

The Japan University English Model United Nations 2017

**Model of the United Nations Organization: Commission on the Status of Women
Theme: Women's Empowerment and its Link to Sustainable Development**

Background Guide for Meeting 1: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls



"Break the silence. When you witness violence against women and girls, do not sit back. Act."

Ban Ki-moon, former UN Secretary-General

The Meeting 1 Background Guide has important information about the United Nations Organization which the Japan University English Model United Nations (JUEMUN) delegates will model – the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). You will also learn about the Conference Theme, your Meeting's Agenda, and your Committee's Topic and Task.

The Background Guide will also help you learn the key vocabulary that you will need to understand and be able to use in order to communicate effectively and persuasively during the JUEMUN 2017 Conference.

Furthermore, the Background Guide, and other materials on the JUEMUN website, will help you learn how to write position papers and working papers or action plans according to JUEMUN standards. This information will help you develop the ideas you need to explain why you are recommending certain kinds of action.

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Part 1 Useful Abbreviations

The following list of abbreviations related to the JUEMUN 17 Conference theme will help you read this Study Guide, conduct your research, and make notes.

BPfA	Beijing Platform for Action
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSOs	Civil society organizations
CSW	Commission on the Status of Women
DAW	Division for the Advancement of Women
DEVAW	Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women
DSR	Declaration of Sexual Rights
ECOSOC	EU Economic and Social Council European Union
FGM	Female genital mutilation
GA	General Assembly
GEMPI	Global Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative
GDP	Gross domestic product
ICPD	International Conference on Population and Development
ICT	Information and communication technologies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ICRW	Women International Center for Research on Women
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
oPt	Occupied Palestinian territory
OSAGI	Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women
UN	Conference on Sustainable Development
SC	Security Council
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	Sexual and gender-based violence
SRH	Sexual and reproductive health
STDs	Sexually transmitted diseases
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
Universal Declaration of Human Rights	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
United Nations Development Fund for Women	
UNIFEM	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN Trust Fund	United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

WMG WHO Women's Major Group World Health Organization
Background Guide Meeting 1: Ending Violence Against Women and Girls
(SDG 5 Achieve Gender Equality and Empower Women and Girls)

Part 2 - Primary Research Documents for JUEMUN 2017

Much of the information in this Background Guide is from the UN Women website - unwomen.org. Please refer to this website for useful information about the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and about all gender-related issues. The information in this Background Guide can be found in various sections of the informative, comprehensive, and up-to-date UN Women website. The UN Women website is quoted verbatim (the exact words), or summarized.

The UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform at sustainabledevelopment.un.org is source of valuable information with links to the other United Nations organizations that have sustainable development programmes that aim to empower women.

The CSW was influential in the development and evolution of a series of United Nations Human Rights Declarations from the founding of the United Nations to the present day.

The United Nations has 6 official languages – Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. An official UN document must be translated into UN official languages before it is published. The 6 languages are an official language of more than half of the UN's 193 Member States.

Please do some research to find out if the UN Human Rights Treaties have been translated into the language of the people, including minority group languages, of the country you represent on the CSW at JUEMUN 2017. Are Child-Friendly versions available that children in Primary School can understand?

The Evolution of Awareness of Human Rights at the United Nations: 7 Steps Forward

Please read the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, both the full text and the simplified versions, adopted by the UN in 1948 at www.youthforhumanrights.org and the Child-Friendly version at eycb.coe.int

Every delegate should be familiar with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979). The CEDAW convention is available in full text and youth-friendly versions at unwomen.org. Among the CEDAW websites, CEDAW for Youth is very useful for JUEMUN 2017 preparation.

The UN Convention on the Rights of a Child (1990) at <https://www.unicef.org> is available in the official text, and also in a Child-Friendly version.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) recognized that although progress had been made towards the advancement of the status of women on a range of issues, progress was uneven within and between states, and that inequalities between men and women had persisted. In 2015, at the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly, the Report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.6/2015/3), discussed the problems of forced labor, the poor quality and unfair conditions of employment, and the gender pay gap. The Human

Rights for Women at beijing20.unwomen.org, a 2016 website, has links to information about the development of Women's Rights initiatives which date from the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was adopted by the UN in 2006.

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) at www.ohchr.org is an important document for your research.

Human Rights for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender global community was recognized by the UN (see the UN News Centre at un.org) with the appointment by the UN Human Rights Council on November 1, 2016 of Vitit Muntarbhorn, the first United Nations Independent Expert on Protection against Violence and Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. The intention is to link the LGBT aspects of gender to the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda. Please also learn about the Yogyakarta Principles (2007) at data.unaids.org

Print out copies of these six documents and the LGBT Rights news for your JUEMUN 17 file. The dates of the primary UN Human Rights declarations – 1948, 1979, 1990, 1995, 2006, 2007, 2016) - show that we are still in the process of recognizing and protecting the rights of all people. JUEMUN 2017 is part of this process.

Part 3 The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

What is the CSW?

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) established in 1946 is the main intergovernmental policymaking body within the United Nations for women's empowerment, promotion of women's rights, and gender equality. It is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), reporting to ECOSOC annually. Please refer to the UN Women website at unwomen.org for useful information about the work of the CSW and about all gender-related issues.

45 UN Member States (countries) are CSW members. Each member is elected for a four-year term. The seats are assigned according to an equitable (fair) geographical distribution: 13 African states, 11 Asia-Pacific states, four Eastern European states, nine Latin American and Caribbean states, and eight Western European and Other states. In 2010, the UN was restructured to streamline its efforts to address gender inequality and women's discrimination in more effective ways. The four main gender-related UN agencies, namely the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI), the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the UN Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), merged to establish UN-Women. Since 2010, UN-Women has served as the Secretariat of the CSW and UN-Women provides CSW with guidance for operational activities which aim to advance the recognition and the implementation of women's rights.

What is the CSW priority?

CSW's main priority is to mainstream gender equality and link women's empowerment to sustainable development. Together with UN-Women, the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Civil Society, the CSW worked tirelessly and successfully to guarantee that the Sustainable Development Goal Programme (SDGs), adopted during the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015, has one of its 17 goals, SDG 5, which will deal entirely with gender equality and women's empowerment, and that all of the SDG goals have gender perspectives.

What is the CSW mandate? What are its functions and powers?

The CSW makes recommendations, and its secretariat, UN-Women, implements the CSW recommendations by working closely with UN Member States and civil society to create a discrimination-free world where women and girls can fully participate economically, politically, and socially in their societies.

The original mandate of CSW, adopted in 1946, is to provide "recommendations and reports to ECOSOC on promoting women's rights in political, economic, social, and educational fields ... [and to address] ... urgent problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women's rights." This mandate was expanded by the Third and Fourth World Conferences on Women in Nairobi in 1985 and Beijing in 1995, respectively.

As a result of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA), ECOSOC decided that the primary responsibility of the CSW must be: to take the main "role in mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes"; to "assist ECOSOC in monitoring, reviewing and appraising progress achieved and problems encountered in the implementation of the BPfA" and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the UN General Assembly at all levels; and to advise and give policy guidance to ECOSOC and Member States accordingly.

At its annual meetings, the CSW adopts resolutions that are included in an annual report to ECOSOC.

What has the CSW done for the advancement of women?

Achievements:

Convention on the Political Rights of Women (1953)

Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages (1962)

Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1979)

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) (1995)

23rd special session of the General Assembly (GA) entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century"

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on “Women, Peace and Security”

UN Decade of Women from 1975 to 1985 and the Fourth World Conference on Women

ECOSOC resolutions 1987/22, 1996/6, and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly which requested the CSW to assess and advance the implementation of BPfA and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the GA that strive for full gender equality

The Millennium Declaration and the gender-related goals of the MDGs, as well as the newly-adopted gender-sensitive SDGs

The CSW advocates for the inclusion of a gender perspective in all international development efforts

Part 4 The Japan University English Model United Nations (JUEMUN) 2017 Theme: Women’s Empowerment and its Link to Sustainable Development

Why is the JUEMUN 2017 agenda “Women’s Empowerment and its Link to Sustainable Development” important?

The Commission on the Status of Women and UN Women welcome the way gender equality has been integrated in the United Nations 15-year Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Programme which began January 1, 2016 (see the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>).

The SDG programme is part of the 2030 Agenda which has a target date of December 2030. The 17 SDGs with 167 targets aim to end poverty, protect the planet, **and** ensure prosperity for all. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: all governments, the whole private sector, and each member of civil society. Women’s empowerment will be key to the process, a generator of the changes sought by the SDGs, and an integral part of the expected product, a more just and more peaceful world.

The SDG programme aims to build on the successes of, and overcome the weaknesses of, the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) programme which was implemented from 2000 to December 2015 (refer to www.unmillenniumproject.org. and note Goals 2,3,4 and 5 which are related directly to girls and women).

The SDG programme offers a real opportunity to improve women’s lives everywhere in the world by recognizing their human rights to security and justice, and by taking action that can be sustained to ensure girls and women have equal opportunities to good health care, education, and employment. The UN conviction expressed in the SDGs is that the empowerment of women empowers communities in all of its cultural, economic and political aspects for all community members - children and adults, female and male.

The United Nations declares “The new Sustainable Development Goal agenda is an action plan for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. Successful outcomes depend on national ownership and national leadership in the implementation of the agenda. It will foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies and require the participation of all countries, stakeholders and people. The ambitious agenda seeks to end poverty by 2030 and promote

shared economic prosperity, social development, and environmental protection for all countries.”

While there has been much progress towards women’s rights over the decades, many gaps remain. For women’s rights to become a universal reality, CSW and UN Women believe that it is critical to address the four structural causes of gender inequality: 1. tolerance of violence against women, 2. unpaid care work, 3. limited control over assets and property, and 4. unequal participation in private and public decision-making. CSW and UN Women urge the establishment of minimum standards in these critical areas that are holding women back.

Has there been any progress globally and regionally related to your Meeting themes and Committee topics? You must search for answers to this question. Find reports, and statistics, specific to your county and your region for the topic of your Committee.

By the time the JUEMUN 2017 begins, the 15-year SDG programme will be 18 months old. The source of the following information is the December 2016 Report of the Secretary-General, "Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals": [E/2016/75](#)

Women have a critical role to play in all of the SDGs, with many targets specifically recognizing women’s equality and empowerment as both the objective, and as part of the solution. Goal 5 is known as the stand-alone gender goal because it is dedicated to achieving these ends.

Deep legal and legislative changes are needed to ensure women’s rights around the world. While a record 143 countries guaranteed equality between men and women in their Constitutions by 2014, another 52 had not taken this step.

In many nations, gender discrimination still exists, as a very serious problem, through legal and social norms. Globally, women’s participation in parliament rose to 23 per cent in 2016, representing an increase by 6 percentage points over a decade. Slow progress in this area is in contrast with more women in parliamentary leadership positions. In 2016, the number of women speakers of national parliaments jumped from 43 to 49, out of the 273 posts globally.

Girls’ access to education has improved, the rate of child marriage declined, and progress was made in the area of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights which resulted in fewer maternal deaths. Nevertheless, gender equality remains a persistent challenge for countries worldwide and the lack of equality is a major obstacle to sustainable development.

Large gender disparities remain economically. While there has been some progress over the decades, on average women in the labour market still earn 24 per cent less than men globally. In every region, women and girls do the bulk of unpaid work, including caregiving and such household tasks as cooking and cleaning. On average, women report that they spend 19 per cent of their time each day in unpaid activities, versus 8 per cent for men.

Violence against women is widespread affecting all countries, even those that have made progress in other areas. Violence occurs in rich countries and in poor nations. It is a problem that affects wealthy and also poor individuals. Worldwide, 35 per cent of women have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence.

Estimates on the risks of violence experienced by women with disabilities, women from ethnic minorities, and among women above the age of 50 are not yet included, owing to data limitations. Additionally, human trafficking disproportionately affects women and girls, since 70 per cent of all victims detected worldwide are female.

Globally, the proportion of women aged between 20 and 24 who reported that they were married before their eighteenth birthday dropped from 32 per cent around 1990 to 26 per cent around 2015. The harmful practice of female genital mutilation/cutting is another human rights violation that affects girls and women worldwide. While the exact number of girls and women globally who have undergone the procedure is unknown, UN Women estimates that at least 200 million have been subjected to the procedure in 30 countries.

Women have a right to equality in all areas. It must be in legal systems, upheld in both laws and legal practices, including proactive measures such as quotas. Since all areas of life relate to gender equality, efforts must be made to cut the roots of gender discrimination wherever they appear.

The following diagrams which sum up key gender equality issues are from the UN Women



website.

FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION



133 million

girls and women have experienced female genital mutilation in the 29 countries in Africa and the Middle East where the harmful practice is most common

Impact

Severe emotional and physical trauma; potential health risks, including reproductive and sexual health complications, and possible death through loss of blood or sepsis.

LAND & OTHER RESOURCES



In 26 of 143 countries

statutory inheritance laws (i.e. written laws passed by legislature) differentiate between women and men

Impact

Increased vulnerability to poverty and food insecurity; limited or no access to resources and credit; dependency on men to secure livelihood.

See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/ja/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality#sthash.Ia45f7D5.dpuf>

Sustainable Development Goal 5

- Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



CSW Delegates in Meetings 1, 2 and 3 should all be familiar with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg5>) It is the SDG that is central to our CSW Theme – Women’s Empowerment and its Link to Sustainable Development – and to the themes of each of our three Meetings: 1. Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (Targets 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5, 5.c) 2. Economic Empowerment (Targets 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.a, 5.b, 5.c) 3. Peace and Security (Targets 5.1, 5.2, 5.3,5.5, 5.6, 5.c) - and to the work of each Meeting’s five Committees. It is clear that the SDG 5 Targets apply to more than 1 theme. That is because Women’s Empowerment is relevant to all aspects of our lives.

SDG 5 - Gender Equality - focuses on achieving gender equality and empowering all girls and women. It calls for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership, and reforms to give women access to economic resources including ownership and access to land and other properties. Some of the other SDGs include many gender-sensitive issues. Most importantly, each of the 17 SDGs has greater potential to be achieved if viewed from women’s perspectives. UN WOMEN calls SDG 5 the “stand-alone goal” because it is entirely about Gender Equality.

There are nine SDG 5 Targets (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg5>). Each Target has Indicators that tell us how we can judge if the action being taken to reach a target is effective and whether the target will likely be achieved. The Targets are the foundation of your vision statements. The Indicators will give you ideas about the action you plan to recommend.

***Which Targets and Indicators are addressed directly in your Meetings and Committees?**

***Which Targets and Indicators does your country need to focus or not focus on? Why/why not?**

Following is the list of the nine SDG targets:

Target 5.1

End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere

Indicator 5.1.1

Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex

Target 5.2

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Indicator 5.2.1

Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

Indicator 5.2.2

Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

Target 5.3

Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early, and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Indicator 5.3.1

Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married, or in a union, before age 15 and before age 18

Indicator 5.3.2

Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age 18.

Target 5.4

Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

Indicator 5.4.1

Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age, and location

Target 5.5

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Indicator 5.5.1

Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments

Indicator 5.5.2

Proportion of women in managerial positions

Target 5.6

Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed 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

Indicator 5.6.1

Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care

Indicator 5.6.2

Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15-49 years of age access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education

Target 5.a

Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws

Indicator 5.a.1

(a) Proportion of total agricultural population with ownership or secure rights over agricultural land, by sex; and (b) share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure

Indicator 5.a.2

Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

Target 5.b

Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular, information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

Indicator 5.b.1

Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

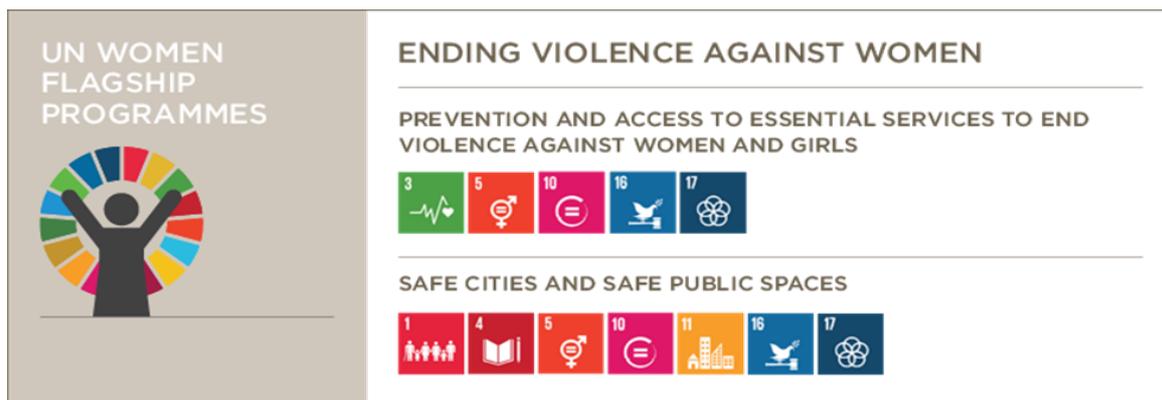
Target 5.c

Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

Indicator 5.c.1

Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment

Part 5 The Sustainable Development Goal Programme and the Meeting 1 Agenda - Ending Violence Against Women and Girls



UN Women identifies 8 of the 17 SDGs as Flagship Programmes in 2 categories that have targets that aim to end violence against women.

The two categories are: 1. Prevention, and Access to Essential Services to End Violence Against Women and Girls and 2. Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces

Violence against women often occurs because of a power gap. The people who are violent, verbally or physically, directly or indirectly, disempower women in sustainable ways.

The following UN Women Flagship Programmes to End Violence Against Women identify are 8 SDGs related to the Meeting 1 theme. The topics of the 8 SDGs show the range of forms violence can take.

SDG 1 - No Poverty

SDG 2 - Good Health and Well being

SDG 4 - Quality Education

SDG 5 - Gender Equality

SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities
SDG 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
SDG 16 - Peace Justice and Strong Institutions
SDG 17 - Partnership for the Goals

To understand the JUEMUN Conference Theme – The Empowerment of Women and Its Link to Sustainable Development – the Meeting 1 Topic - Ending Violence Against Women and Girls – is a first step essential for making the powerless, powerful enough to enjoy a peaceful and satisfying life. Your research to prepare for any of the Meeting 1 Committee Topics could include a review of the 8 SDGs listed above.

Sources of Information Related to the Meeting 1 Topic

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) does not explicitly mention violence against women and girls, but General Recommendations 12 and 19 clarify that the Convention includes violence against women and makes detailed recommendations. CEDAW General Recommendation Number 30 is about women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women

The 1993 World Conference on Human Rights recognized violence against women as a human rights violation and called for the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on violence against women in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action. It contributed to the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women became the first international instrument explicitly addressing violence against women, providing a framework for national and international action. It defines violence against women as any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

The 1994 International Conference on Population and Development drew links between violence against women and reproductive health and rights. Its Programme of Action calls on Governments to take legal and policy measures to respond to and prevent violence against women and girls.

The 1995 Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) identifies specific actions for Governments to take to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. Ending violence is one of 12 areas for priority action. The platform includes an expansive definition of forms of violence.

In 2006 the Secretary-General's In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence against Women was released, the first comprehensive report on the issue: A/61/122/Add.1

The 2011 Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence became the second legally binding regional instrument on violence against women and girls but, unlike other regional agreements, it can be signed and ratified by any State: Istanbul, 11.V.2011

The UN General Assembly adopts bi-annual resolutions on the issue of violence against women. The most recent resolutions adopted in 2012 include the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women A/RES/67/144 and trafficking in women and girls A/RES/67/145

The UN Human Rights Council adopts annual resolutions on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, the most recent being in 2012: A/HRC/RES/20/12

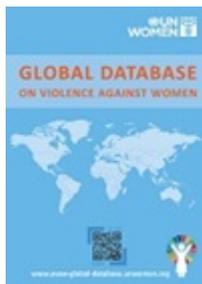
In 2013, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) adopted, by consensus, Agreed Conclusions on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls : E/2013/27, E/CN.6/2013/11 This represents a historic outcome as there had been no agreed conclusions on this issue when it was last considered by CSW in 2003.

For Research related to your country and your Committee Topic, refer to the following four sources of reliable information:

The CSW 57 2013 Outcome Document <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/csw/57/csw57-agreedconclusions-a4-en.pdf?vs=700>

A number of internationally agreed norms and standards have been set to end violence against women. For more details, see UN Women's Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls.

The Global Database on Violence against Women is an online resource designed to provide comprehensive and up-to-date information on measures taken by governments to address violence against women, in the areas of laws and policies, prevention, services and statistical data. <http://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en>



See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/global-norms-and-standards#sthash.KzUdnnAk.dpuf>

UNESCO has the most up to date report on Gender Education. UNESCO GENDER REVIEW: GLOBAL EDUCATION MONITORING REPORT 2016 <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0024/002460/246045e.pdf>

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAW) is a Grave Violation of Human Rights.

Violence against women is a primary obstacle in the path to gender equality.

Violence happens in public and private places. It has many forms which range from domestic or intimate partner violence to sexual harassment and assault, female genital mutilation, trafficking, sexual violence in conflict and gender-related killing.

Women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria, according to World Bank data.

The impact of violence ranges from immediate to long-term physical, sexual and mental health consequences for women and girls, including death. It negatively affects women's general well-being and prevents women from fully participating in society. Violence not only has long-lasting consequences for women but also their families, the community and the country at large. It also has tremendous costs, from greater health care and legal expenses to productivity losses, impacting national budgets and overall development.

A large number of countries have laws and policies against various forms of violence. Challenges remain however in implementing these measures. 603 million women live in countries where domestic violence is not yet considered a crime. Sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public spaces are an everyday occurrence for women and girls around the world—in urban and rural areas, in developed and developing countries.

21 per cent of girls and women aged between 15 and 49 experienced physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of an intimate partner in the previous 12 months. At least 200 million women and girls alive today have undergone female genital mutilation (cutting) in 30 countries.

Over 60 million girls worldwide are child brides, married before the age of 18. Worldwide. Adult women account for almost half of all human trafficking victims detected globally. Women and girls together account for about 70 per cent, with girls representing two out of every three child trafficking victims.

Many women still lack access to free or affordable essential services in sectors such as health, police, justice and social support to ensure their safety, protection and recovery. Not enough is done to prevent violence, which is the most challenging but also effective way to eliminate violence in a sustainable way.

In 2013, CSW met at the 57th session to discuss ways to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and also adopted a document of agreed-upon conclusions (UN-Women, CSW 57, 2013).

Ending the cycle of violence against women that limits their economic opportunities, and polices their movements in society is one of the primary goals of CSW. Gender equality in development, particularly the elimination of violence against women (VAW), is the primary target for in SDG 5. The first of the three targets UN-Women identified to achieve Goal 5 of the SDGs is to eliminate violence against women and girls.

The Expert Group Meeting on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls at the 57th meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2013 stated the UN definition of Violence Against Women, which is: “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to

women [or girls], including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

In their introduction to the problem, the experts explain that VAW directly relates to the systematic, historical oppression of women. Violence against women takes many forms, and the preponderance of VAW typically falls into two categories: intimate partner violence (IPV) and non-partner sexual violence.

The World Health Organization (WHO) finds that 35% of women around the world have experienced either physical and/or sexual violence. Separately, the same WHO report shows that 30% of all women who have been in relationships experience some kind of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV). As many as 1 in 4 women experience physical or sexual violence during pregnancy. Not only does IPV put women's lives in mortal danger (intimate partners account for 38% of all murdered women), but abuse leads to higher rates of health problems like anxiety, depression, substance abuse, and vulnerability to HIV.

One in 10 women in the European Union report having experienced cyber-harassment since the age of 15 (including having received unwanted, offensive sexually explicit emails or SMS messages, or offensive, inappropriate advances on social networking sites).

The causes of gender-based violence (GBV) are truly global. Gender inequality, impunity for perpetrators under the law, low levels of education, witnessing abuse between parents, or having experienced abuse as a child are among social and cultural norms contributing to the complexity of VAW.

Kinds of Violence Identified by UN Women

Which of the following types of violence will be a focus of attention for your committee?

1) Violence by an intimate partner

The most common form of violence experienced by women globally is physical violence inflicted by an intimate partner, with women beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused.

Studies have found that rates of women suffering physical violence perpetrated by a current or former intimate partner range from 6 per cent in China and 7 per cent in Canada to over 48 per cent in Zambia, Ethiopia and Peru.

Several global surveys suggest that half of all women who die from homicide are killed by their current or former husbands or partners.

- In Australia, Canada, and Israel 40 to 70 per cent of female murder victims were killed by their partners, according to the World Health Organization.
- In the United States, one-third of women murdered each year are killed by intimate partners.
- In South Africa, a woman is killed every six hours by an intimate partner.
- In India, 22 women were killed each day in dowry-related murders in 2007.
- In Guatemala, two women are murdered, on average, each day.

2) Sexual violence

Sexual violence includes abusive sexual contact, forcing a woman to engage in a sexual act without her consent, and attempted or completed sex acts with a woman who is ill, disabled, under pressure or under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

Rates of sexual violence are difficult to establish because in many societies sexual violence remains an issue of deep shame for women and often their families. Statistics on rape from police records, for example, are notoriously unreliable because of significant underreporting.

- According to the World Health Organization, the proportion of women suffering sexual violence by non-partners after the age of 15 varies from less than 1 per cent in Ethiopia and Bangladesh to between 10 and 12 per cent in Peru, Samoa and the United Republic of Tanzania.
- In Switzerland, 22.3 per cent of women experience sexual violence by non-partners in their lifetime.
- In Canada a study of adolescents aged 15 to 19 found that 54 per cent of girls had experienced “sexual coercion” in a dating relationship. Forced and unregistered marriages can increase the vulnerability of women to violence, including sexual violence. The practice of early marriage – a form of sexual violence – is common worldwide, with more than 60 million girls worldwide married before the age of 18, primarily in South Asia (31.1 million) and Sub-Saharan Africa (14.1 million).

Young girls forced into marriage and into sexual relations may suffer health risks, including exposure to HIV/AIDS, and limited school attendance. One effect of sexual abuse is traumatic gynecologic fistula: an injury resulting from severe tearing of the vaginal tissues, rendering the woman incontinent and socially undesirable.

3) Sexual violence in armed conflict

Sexual violence in conflict is a serious, present-day atrocity affecting millions of people, primarily women and girls.

It is frequently a conscious strategy employed on a large scale by armed groups to humiliate opponents, terrify individuals and destroy societies. Women and girls may also be subjected to sexual exploitation by those mandated to protect them.

Women as old as grandmothers and as young as toddlers have routinely suffered violent sexual abuse at the hands of military and rebel forces.

Rape has long been used as a tactic of war, with violence against women during or after armed conflicts reported in every international or non-international war-zone.

- In the Democratic Republic of Congo approximately 1,100 rapes are being reported each month, with an average of 36 women and girls raped every day. It is believed that over 200,000 women have suffered from sexual violence in that country since armed conflict began.
- The rape and sexual violation of women and girls is pervasive in the conflict in the Darfur region of Sudan.

- Between 250,000 and 500,000 women were raped during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda.
- Sexual violence was a characterizing feature of the 14-year long civil war in Liberia.
- During the conflict in Bosnia in the early 1990s, between 20,000 and 50,000 women were raped.

4) Violence and HIV/AIDS

Several studies from around the globe confirm the links between violence against women and HIV. Women's inability to negotiate safe sex and refuse unwanted sex is closely linked to the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. Unwanted sex results in a higher risk of abrasion and bleeding and easier transmission of the virus.

Women who are beaten by their partners are 48 per cent more likely to be infected with HIV/AIDS.

Young women are particularly vulnerable to coerced sex and are increasingly being infected with HIV/AIDS. Over half of new HIV infections worldwide are occurring among young people between the ages of 15 and 24, and more than 60 per cent of HIV-positive youth in this age bracket are female. The vulnerability of women and girls to HIV remains particularly high in sub-Saharan Africa; 80 % of all women in the world living with HIV live in this region.

Child marriage is most common in Southern Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, with 44 per cent of women married before their eighteenth birthday in Southern Asia and 37 per cent of women married before their eighteenth birthday in sub-Saharan Africa. The marriage of girls under the age 15 is also highest in those two regions, at 16 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively.

Social norms can and do change, however, with the rate of marriage of girls under the age of 15 declining globally from 12 per cent around 1990 to 7 per cent around 2015, although disparities are found across regions and countries. The most rapid reduction in child marriage overall was recorded in Northern Africa, where the percentage of women married before the age of 18 dropped by more than half, from 29 per cent to 13 per cent, over the past 25 years.

Overall, rates of female genital mutilation/cutting have been declining over the past three decades. However, not all countries have made progress and the pace of decline has been uneven. Today, in the 30 countries, for which data were available, around 1 in 3 girls aged 15 to 19 have undergone the practice, versus 1 in 2 in the mid-1980s.

5) Female Genital Mutilation/Genital Cutting

Female Genital Mutilation/Genital Cutting (FGM/C) refers to several types of traditional cutting operations performed on women and girls.

- It is estimated that between 130 and 140 million girls and women alive today have undergone FGM/C, mainly in Africa and some Middle Eastern countries.
- 3 million girls a year are thought to be at risk of genital mutilation.

6) Dowry murder

Dowry murder is a brutal practice where a woman is killed by her husband or in-laws because her family cannot meet their demands for dowry — a payment made to a woman's in-laws upon her marriage as a gift to her new family.

While dowries or similar payments are prevalent worldwide, dowry murder occurs predominantly in South Asia.

7) “Honour killing”

In many societies, rape victims, women suspected of engaging in premarital sex, and women accused of adultery have been murdered by their relatives because the violation of a woman's chastity is viewed as an affront to the family's honour.

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates that the annual worldwide number of so-called “honour killing” victims may be as high as 5,000 women.

8) Trafficking in persons

Although the global scale of human trafficking is difficult to quantify, it is estimated that as many as 2.5 million people are trafficked annually into situations including prostitution, forced labour, slavery or servitude. Women and girls account for about 80 per cent of the detected victims.

9) Discrimination and violence

Many women face multiple forms of discrimination and increased risk of violence. Factors such as women's ethnicity, caste, class, migrant or refugee status, age, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, disability or HIV status will influence what forms of violence they suffer and how they experience it.

- Indigenous women in Canada are five times more likely than other women of the same age to die as the result of violence.
- In India, Dalit women experience high rates of sexual violence committed by men of higher caste.
- In Europe, North America and Australia, over half of women with disabilities have experienced physical abuse, compared to one-third of non-disabled women.

10) Sexual harassment

- Between 40 and 50 percent of women in European Union countries experience unwanted sexual advancements, physical contact or other forms of sexual harassment at their workplace.
- In the United States, 83 percent of girls aged 12 to 16 experience sexual harassment in public schools.
- Small surveys in Asia-Pacific countries indicate that 30 to 40 per cent of women workers report some form of harassment – verbal, physical or sexual.

Violence against women in police custody is common and includes sexual violence, inappropriate surveillance, strip searches conducted by men and demands for sexual acts in exchange for privileges or basic necessities.

Causes, Consequences, and Costs of Gender-Based Violence (UN Women)

Violence against women occurs irrespective of culture, geographic location, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, age, religion, and all other markers of identity. The historical, social, and political domination of men over women (patriarchy) is at the root of the causes of gender-based violence (GBV). Gender norms that devalue the role of women in society, such as those that dictate female sexuality and family roles, can lead to GBV when a woman is punished for activity perceived as outside the norm, perpetuating male dominance over women as well as social standards that oppress women. Cultural norms and traditions also can lead to GBV, e.g. “honor killings,” female genital mutilation, child marriage, son preference, and rape excused by custom (such as marital or “date” rape). Discrimination against women has real economic impacts that diminish their power in society and can keep women from obtaining work (or work that pays a fair, livable wage). Financial abuse by partners keeps women out of control of their (or their household’s) finances and limits their ability to leave an abusive situation without their own money or economic literacy skills. Situations of conflict also bring about GBV through use of rape and sexual and reproductive coercion as an act of war and a tool of ethnic cleansing. The complex and varied causes of violence against women exhibit why the international community must devote significant resources to ending it.

The costs of violence against women are extremely high. They include the direct costs of services to treat and support abused women and their children and to bring perpetrators to justice.

The indirect costs include lost employment and productivity, and the costs in human pain and suffering.

- The cost of intimate partner violence in the United States alone exceeds \$5.8 billion per year: \$4.1 billion is for direct medical and health care services, while productivity losses account for nearly \$1.8 billion.
- A 2004 study in the United Kingdom estimated the total direct and indirect costs of domestic violence, including pain and suffering, to be £23 billion per year or £440 per person.
- In Canada, the annual costs of direct expenditures related to violence against women have been estimated at 684 million Canadian dollars for the criminal justice system, 187 million for police and 294 million for the cost of counselling and training, totalling more than 1 billion a year.
- In Uganda the cost of domestic violence was estimated at 2.5 million United States dollars in 2007.

Solutions

A complex but essential approach to eliminating VAW includes addressing specific topics such as creating safe public spaces, engaging men and boys to reduce intimate partner

violence, working against norms that subjugate (control, overpower) women and excuse abuse against them, and valuing women.

CSW and UN Women work to prevent and respond to violence, to increase access to services for survivors and to make private and public spaces safer for women and girls. At the global level, they work to advance international policies by providing support to the United Nations General Assembly and the CSW, and by ensuring that the post-2015 development agenda includes specific targets to end violence against women and girls. Agreements at the international level provide the basis for UN Women to support countries in adopting and implementing laws and policies aligned with such international standards.

To do this, they partner with Governments, UN agencies, civil society organizations, and other institutions to build capacity to prevent and respond to violence and to raise awareness of its causes and consequences. They provide guidance on preventing violence against women and girls with a focus on changing the attitudes and behaviours which tolerate such violence and perpetuate gender inequality. UN Women does this by identifying good practices and sharing them with relevant stakeholders. CSW and UN Women also provide guidance on how to improve the quality of and access to essential services

Part 6 Meeting 1 Committee Topics

Committee 1: Expanding Access to Services

How can access be expanded to so that women and girls who experience violence get what they need? Women and girls' needs are still not being met; why is that, and what can be done? What services do your countries and regions offer?

Although progress is being made globally, many women and girls who experience physical and sexual violence still lack access to quality services. Such services include keeping women and girls safe, providing health care for their injuries, responding to their sexual and reproductive health needs, including provision of post-rape care and counselling, and facilitating their access to the police and justice system.

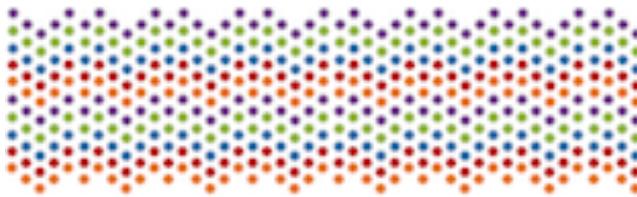
The United Nations Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence

UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP, UNODC

ESSENTIAL SERVICES PACKAGE FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS SUBJECT TO VIOLENCE

Core Elements and Quality
Guidelines

-  Module 1
Overview and
Introduction
-  Module 2
Health
-  Module 3
Justice and Policing
-  Module 4
Social Services
-  Module 5
Coordination and
Governance of
Coordination



The United Nations Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, a partnership by UN Women, UNFPA, WHO, UNDP and UNODC, aims to provide greater access to a coordinated set of essential and quality multi-sectoral services for all women and girls who have experienced gender based violence.

The Programme identifies the essential services to be provided by the health, social services, police and justice sectors as well as guidelines for the coordination of essential services and the governance of coordination processes and mechanisms. Service delivery guidelines for the core elements of each essential service have been identified to ensure the delivery of high-quality services, particularly for low- and middle-income countries, for women and girls experiencing violence. Taken together, these elements comprise the “Essential services package”.

The Essential Services Package comprises five overlapping modules:

- Module 1: Overview and introduction
- Module 2: Health essential services
- Module 3: Justice and policing essential services
- Module 4: Essential social services
- Module 5: Essential actions for coordination and governance of coordination
- Complete package

- See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/12/essential-services-package-for-women-and-girls-subject-to-violence#sthash.S8i2xV3q.dpuf>

Committee 2: Safety in Public Spaces

How can safety in public spaces be created? What is your country doing in urban and rural areas, in schools, in other public institutions, and in public community spaces and facilities such as playgrounds and concert halls?

Sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public spaces are an everyday occurrence for women and girls around the world—in urban and rural areas, in developed and developing countries.

Women and girls experience and fear various types of sexual violence in public spaces, from unwanted sexual remarks and touching to rape and femicide. It happens on streets, in and around public transportation, schools and workplaces, in public sanitation facilities, water and food distribution sites and parks.

This reality reduces women's and girls' freedom of movement. It reduces their ability to participate in school, work and public life. It limits their access to essential services and their enjoyment of cultural and recreational opportunities. It also negatively impacts their health and well-being.

Although violence in the private domain is now widely recognized as a human rights violation, violence against women and girls, especially sexual harassment in public spaces, remains a largely neglected issue, with few laws or policies in place to prevent and address it.

- See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/creating-safe-public-spaces#sthash.hAmLh63t.dpuf>

To address sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence in public spaces, UN Women, in partnership with UN-Habitat and UNICEF, implements the Safe Cities Initiative with a presence in over 20 cities, including New Delhi, Rio de Janeiro, Cairo, Kigali, Port Moresby, Quito, Dublin and Sakai. The goal is to reach 35 cities by 2017. UN Women's Global Flagship Initiative, "Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces," builds on its "Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women and Girls" Global Programme, launched in November 2010, with leading women's organizations, organizations, UN agencies, and more than 70 global and local partners. It is the first-ever global programme that develops, implements, and evaluates tools, policies and comprehensive approaches on the prevention of and response to sexual harassment and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls across different settings.

In 1995, the Beijing Platform for Action distinguished ending violence against women as one of the 12 critical areas to achieve gender equality. In 2013, the United Nations Commission for the Status of Women (CSW57) identified various forms of sexual violence against women and girls (SVAWG) in public spaces as a distinct area of concern, and called on governments to prevent it. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has set "the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres" as one of its specific goals (Target 5.2).

It began with founding programmes in Quito, Ecuador; Cairo, Egypt; New Delhi, India; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea; and Kigali, Rwanda, and now spans more than 20 cities.

UN Women's Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces Global Initiative continues to generate a number of innovative results through partnerships with mayors' offices, national governments, women's groups and other community partners.

The municipality of Quito, for example, has amended a local ordinance to strengthen action against sexual harassment in public spaces.

In Cairo, Egypt's Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development adopted women's safety audits to guide urban planning, and more than 100 youth agents of change (50 per cent young men and 50 per cent young women) have been engaged and are leading transformative activities in schools and other settings in the programme intervention sites to promote respectful gender relationships, gender equality, and safety in public spaces.

Port Moresby's National Capital District has taken steps to improve women's safety in local markets, including budget allocations which ensure that the needs of women and men are taken into account across different municipal departments.

- See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/creating-safe-public-spaces#sthash.G5bfPjy4.dpuf>

Participating cities commit to:

1. Identify gender-responsive locally relevant and owned interventions.

Conducting a scoping study is essential as it provides specific data to ensure a deep understanding of local forms of sexual violence against women and girls (SVAWG) in public spaces. Key stakeholders reflect on the findings to develop programmes with a specific set of results based on the local context and joint accountability

2. Develop and effectively implement comprehensive laws and policies to prevent and respond to sexual violence in public spaces. Capacity building, awareness raising, community mobilization, and other locally appropriate strategies empower government and community authorities, women's grassroots and community partners so that they are equipped to advocate, develop, and monitor the effective implementation of law and policies, and to make sure that accompanying resources are in place to support this action.

3. Investments in the safety and economic viability of public spaces. A gender approach to urban planning ensures that the needs of women and men are taken into account across all municipal departments' planning. This includes public infrastructure (investments in safe potable water, improved sanitation, lighting, creation of market stalls, provision of training on financial literacy) and economic development which focus on opportunities for women's empowerment.

4. Change attitudes and behaviors to promote women's and girls' rights to enjoy public spaces free from violence. Girls, boys and other influential champions are engaged in transformative activities in schools and other settings to promote respectful gender relationships, gender equality, and safety in public spaces.

UN Women is a strong technical partner in city-led programmes. At the global level, a package of guidance notes and other tools are available which can be adapted to country context. In collaboration with partners across cities, UN Women facilitates an online Knowledge and Exchange Platform, and convenes a Global Leaders' Meeting to promote

exchange and advance knowledge on trends, practices and lessons learned in safe cities from safe public spaces initiatives.

Partnerships for change:

At local, national and regional levels: Authorities from a range of sectors and ministries (economic development, urban planning, transport, community development, women's machinery, justice, police, education, health, etc.); grassroots women's, youth, and men's groups and organizations, UN agencies, regional human rights and women's rights mechanisms; research and educational institutions, private sector, media, etc.

At the global level: UN-Habitat, UNICEF and other agencies, Women in Cities International, Women and Habitat Network of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Huairou Commission, the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

Participating cities: Cairo, New Delhi, Kigali, Port Moresby, Quito, Cape Town, Mexico City, Rabat, Marrakech, Quezon City, Guatemala City, Medellin, Dushanbe, Maputo, Tegucigalpa, Dublin, Winnipeg (jointly with the Province of Manitoba in Canada), Reykjavik, Sakai, New York, and Brussels.

FACTS AND FIGURES - ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- In London, a 2012 study reveals that 43% of young women experienced some form of street harassment in 2011 (Ending Violence Against Women Coalition 2012).
- In Port Moresby, a scoping study reveals that over 90% of women and girls have experienced some form of sexual violence when accessing public transportation (UN Women 2014).
- In Kigali, baseline study shows that 55% of women reported that they were concerned about going to educational institutions after dark (UN Women 2013)

Achievements

- Quito (Ecuador) amended a local ordinance to strengthen action against sexual harassment in public spaces.
- Egypt's Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development adopted women's safety audits to ensure a gender approach to urban planning.
- Rwanda's Gender Monitoring Office launched their own training on the prevention of sexual harassment against women in public transportation.
- Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea) established vendors' associations in their safe market programme, with 50% representation of women in executive positions

Committee 3: Raising Awareness and the Improving the Collection of Data

How can CSW, through UN Women, support for better laws, policies and programmes to end violence against women be better implemented in your country and region with a database and distribution resources to improve the supply and exchange of knowledge. CSW and UN Women realize few policy-makers and practitioners have the access or time to review

volumes of literature and learn about the latest findings in different parts of the world on ‘what works; or ‘what to avoid.

How easy is the data base to access for your country? Does it cover what your country policy makers and practitioners need in order to make change?

What is your government doing or not doing? What support does your government need, or what support can they give others?

Violence against women is rooted in discrimination and inequality which makes it an extremely challenging problem to address. Men and women who have not had opportunities to question gender roles, attitudes and beliefs, cannot help change make changes in their own communities. Women who are unaware of their rights cannot claim them. Governments and organizations without access to gender equality standards, guidelines and tools cannot adequately address these issues. ‘

Violence against women and girls is a grave violation of human rights. It has immediate to long-term multiple physical, sexual and mental health consequences for women and girls, including death. It negatively affects women’s general well-being; prevents women from fully participating in society; and impacts families, the community and the country at large. It also has tremendous costs which impact national budgets and overall development.

Decades of mobilizing community resources by women’s movements have put ending violence against women high on national and international agendas. An unprecedented number of countries have laws against domestic violence, sexual assault, and other forms of violence against women.

The major challenge worldwide is to translate national and international policy commitments into practice.

To assist countries and practitioners, UN Women launched a global Virtual Knowledge Centre on how to address violence against women and girls.

It started in December 2006, when the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a comprehensive resolution calling for intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and requesting the Secretary-General to establish a coordinated database on the extent, nature and consequences of all forms of violence against women, and on the impact and effectiveness of policies and programmes for eliminating such violence.

The database was developed and launched in 2009, and was called the “UN Secretary-General’s database on violence against women”. In 2016, in accordance with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UN Women updated and redesigned the database and relaunched it as the “Global Database on Violence against Women”. UN Women serves as the secretariat for the database. CSW and UN Women believes once evidence accumulates and awareness grows, the potential for stopping all forms of violence does too.

See: <http://evaw.unwomen.org/en>

The UN Women Global Database on Violence against Women:

- Provides easy access to comprehensive and up-to-date information on measures undertaken by Governments to address all forms of violence against women;
- Increases opportunities for exchange of experiences in addressing violence against women;
- Strengthens the knowledge-base for effective policy responses to prevent and address violence against women;
- Encourages the further collection, availability, use and dissemination of data on violence against women, as well as analysis of such data.

The Global Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls

The Global Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls – www.endvawnow.org – developed by UN Women in partnership with civil society, provides over 700 practical tools in over 50 languages to assist programmers, policy-makers and advocates working to end violence against women and girls worldwide, including step-by-step guidance for developing legislation. The Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls features detailed guidance on how to implement laws, policies and programmes with access to promising practices, case studies and recommended programming tools from around the world.

Resources at the Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls features detailed guidance on how to implement laws, policies and programmes with access to promising practice, case studies and recommended programming tools from around the world.

- See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/increasing-knowledge-and-awareness#sthash.bOVnWJEL.dpuf>

Committee 4: Advocacy to End Violence Against Women

How can we better advocate (get public support for or recommend a particular cause or policy) to end violence against women looking at the problems and facts about the violence against women. Countries have made some progress and initiatives developed to address and prevent violence against women and girls have increased throughout the world in recent years. However, gaps still remain in too many countries. What can be done? How? By who? What is being done in your country? How can more be done?

Look at the UN campaign UNiTE since 2008. <http://endviolence.un.org/what.shtml>

Did you know the former UN Secretary-General's campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women has proclaimed every 25th of the month as "Orange Day" – a day to take action to raise awareness and prevent violence against women and girls. Orange Day February 2017 action theme for example was: "Violence Against Women and Girls and Women's Economic Empowerment"? Did you know that from 25 November 2016, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10 December, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign was a time to take action to end violence against women and girls around the world. If you didn't, why do you think that is? The data below comes from (<http://endviolence.un.org/situation.shtml>).

June 25, 2017 is the final day of JUEMUN 2017, and it is ORANGE Day! How orange can we be?

Launched in 2008, the United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE to End Violence against Women campaign aims to raise public awareness and increase political will and resources for preventing and ending all forms of violence against women and girls in all parts of the world.

The global vision of the UNiTE campaign is a world free from violence against all women and girls. This vision can only be realized through meaningful actions and ongoing political commitments of national governments, backed by adequate resources.

The United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE campaign calls on all governments, civil society, women's organizations, men, young people, the private sector, the media and the entire UN system to join forces in addressing this global pandemic. Through its advocacy initiatives at the global, regional and national levels, the UNiTE campaign is working to mobilize individuals and communities. In addition to supporting the longstanding efforts of women's and civil society organizations, the campaign is actively engaging with men, young people, celebrities, artists, sports personalities, private sector and many more.

UNiTE Goals

- Adoption and enforcement of national laws to address and punish all forms of violence against women and girls, in line with international human rights standards.
- Adoption and implementation of multi-sectoral national action plans that emphasize prevention and that are adequately resourced.
- Establishment of data collection and analysis systems on the prevalence of various forms of violence against women and girls.
- Establishment of national and/or local campaigns and the engagement of a diverse range of civil society actors in preventing violence and in supporting women and girls who have been abused.
- Systematic efforts to address sexual violence in conflict situations and to protect women and girls from rape as a tactic of war and full implementation of related laws and policies.

Committee 5: Education for Prevention

What kind of education is there for prevention of violence against girls and women in your country and region? What is working and what isn't? Why is that? What can be done? How can it be done? Who are the actors (different groups who are working together).

Why work on Prevention?

In order to effectively address violence against women and girls (VAWG), a comprehensive approach is needed through the adoption and implementation of laws and policies, accurate and consistent data collection, prevention by addressing its root causes, and the provision of essential services to survivors. Over the past three decades there has been a growing momentum to eliminate and prevent all forms of violence against women and girls. Despite progress, the rates of VAWG remain alarmingly high, and many challenges still persist, including insufficient implementation of laws, policies and programmes, limited evaluation

of their impact, inadequate coordination; and limited access to services by all women subjected to violence.

The most significant challenge, however, remains the persistence of attitudes, behaviours and practices that perpetuate gender stereotypes, discrimination and inequality, as root causes of VAWG. Addressing this challenge lies at the core of prevention work.

What are the gaps?

In the area of prevention of VAWG, much work is yet to be done.

It still remains an area without a critical mass of data, expertise and interventions. It is often under-resourced and lacks impact evaluation. Unfortunately, the approach to prevention is often fragmented through stand-alone activities, limited, for example, to interventions such as awareness-raising and ad-hoc educational initiatives.

Growing evidence, however, indicates that successful prevention interventions must be multi-sectoral and mutually re-enforcing to address factors that contribute to the risk of VAW at all levels and by engaging a wide range of actors in the society.

- CSW/ UN Women's Strategy for Change

UN Women reflects the need for a holistic approach to violence against women through its Flagship Programme Initiative ("Flagship") on prevention and access to services to end violence against women. The Flagship is based on a theory of change which consists of three main areas:

- adoption and implementation of laws and policies that address VAW and overall gender discrimination and inequality that impede women from leaving abusive relationships;
- addressing the root causes of VAW, social norms, practices and behaviours that tolerate and condone VAW to prevent VAW occurring in the first place;
- and enhancing access of survivors to essential services to address their immediate needs and prevent violence from re-occurring.

The need for efficient data collection on VAW, as another main component of a comprehensive approach to VAW, is also addressed in another UN Women flagship programme on better production and use of gender statistics for evidence-based localization of the SDGs. UN Women continues discussions with other UN agencies, including UN Statistics Division, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO to address challenges of reliability and comparability of data collection through capacity building of national statistical offices.

UN Women also focuses on other thematic areas, such as economic empowerment of women and enhancing women's political participation to strengthen women's position in the society and create an enabling environment for preventing VAWG.

Violence against women and girls is rooted in gender-based discrimination and social norms and gender stereotypes that perpetuate such violence. Given the devastating effect violence has on women, efforts have mainly focused on responses and services for survivors.

However, the best way to end violence against women and girls is to prevent it from happening in the first place by addressing its root and structural causes.

Prevention should start early in life, by educating and working with young boys and girls promoting respectful relationships and gender equality. Working with youth is a “best bet” for faster, sustained progress on preventing and eradicating gender-based violence. While public policies and interventions often overlook this stage of life, it is a critical time when values and norms around gender equality are forged.

Prevention must support the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) placing a strong focus on prevention through the promotion of gender equality, women’s empowerment and their enjoyment of human rights. It also means making the home and public spaces safer for women and girls, ensuring women’s economic autonomy and security, and increasing women’s participation and decision-making powers—in the home and relationships, as well as in public life and politics. Working with men and boys helps accelerate progress in preventing and ending violence against women and girls. They can begin to challenge the deeply rooted inequalities and social norms that perpetuate men’s control and power over women and reinforce tolerance for violence against women and girls.

An estimated 246 million girls and boys are harassed and abused in and around school every year. While girls and boys can be both victims and perpetrators of violence, the extent and form differs. Incidents of SRGBV (School-related Gender-based Violence) have been recorded in every region and country where it has been studied and cuts across cultures, regions and peoples, across economies and affects boys and girls. SRGBV is a human rights issue and an education issue: a violation of human rights and a serious barrier to learning. It has long lasting consequences on children’s psychological, social and physical wellbeing and affects their ability to learn and stay in school.

In August 2014, a coalition of governments, development organizations, civil society activists and research institutions came together to collaborate on ending gender-based violence in and around schools.

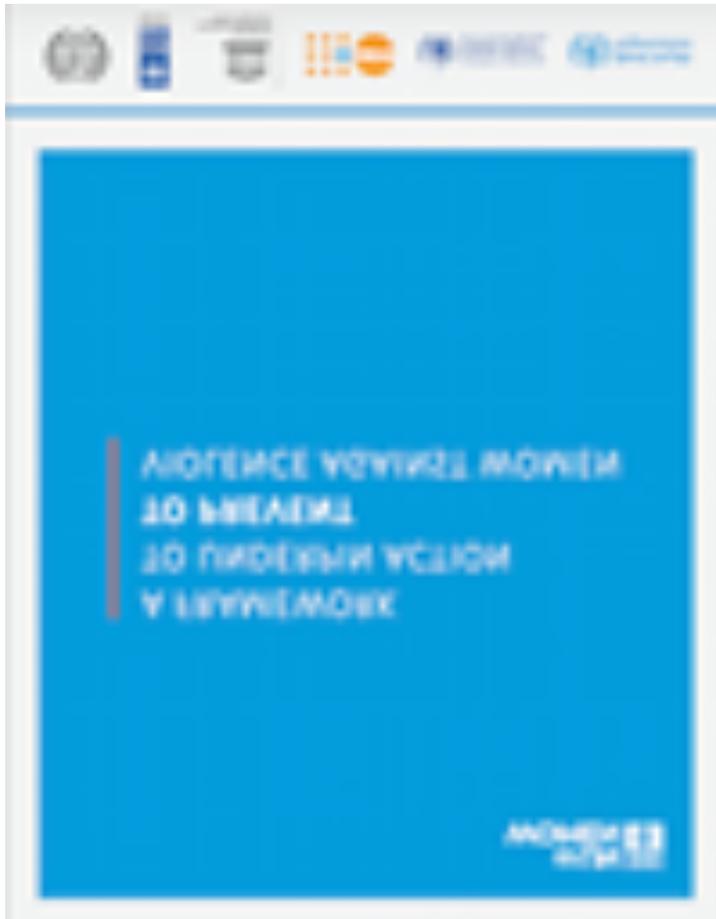
Two key international agreements are:

- 1) The Sustainable Development Goals 4a: Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and *gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.*
- 2) The Incheon Declaration endorsed at the World Education Forum, Article 8 states: “We recognize the importance of gender equality in achieving the right to education for all. We are therefore committed to *supporting gender-sensitive policies, planning and learning environments; mainstreaming gender issues in teacher training and curricula; and eliminating gender based discrimination and violence in schools.*”

Some CSW/UN Women Action with other Actors

1. Education for prevention

At a national level, UN Women supports a range of prevention activities, supporting research to get data on the attitudes, perceptions and behaviour of men and boys as well as young people related to various forms of violence; supporting advocacy, awareness-raising, community mobilization and educational programmes, as well as legal and policy reforms.



A framework to underpin action to prevent violence against women

The joint UN framework draws together contemporary knowledge and practice in violence prevention. Its focus is on addressing the root causes as well as risk and protective factors associated with violence against women.

2. The United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) is committed to accelerating action on girls' education to realize "A world where all girls and boys are empowered through quality education to realize their full potential and contribute to transforming societies where gender equality becomes a reality." By 2030, the UNGEI partnership aims to support:- Countries to achieve measurable change in girls' education and gender equality; and- Global and national development agendas to reflect emerging concerns on girls' education and gender equality, especially for the most marginalized. UNGEI is committed to responding to the urgency of action needed to tackle issues for today's generation of girls. It believes in strengthening linkages and

complementarity with other partners, networks and coalitions to maximize resources and results for girls' education and gender equality.

UNGEI's Policy Advocacy Agenda includes the reduction/elimination of school-related gender-based violence. This is a country index:
<http://www.ungei.org/infobycountry/index.html>

3. UN Women, in partnership with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) has developed a global non-formal education curriculum to engage young people in efforts to prevent and end violence against girls and women.

A first of its kind, "Voices against Violence" is a co-educational curriculum designed for various age groups ranging from 5 to 25 years. It provides young people with tools and expertise to understand the root causes of violence in their communities, to educate and involve their peers and communities to prevent such violence, and to learn about where to access support if violence is experienced.

The curriculum includes a Handbook for peer educators that will help them deliver age-appropriate sessions, as well as age-appropriate non-formal education activities. The youngest groups may start out with storytelling and games that prompt them to think about gender bias and stereotypes, while older age groups can organize poster competitions, visit and volunteer with local shelters, or develop local community-based campaigns and projects to address specific forms of violence against girls and women.

Voices against Violence is a tool for young people around the world. It can be adapted to national context, translated into local languages, and rolled out in schools and communities in partnership with youth organizations, UN partners and governments.

4. At a regional level, UN Women supports Partners for Prevention (P4P), a regional UN joint programme for Asia and the Pacific that provides new knowledge and technical support to prevent gender-based violence in the region. The Programme's long-term goal is to reduce the prevalence of gender-based violence in the region through behaviour and attitudinal change among boys and men, increase institutional capacity and facilitate policy enhancements.

4. **Global Working Group to End School-related Gender-based Violence (SRGBV)**
Awareness-raising and community mobilization, including through media and social media, is another important component of an effective prevention strategy.



Going forward, the Global Working Group to End SRGBV will continue to:

- Promote the generation of knowledge, evidence and standards of response
- Undertake global and joint advocacy efforts to highlight the issues around SRGBV and its implications for achieving the SDGs
- Disseminate and make accessible a wide range of tools and resources

The Global Working Group is comprised of more than 30 of the leading international agencies, civil society organizations and institutions promoting girls' education and gender equality. It is co-hosted by the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative (UNGEI) and UNESCO, with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

5. Recommendations by the Global Partners' Group to end School-Related Gender-Based Violence (Coordinated by UNESCO and UN Women).
This Global guidance on addressing school-related gender-based violence represents a collaborative effort, made possible thanks to the support and advice received from many individuals and organizations

<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/modules/view/5-education.html#442>

- 1) Violence during pregnancy

Violence before and during pregnancy has serious health consequences for both mother and child. It leads to high-risk pregnancies and pregnancy-related problems, including miscarriage, pre-term labour and low birth weight.

Female infanticide, prenatal sex selection and systematic neglect of girls are widespread in South and East Asia, North Africa, and the Middle East.

Conclusion – A Few Friendly Words of Advice

1. Remember that you represent the government of a country. It will be difficult, at times, for you to speak as your country's Chief Diplomat on the CSW for three reasons: (a) your own personal values may be different, (b) an analytical review of your research from government and non-government sources may lead you to conclusions which differ from your

government's statements and policies, (c) it may be difficult to get information on your government's views.

2. Do your best to accurately represent your country and the region of countries you represent. Make 'educated guesses' if necessary about your country's likely policies. Base your 'educated guesses' on your research about your country's circumstances, the current government's political policies, statements at the United Nations and at CSW, and their positions on international Women's Rights treaties.

3. Do all of your research before you arrive at JUEMUN. The meeting is a **Think Tank**. Use your research to share information with other delegates and as the starting point for your Committee's collaboration.

4. Do your Research in 3 areas: (a) Key information about your country. (b) Information about the issue (c) Information about the work of CSW, UN Women, other UN organizations, International NGOs, and Journalists' reports on your Committee topic

5. Get information from 2, or more, sources on key issues that you are especially interested in: (a) Governments (b) UN Women and other UN organizations (c) NGOs (d) Journalists' Reports in the News Media. Check facts by reviewing more than one source of information. Look for different views on key issues. Attend any CSW related special guest lectures, film showings, and photo exhibitions on your campus or elsewhere in your community. Even though you will speak with your own government's voice, you should know about the full range of perspectives on your topic.

6. Do your Research in 2 languages, whenever possible, if you are bilingual. Use your strongest language for the first step of your research. Use your other language for the second step. For example, if you are a native-speaker of Japanese and you represent Burkina Faso on your Committee, do your research on Burkina Faso's situation first in Japanese by using information from the Japan International Cooperation Agency, the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Embassy of Burkina Faso in another country, and other websites. Then, look for the same type of information in English on the same websites, or use other sites that have similar information. This way you will have a clear understanding of the issue and you will learn the English vocabulary to use at the meeting

7. Please do not let the volume of your research overwhelm you. Focus your research. Try to become an expert on one aspect of your topic. You cannot learn everything there is to know about your Committee on the CSW at JUEMUN. But you can learn something useful, if you focus your attention. You can learn enough to be a creative and constructive committee member!

8. Use your JUEMUN CSW research to make your academic life, easier. In your university courses use the content of your JUEMUN research whenever possible to make speeches, write essays, or do short research reports.

The CSW work you do might be the beginning of your Graduation Thesis. Some undergraduate JUEMUN delegates have found their research helped them prepare for successful Graduate School applications.

Building Consensus

How much compromise are you willing to make in order to advance the Rights of Women everywhere in our world?

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan wrote a report in 2005 called, "*In Larger Freedom*" which criticized the General Assembly for focusing so much on compromise and consensus that it was passing watered down resolutions reflecting "the lowest common denominator of widely different opinions. "The challenge of successful CSW diplomatic negotiation is to keep moving forward on the path of equal status for women and men in sustainable ways as quickly as possible.

Good Luck CSW Delegates!