-responsive, free and fair electoral process that is inclusive, participatory and non-discriminatory;

(h) Encouraging national investments in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls through gender-responsive planning and budgeting;

Peaceful and inclusive societies

24. Accelerating the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda by, inter alia:

(a) Noting general recommendation No. 30 (2013) on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations adopted by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women;¹⁸

(b) **{Recognizing Noting [Islamic Republic of Iran; Australia] {significance of the twenty-year anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000), and [Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, India; Bangladesh, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Marshall Islands] }** the need to further accelerate the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda at the national, subnational, regional and international levels, including through the adoption and implementation, as appropriate, of fully funded national action plans in this regard, and providing technical assistance to those countries that wish to establish national action plans;

(c) Ensuring systematic attention to, recognition of and support for the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflict, in the rebuilding, peacebuilding and peacekeeping of post-conflict societies and in sustaining peace;

(d) **Ensuring the protection of the rights of all women and girls from human rights violations and ensuring their access to justice, as set out in the Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security; [Japan; Islamic Republic of Iran]**

¹⁸ CEDAW/C/GC/30.

(e) Promoting the appropriate meaningful participation ~~{and leadership [Russian Federation; New Zealand, Philippines, Cambodia, Fiji, Australia, Pakistan] }~~ ~~{roles [Japan]}~~ of women ~~{and women's in cooperation with [Japan, Islamic Republic of Iran; New Zealand]}~~ civil society organizations ~~{including women's groups [Japan; Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation, New Zealand]}~~ in efforts to implement the women, peace and security agenda, including preventing ~~{violent extremism violence and extremism [India, Russian Federation; Australia] }~~ and countering terrorism in areas affected by escalating and protracted ~~armed [Russian Federation, Islamic Republic of Iran]}~~ conflicts, ~~{any forms of violence [Russian Federation]; }~~ ~~{violent extremism violence and extremism [India, Russian Federation; Australia]}~~, and related humanitarian crises;

(f) **Enhancing women's economic and social empowerment and participation, and ensuring access to resources and decision-making related to the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda in all activities and at all levels of peacebuilding, post-conflict planning and economic recovery; [Japan]**

(g) Building the capacity of women as peacebuilders, including as mediators, negotiators and responders, at the regional, national and local levels;

(h) Taking measures to address the particular vulnerability of women and children among refugees~~{, other minority women [Philippines; Islamic Republic of Iran]}~~ and displaced persons through prevention, protection and rehabilitation in a holistic manner, including when developing and implementing gender-responsive ~~{internal displacement [Japan; New Zealand]}~~ policies and services that address gender-specific needs and access to health services, including mental health services, as well as social protection, and in a manner that takes into consideration areas affected by multiple conflicts, including host communities;

Environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building

25. Integrating a gender perspective into environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation, and promoting gender-responsive climate action, disaster risk reduction and resilience-building, taking into account that climate change has asymmetrical gendered impacts and that women and girls are more vulnerable to climate impacts by, inter alia:

(a) Promoting the active role of women as holders of knowledge and as agents of change in efforts to safeguard the environment and the integration of a gender perspective into policies and programmes related to environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation, including the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian responses to natural disasters, resilience-building, environmental and natural resource management and governance, and climate change, with full and equal leadership and participation of women at all levels of policymaking and decision-making, and addressing the challenges for all women and girls posed by climate change, including by ~~{increasing facilitating [Islamic Republic of Iran, India; New Zealand]}~~ ensuring women's access to land, water, clean energy and other natural resources in accordance with relevant international agreements, including the Paris Agreement,¹⁹ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk

¹⁹ See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Reduction 2015–2030,²⁰ the Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention on Biological Diversity,²¹ the gender action plan of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change²² and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;²³

(a bis) **Promoting the active role of women as holders of knowledge and as agents of change in efforts to safeguard the environment and the integration of a gender perspective into policies and programmes related to environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation, including the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian responses to natural disasters, resilience-building, environmental and natural resource management and governance, and climate change, with full and equal leadership and participation of women at all levels of policymaking and decision-making, and addressing the challenges for all women and girls posed by climate change, including by increasing facilitating [Islamic Republic of Iran, India; New Zealand] women's access to land, water, clean energy and other natural resources; [Islamic Republic of Iran; New Zealand, Marshall Islands, Fiji]**

(b) **Enhancing women's and girl's resilience to climate change and their participation in decision-making through education and the sustainable use of natural resources, further integrating gender perspectives into policies and programmes related to environmental conservation, including the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources, and ensuring leadership and full participation by women and girls in climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience, and in environmental conservation activities in accordance with the Paris Agreement; [Papua New Guinea]**

(c) Adopting and implementing gender-responsive strategies on climate change mitigation and adaptation to support the resilience and adaptive capacities of women and girls to respond to and recover from the adverse impacts of climate change, including through the promotion of equal access to essential infrastructure and climate-smart agricultural technology, clean-energy-appropriate financing and technology, humanitarian assistance, food and nutrition, safe drinking water and sanitation, waste management, **health services, education and training, adequate housing and decent work, social security [Philippines; Islamic Republic of Iran]** and gender-sensitive forecast and early warning systems, with a special focus on women in remote and rural areas;

(d) Identifying and addressing the specific needs of all women and girls **{including women and girls with disabilities [Republic of Korea; India], {marginalized groups [Cambodia; India]}** through strategies and mechanisms that promote their equal and full participation and leadership, as well as in the gender-responsive planning, delivery, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of holistic disaster risk reduction and management efforts and humanitarian responses to **{natural [Australia; Islamic Republic of Iran]}** disasters at all levels, **{including natural disasters [New Zealand]}** in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;

²⁰ General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

²¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²² See FCCC/CP/2017/11/Add.1, decision 3/CP.23, annex.

²³ General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

(e) Further examining the synergies between environmental conservation and the protection of human rights, **{ which are grounded in economic, social and cultural rights [Australia; India] }** and strengthening the evidence base for and awareness about gender-specific environmental and health hazards, which disproportionately affect women and children, especially women with disabilities, elderly women and girls, with particular attention paid to the protection and preservation of the knowledge and practices of women in indigenous and local communities;

Data and statistics

26. Strengthening gender-responsive national statistical systems and data collection by, inter alia:

(a) Integrating a gender-responsive approach into national follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, including by strengthening national statistical capacities to design, collect, access and publicly disseminate high-quality, reliable and timely data, disaggregated by sex, age, income and other characteristics relevant to national contexts, as well as by promoting blended research methodologies using qualitative and quantitative approaches for an enhanced understanding of gender gaps and leveraging the opportunities offered by innovation and technology to measure progress, in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders;

(b) Continuing to develop and enhance standards, methodologies and indicators at the national and international levels to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics, including through technical and financial collaboration between countries, and leveraging the opportunities offered by innovation and technology to measure progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(c) **Encouraging the creation and improvement of data repositories, at the national level, of online data hubs to support information management and coordination to measure progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;**

Partnerships and regional cooperation

27. Engaging all relevant stakeholders to promote international and regional cooperation and collaboration by, inter alia:

(a) Inviting member States to enhance North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation, as well as public-private partnerships, while noting that national ownership, leadership and capacity-building to implement commitments are indispensable for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

(b) Urging developed countries to fully implement their respective official development assistance commitments to achieve development goals and targets;

(c) Calling on the international community and all relevant stakeholders to provide financial resources to assist Governments, upon their request, in their efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals **{with full gender justice and inclusion [India; Russian Federation] }**, including Goal 5 on gender equality as well as other **{gender equality and women's**

empowerment-related [Russia; India] development {goals, {and [Pakistan] }}[Nepal; India] targets and benchmarks agreed upon at relevant intergovernmental and United Nations special sessions, meetings, conferences and summits;

28. *Request* the Executive Secretary of the Commission, in cooperation, as appropriate, with UN-Women and other relevant United Nations entities, to take the following measures:

(a) To accord priority in the programme of work of the Commission to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and of the commitments contained in the present Declaration, and further {reinforce the mutual support of [Islamic Republic of Iran]} {reinforce synergies and linkages between women's human rights and the empowerment of women and girls, [Australia]} gender equality and inclusive and sustainable development;

(b) To continue to promote regional and subregional dialogue and cooperation among members and associate members of the Commission to support multisectoral policies, strategies and programmes and the sharing of best practices in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of subsequent reviews;

(c) To provide members and associate members of the Commission with support, upon their request, in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and of the commitments contained in the present Declaration at the regional and national levels, including the effective dissemination of review outcomes and the development of national action plans;

(d) To assist members and associate members of the Commission, upon their request, in mainstreaming, as appropriate, the outcomes of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review into the implementation of the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and other key regional processes for the review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development;

(e) To fully mainstream a gender perspective into {relevant [Russian Federation; Philippines, Australia]} Commission activities on data and statistics, including in existing regional statistical programmes and statistical training as well as other relevant programmes of the Commission;

(f) To continue to strengthen coordination with regional civil society through, inter alia, existing regional civil society engagement mechanisms;

(g) To convene a regional intergovernmental conference in 2024 {with the participation of civil society [Bangladesh; Philippines, Fiji]} to review regional progress by members and associate members of the Commission in the further implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and in the implementation of the commitments contained in the present Declaration; [Russian Federation expresses reservation; Philippines, Fiji];

(h) To submit the present Declaration to the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-fourth session and to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its seventy-sixth session.