



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 Miss Caricom Int’l. Foundation CIP, INC, 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.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

The 2021 Priority Theme: “Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;” falls within CIP’s alley. So, as we march toward CSW645 2021, the question becomes:

What is it that we can do differently to actualize women’s full and effective participation in policy decisions that affect their lives and those of their girl children? We cannot continue the same tired rhetoric and vainly hope for change. In this regard, we wish to advance the following propositions:

The efforts must continue in instituting measure to ensure a fair gender representation in policy making in the upper echelons of the bureaucracy. Males continue to dominate the vision making the top, despite the over-representation of women at a lower level. Avenue for analysing both the concept and experience of empowerment, social cultural ideals, capital gain and the art of mothering in women relationship and capital structure by local, social, cultural and global economic structure must be taken into consideration.

The relationship theory logic application of the concept of empowerment need to recognize the capability of women in negotiations daily in breaking through the glass ceiling strategies. Women have made and continue to make considerable progress on their journey to the upper echelons of decision-making institution in civil service, the academics literature and popular press but culture traditionally still pose a roadblock.

There must be an effort to involve boys and men in the prevention of violence against women, they must be involved in social marketing campaigns, as policy makers and gatekeepers, and as activists and advocates of this change. Men are still the dormant source in this now changing social setting that is working to achieve gender equality and can assist in the transform of social norm and stigma that keep the female gender unequally represented.

Empowerment of women are considered a zero-sum game in the unintended consequence of micro financing for women's equality and empowerment overall. The paradox of empowerment in the traditional culture of most society, culture and social capital discourse involved extraordinary desire from women on one hand and society-at-large on the other hand. Traditional validation mechanism for women's identities are crucial in a male dominant society and can only be achieved by full active participation from the powers that be on the top. This action must be one of informed, educated, careful and cultural awareness and not one that reflects hijacking of cultural values and tradition.

Miss CARICOM foundation is committed to this course of action with our full impact action involvement with our cultural projects and programs in the United States of America, Nigeria, Gambia, Guyana, Panama and Venezuela that seek out the grassroots communities with food, educational, skill training, social interaction and social events blending education with cultural tradition and changeling times in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of 2030 Agenda and gender leadership and equality.

Our goal is to bring awareness to all the issues at hand and share education to create better understanding within the cultural elders who are male dormant and usually the gatekeepers of change. Some of the issues that arises that prevent women from progressing more docilely is the value system that has been in place for centuries and the process in which it is validated.

One such system is voting. Women are two-thirds most likely to vote as men. The gender gap in voting vary widely across countries and continent, also people in rural areas, more educated people, rich people, employed people, people who belong to religious group and people who Express their interest in public affair being more likely to vote. A collective action in civil education and other mechanisms are needed to encourage more female participation in all aspects of the political process using up qualitative interview approach and active involvement to expand the experience of women in academic leadership position.

We live in a male dominant culture traditionally, and women are obligated to maintain multiple identities when communicating with their colleagues, superiors and extended family members. Gender to gender abuse is also highlighted in elite women leaders' who, but female misogyny may explain micro-aggression women's abjection and offer a unique conceptualization of intra-gender micro- violence with themes of disassociating, suppression of opportunity and abject appearance. The masculine symbolic order shapes and constrains women elite leaders' social relations with other women. World culture promote women and men's acceptance of intra-gender differences between women, but the time is now we must open opportunities and possibilities for women in educational, political and social organizations.

For our part, Miss CARICOM International Foundation is committed to the vision and the course of actions outlined for CSW65 2021 in accordance with the SDG's of 2030 to enable Gender Leadership and Equality. With respect to violence against women, efforts must be made to involve boys and men in finding the solution to this aged old problem since they are the decision makers of our time and the gatekeepers of changes which must headline the violence against women and girls. We must engage them by first creating a heightened awareness of the violence against women, sensitize men to this awareness, create social marketing campaigns around the issue, and encourage men to be the Agents of Change by becoming public advocates and activists on behalf of their wives, mothers, aunties, sisters, cousins and nieces.

We must also engage society to the education of values of women and teach them to have greater respect for the gender and hopefully this enlighten new aspect of realization dip in education of equality would ease us into a world less fill with abuse of the girl child and gender equality.
