

Letters from Committee Directors,

It is our distinct honor and a great pleasure to welcome you to MUNIC TEN! We are thrilled to be chairing this wonderful committee and willing to promote an interesting conference to you all. Both MUN great enthusiasts, we strongly believe in the power of debate, in the importance of discussing tough themes in order to seek a reasonable solution and in the ability of models UN to change the world around us. If you share at least one of the above, do not hesitate and join us!

Being at UN Women represents a great challenge. An institute deals with topics with really close to our everyday lives. Promoting women rights and structuring ways to achieve gender equality is, or at least should be, a cause that moves us all along. It is for this reason that we chose topics that offer the possibility of a much deeper analysis and discussion; those often left aside when discussing the gender issue.

We are inexplicably excited as we carry on with the preparations and hope you are as well. Previous research, readings and preparing arguments is a fundamental part of the conference, which is why we encourage you to dedicate yourselves at this moment, in order to make the most of the days of the conference. We hope to have days of very informative, fruitful and thought-provoking debates, but a Model UN conference is also more than that. MUNIC TEN, especially our lovely committee, is going to be a fantastic opportunity to dig ourselves in a diplomatic environment, in touch with a variety of people from different backgrounds and cultures. Meeting people, making friends, enjoying the socials, these are all at the heart of the Islamabad's conference tradition.

To sum up, we are looking forward to meeting you and have a unforgettable experience at UN Women!

PS: If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask any of us (Anqa or Ahsan). We will be glad to help.

I. HISTORY OF COMMITTEE:

UNWOMEN strives to acquire equal rights of women through empowerment all around the globe. UN Women has instilled itself as one of the official UN bodies under the United Nations General Assembly as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women as of 2010. UN Women strives for joining resources and mandates as one of UN's reform agenda and increases the potential of global acceleration of reaching gender equality. UN Women works in collaboration with four sections of the

UN system; which specifically focuses upon gender equality and women's empowerment. These are the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI) and United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM). . The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) was formally created by the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in 2010, born from a merger of several previously extant bodies and committees pertaining to interests of a similar nature.

It is pertinent to mention here that in 1946 four female diplomatic figures namely, Minerva Bernardino (Dominican Republic), Virginia Gildersleeve (United States), Bertha Lutz (Brazil) and Wu YiFang (China) were the females who worked and were involved in the formation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. . As the Universal Declaration of Human Rights progresses, the sub-commission dedicated to the Status of Women was established under the Commission of Human Rights. In May 1946, the sub-commission dedicated to the status of Women earned its full commission status. (ii) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights calls upon the Governments to encourage women to take an active part in national and international Affairs so to create and distribute equality between both genders.

UN WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

1947 - 1962: *Formation of Legal foundation and Promotion of Women's right*

1963 - 1975: *Expansion of CSW and Assisting Women's Right in Developing Nations*

1986 - 1995: *Women Rights Development*

1996 - 2006: *Consolidating the Advancement of Women's Right*

2006 - Present UN Women

UN Women's priority areas:

As mentioned above upon the mission of the UNWomen and its commitment towards empowerment of women in major fields the country is huge. There are certain areas on which the focus is always been carried out. Areas such as expanding women's leadership

and political participation, enhancing women's economic empowerment, ending violence against women, fostering peace and security, incorporating gender equality into governance and national planning, informing the post-2015 development goals, bringing a gender equality lens to programs that address HIV and AIDS and any other agenda points as brought forward to the floor.

Since its inception, UN Women has achieved tremendous things such as building an international movement, COMMIT, in these national leaders take commitment to eradicate and reduce violence against women *regardless of their age* and financial backgrounds, building public and private partnership between Government and Non-Governmental Organizations on various levels.

TOPIC AREA:

Strengthening the Rights of Female Children

1. Introduction:

Happening in public and private places, from domestic violence to sexual harassment, women are exposed to a number of violent situations in life. Female genital mutilation, human trafficking and gender-related killings are more severe examples. The effects of such a systematic violence are long lasting and impact not only the women involved, but also their families and community as a whole. Furthermore, in the aftermath of such violence, a lot of costs may arise reaching from health care to legal expenses. However, also in less severe cases of e.g. discrimination, the effects can be traumatic. The trauma is enhanced by silence and non-punishment..

In the last decades, as a result of women's daily struggle and global effort, several gains were made towards gender equality. However, women still suffer severe disadvantage in education system throughout their lives. In this sense, this topic aims to discuss the critical role played by promoting female children's access to education as a basis to equal opportunity for employment and adequate work.

It is vital that not only more girls enter school, but also that they stay at school; it is an intrinsic lever to achieving other development goals. Educating women can prevent or

substantively reduce effects of the cycle of poverty, as it empowers women to make their choices according to their honest will. Adolescent girls that attend school not only delay marriage and childbearing, but are also less vulnerable to STDs. In addition, these girls have a higher potential to earn increased wages in the future. Gender equality and empowerment of women can only become a reality if we commit ourselves to educating and training women and girls. When all children have access to a quality education based in human rights and gender equality, it creates effect of opportunity that influences generations to come.

UN Women wants to discuss ways to prevent and respond to violence, to increase women's access to basic services and to make private and public spaces safer for them. At a global level, in support to the United Nations General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women, it has been included in the agenda of several countries specific measures that target the issue in hand.

The topic revolves around the different factors, which contribute to subjugation of women as a cause of mistreatment starting right from the beginning of their life. Under this topic we would critically debate upon issues that are linked to the hurdles and troubles faced by a child girl. The topic would stay incomplete without the comparison from both the genders i.e. males and females under the same scenario hence the gender gap in education, science, technology, living standards etc will be kept in mind before reaching to any conclusions. The situation has many issues under discussion which can be separated out on the bases of developed, developing and under developed countries.

In setting up this topic we would certainly want delegates to focus upon some key issues such as girl's education, early marriages, female genital mutilation, missing girls from school, sex education (delayed pregnancy until physical and emotional maturity is attained), child labor, Female child education etc. but are not limited to these topics. Delegates can bring to the floor any pertinent issue which hits the topic directly. It is pertinent to understand that this topic has huge scope for improvisation and valuable insight.

Strengthening International and Regional Framework

Contextual Issues

"Ending all forms of discrimination and violence against women by 2030 is the mission of our time."¹

While the topic centralizes on the rights of female children, there are various sub-issues to be considered.

The mandate for UN-Women, is articulated in General Assembly resolution 64/2009 as follows:

"Based on the principle of universality, the Entity shall provide, through its normative support functions and operational activities, guidance and technical support to all Member States, across all levels of development and in all regions, at their request, on gender equality, the empowerment and rights of women and gender mainstreaming²."

In the context of global governance, it is important to note that the UN Women combines the mandate of four agencies. It is important to note that the existing UN Women Strategic Plan (2014-2017) focuses more on the identification of women's economic and political empowerment and curtailing violence committed against girls and women³.

¹ Mlambo-Ngcuka, Closing remarks of UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka at the Executive Board Annual Session, 19 June 2014

² UN General Assembly, System-wide coherence (A/RES/64/289), 2010, p. 9.

³ UN-Women, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women strategic plan, 2014-2017, 2013, p. 8.

2.1. Assessing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

In 2015, countries agreed on the need for comprehensive financing for development, adopted a new sustainable development agenda and charted a universal and legally binding global agreement on climate change.

Concluding the negotiating process that had taken more than two years and featured the unprecedented participation of civil society, on 2 August 2015, governments united behind an ambitious agenda that features 17 new **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs) and 169 targets that aim to end poverty, combat inequalities and promote prosperity while protecting the environment by 2030.⁴

Agreed by consensus, the draft outcome document “**Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**”, was formally adopted by world leaders at the United Nations Summit for the post-2015 development agenda, held in New York from 25-27 September 2015.⁵

To spur concrete commitments and position gender equality, women’s rights and women’s empowerment at the center of the global agenda, UN Women and the People’s Republic of China co-hosted and co-organized a “**Global Leaders**” Meeting on Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: A Commitment to Action” on 27 September 2015, at UN Headquarters in New York. During the meeting President Xi Jinping announced that to support women’s development worldwide and the work of UN Women, China will contribute USD 10 million for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the realization of the related goals in the post-2015 development agenda. President Xi further said China will support women and girls in other developing countries by providing health care, vocational training, financing for education and other assistance.⁶

⁴ <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

⁵ http://www.un.org/pga/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2015/08/120815_outcome-document-of-Summit-for-adoption-of-the-post-2015-development-agenda.pdf

⁶ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2015/9/press-release-global-leaders-meeting>

The Global Leaders' Meeting is the culmination of an 18-month long journey, spearheaded by UN Women, to review the status of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action on its 20th anniversary. A record 167 countries undertook national reviews that assessed progress and gaps as a basis for new national actions plans to accelerate achievement of women's empowerment and gender equality.⁷

The new sustainable development agenda builds on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), drafted in 2000, which focused on reducing poverty, hunger, disease, gender inequality, and ensuring access to water and sanitation by 2015. The new sustainable development goals, and broader sustainability agenda, aim to complete what the MDGs did not achieve, and go much further: addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality and the universal need for development that works for all people.⁸

The new agenda is an action plan for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. 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. The new agenda is based on 17 goals, including a stand-alone goal on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (**SDG 5**) as well as gender-sensitive targets in other goals.

Important links:

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

http://www.un.org/pga/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2015/08/120815_outcome-document-of-Summit-for-adoption-of-the-post-2015-development-agenda.pdf

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2015/9/27-september-event>

⁷ <http://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/step-it-up/commitments>

⁸ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2015/9/27-september-event>

2.2 Empowering young female children and achieving gender equality through reduction in violence

With the context of the SDGs, it is imperative to look at how the existent framework relates to an increasing level of gender equality and ensuring rights of female children.

The 5th SDG sets its target as:

- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- 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.

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 persists through arcane legal and social norms.⁹

Great gender disparities remain in economic and political surroundings. 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. As of August 2015, only 22 per cent of all national parliamentarians were female, a slow rise from 11.3 per cent in 1995.¹⁰

Meanwhile, violence against women is a pandemic affecting all countries, even those that have made laudable progress in other areas. Approximately 125 million girls and women alive today have undergone female genital-mutilation/cutting according to data for 29 countries in Africa and the Middle East, where the practice is concentrated.¹¹ Annually, at least a further 3 million girls, mostly under the age of 15, are at risk. Among women and girls aged between 15 and 49, 44 per cent in Eastern and Southern Africa and 40 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa have undergone female genital-mutilation/cutting.¹¹ UN Women joined

⁹ <http://constitutions.unwomen.org/en>

¹⁰ <http://progress.unwomen.org/en/2015/chapter2/>

¹¹ United Nations Children's Fund, Monitoring the situation of Children and Women Global Database 2014 (see [http:// data.unicef.org/](http://data.unicef.org/))

the voices of many global actors in pointing out that violence was absent from the Millennium Development Goals.

Between 1995 and 2010, the rate of child, early and forced marriage consistently declined among girls under the age of 15, to 8 per cent and under the age of 18, to 26 per cent. However, in 2014, 700 million, more than 1 in 3, women worldwide were married before the age of 18, with 250 million married before the age of 15.¹² Rates are highest in South Asia, where nearly half of all girls were married before the age of 18, and one in five before the age of 15. This is followed by West and Central Africa, sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern and Southern Africa.¹³

UN Women works to empower women and girls in all of its programs. Advancing women's political participation and leadership and economic empowerment are two of the entity's central goals. UN Women supports more women to get on ballots, attain political office and go to polls to vote.¹⁴ UN Women assists females to secure jobs, accumulate assets, and influence institutions and public policies, while underlining the need to recognize, reduce and redistribute the burden on women for unpaid care. UN Women promotes women's role and leadership in humanitarian action, including in conflict-prevention and efforts to ensure peace and security. UN Women advocates for ending violence, raise awareness of its causes and consequences and boost efforts to prevent and respond, including ensuring the rights of women living with HIV. UN Women also works to ensure that governments reflect the needs of women and girls in their planning and budgeting, and engage men and boys, urging them to become champions of gender equality, including through our **HeForShe** initiative¹⁵. UN Women's mechanism for such change primarily comes through collaboration. One such recent example includes the partnership of UN Women with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, which has more than 10 million members in 145 countries for providing platforms to girls and young women across

¹² United Nations Children's Fund, Ending Child Marriage: Progress and Prospects (New York, 2014)

¹³ United Nations Children's Fund, Monitoring the Situation of Children and Women Global Database 2014. (see <http://data.unicef.org/>)

¹⁴ <http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

¹⁵ http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85239/1/9789241564625_eng.pdf

the world. The formulation of a unique coeducational non-formal curriculum was also announced, with the purpose to inform, educate and empower young girls aged 5 to 25. Another extension in this plan is the *Voices against Violence* platform which will help gauge the root causes behind gender violence and its cultural and social triggers.¹⁶

Important Links:

<http://constitutions.unwomen.org/en>

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/digitalibrary/publications?topic=956cbccc96f14b3f85889b26d12f247f>

<http://progress.unwomen.org/en/2015/chapter2/>

<http://www.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85239/1/9789241564625_eng.pdf

2.3 Women Rights as a Strategy for Development: Gender Mainstreaming

The UN Women envisages to engage the social and cultural triggers behind gender based violence, particularly against young women. One key component is the idea of how different states formulate rights for female children and their acquisition to facilities such as education and healthcare. Issues such as genitalia mutilation and sexual harassment are predicated on the pursuit of a rights based approach.

The link between human rights and development is of recent origin. Rights-based approaches are aimed toward enforcing accountability in the development process by identifying claim-holders and corresponding duty-bearers. These approaches examine the positive obligations imposed upon duty bearers and the entitlements of claim-holders. Such approaches also seek development of strong laws, policies, institutions and administrative practices and call for the adoption of benchmarks for measuring progress and accountability. Rights-based approaches require a high degree of participation from all peoples, including women and children. Thus, in the case of young women, there is need to identify who the claim holders are and their corresponding duty bearers. Human rights

¹⁶ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child/2013>

and sustainable human development are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. For example, human rights are enhanced when gender equity or poverty reduction programmes empower people to claim their rights. The links between human rights and development are clearly present in the people centered, rights-based approach to development, poverty eradication, human rights mainstreaming, good governance and globalization.¹⁷

Gender mainstreaming has been defined by the United Nations in ECOSOC Agreed Conclusion 1997/2 as *“The process of assessing the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies and programmes, in any area and at all levels. It is a strategy for making women’s as well as men’s concerns and experiences an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and societal spheres.”*¹⁸ The Office of the Special Adviser on Gender has stated that mainstreaming is not an end itself but a strategy, an approach – a means to achieving the goal of gender equality. Mainstreaming involves making sure that goals of gender equality are central to all activities-policy development, research, advocacy, legislation, resource and budgetary allocation, implementation and monitoring of programmes.¹⁹ This mainstreaming is also associated with the treatment of female children as compared to male children especially within the developing world. The fundamental argument is that as long as the idea of mainstreaming isn’t extended actively towards treatment of female children, the issue will largely remain unsolved.

2.3.1 Developing the argument: Gender Perspective in Policy Analysis

In incorporating a gender perspective in policy analysis exclusively for female children, the formulation of a national water strategy can be taken as an example. A gender perspective in this analysis would result in the following questions: Whether or not women’s and men’s uses and priorities for water or any commodity are different? It is important that this analysis includes sex-disaggregated data on uses, access to water, priorities etc. It is also necessary to collect input from women on how policy options will affect them. These

¹⁷ The 2003 UN Inter-Agency “Common Understanding of a Human Rights-Based Approach to Development Cooperation”

¹⁸ ECOSOC Agreed Conclusion 1997/2

¹⁹ The 1998 Report by the UN Secretary General on “Integrating the Gender Perspective into the Work of the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies”

questions would also include, for example, how different approaches to water pricing affect poor women in comparison with poor men? What options would have the most equitable distribution of costs and access? Another example of gender mainstreaming in policy making would be budget allocations for infrastructure and programs. The point being addressed here is that policy analysis in case of research for perhaps water consumption would involve the principle of sex disaggregation; the same approach should be extended towards the resolution of issue of female children.

For example, investments in curriculum reform to eliminate gender stereotypes, investments in teacher training, choices regarding investments in primary or secondary system can have different benefits and costs for women, girls, boys and men.²⁰ Hence, these parameters need to be correctly contextualized and sorted accordingly.

The issues of young women can thus be addressed by examining four principle areas:

- a. Recognizing Multiple Forms of Discrimination
- b. Redefining Violence Against Women as Inequality
- c. Civil Society Participation in Norm Creation
- d. Holding State and Non-State Actors Accountable

2.4 Evaluating the Role of CRC and CEDAW in treatment of young children

With respects to children's and women's rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention against the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) hold a lot of importance.

When human rights based programming is integrated into development work, it is possible that UN agencies will be faced with the challenge of reconciling conflicting interests among different categories of right holders (women). Thus, it is important to examine the issue of conflict and compatibility between CEDAW and CRC, and the mutually reinforcing relationship between the two.<Text Removed> Some of these fears stem from the notion that integrating women's and children's rights will restrict women to the role of caregiver of children. Distinct human rights conventions allow human rights law to address the unique experiences of women and children. While having separate human rights conventions enables human rights law to address the different circumstances facing

²⁰ Committee on the Rights of the Child, General Comment No. 2, The Role of Independent National Human Rights Institutions in the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child, para. 7 (2002).

women and children, it is important to acknowledge the interconnectedness of these rights and examine how this partnership benefits both.²¹

There are some common values within the UDHR which can be co-discussed with CEDAW and CRC. These include non-discrimination, the equality of each individual as a human being, the inherent dignity of each person, and the rights to self-determination, peace and security. The very existence of gender specific abuses such as female genital mutilation, female infanticide, sex slavery, and sex tourism underscore the proposition that women's and children's rights are interrelated. Girls are particularly vulnerable to human rights abuses as they become victims of abuses against children as well as those violations which target their gender. The CEDAW advances girls' human rights by reinforcing certain rights already covered by the CRC. As will be shown below, both the CEDAW and CRC contribute to the realization of children's and women's rights.²²

Children's rights and women's rights are inextricably interwoven and often the discrimination girls suffer leads to subsequent violations of women's human rights. The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) recommends referring to standards set in both the CRC and CEDAW when issues pertaining to girls are indicated. In other words, rather than looking at the Articles in the CRC in a gender neutral manner, one should look at their general provisions as offering a wide range of possibilities to address violations that are specific to girls only. By reading the CRC with the CEDAW, the distinctive needs of the girl child can be prioritized into formulating a rights based approach.²³ The following measures illustrate how women's rights and children's rights can intersect and complement:

- Special provisions for girls' education and vocational training enhance employment opportunities for women.
- Legal reform on a child's right to nationality and women's right to inherit property has been critical to the care and development of children. Law reform on nationality and violence against women is an area that clearly links women and children's rights. Support for family law, inheritance and property law reform, birth registration, compulsory education, migrant work and child labour reform, impact invariably to prevent exploitation of women and girls.

²¹ http://www.unicef.org/gender/gender_57302.html

²² http://www.unicef.org/gender/files/Women_Children_Rights_UNFPA_UNICEF_final.pdf

²³ <http://www.unicef.org/gender/files/WomensAndChildrensRightsInAHumanRightsBasedApproach.pdf>

- Family support services provide protection for women and child victims of gender-based violence.
- The right to access information on sexual and health care will ensure equal access to both adolescent boys and girls to such information.
- Child care facilities for protecting the best interest of the child and provide support to women's economic participation.
- Alliances with civil society organizations as a cornerstone of the effective private/public collaboration are essential to both CRC and CEDAW implementation. The work of other civil-society organizations should also be complementary.

Bloc Positions

As with most topics of universal importance, national interests and views about the issue in question heavily influence the capability of the Committee to implement the measure to tackle this issue. Establishing a set of blocs is almost impossible for this issue, as it can be found the geometry of blocs and alliances can be highly variable depending on the specific subtopic being debated. The following points are meant to help delegates identify vague issues that the different member states may wish to consider if they are intending to defend their own national interests.

- **Developing countries** – some member states may not see this issue as a priority with other economic-related problems awaiting attention in the short-term. Other
- LEDCs and developing countries may request for support from the international community to tackle this issue, as many of these values are often related to Western values that have been imposed as a collateral effect of globalization while the underdeveloped world still suffers from patriarchy.
- Muslim and orthodox countries – not all member states may share the analysis exposed in this study guide. It is completely understandable (and delegates are encouraged!) to challenge anything that has been presented here in order to be coherent with their country's official position. For instance, some governments may frown upon attitudes that promote the removal of stereotypes, as these could constitute an important the "core values" of a given religious state.
- Other skeptical societies – Gender equality and rejection of violence has yet not been achieved in any society in the world, but it is also honest to recognize that the situation is notably better in certain European states than in other world regions.

Nonetheless, efforts must still be continued from all parties in order to eventually suppress all forms of discrimination. Some of the more developed countries, with less progressive governments in power, may become overconfident with the issue and not want to discuss this any further nor cooperate with the international community to deal with this globally.

1.5 Education of Young Female Children and CRC/ CEDAW

In 1990, more than eighty heads of State met at the UN offices in New York to participate in the World Summit for Children. One of the outcomes was the drafting of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children. The Declaration states that “[g]irls must be given equal treatment and opportunities from the very beginning.” It further notes that of the over 100 million children who are without basic schooling, two thirds of them are girls. As part of their commitment to children, participating governments pledged to “provide educational opportunities for all children, irrespective of their background and gender.” Article 10 of the CEDAW provides women equal rights with men in the field of education. The CEDAW also charges States with the duty of reducing “female student drop-out rates and the organization of programs for girls and women who have left school prematurely. Article 28 (e) of the CRC also echoes this principle and asks that measures be taken to “encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates.” Article 29 (d) of the CRC stresses the need to prepare the child for a responsible life in the spirit of “equality of sexes.” Articles 29 (d) of the CRC and Article 5 (b) of the CEDAW are compatible with each other. While the CRC in Article 29 (d) call upon States Parties to foster the child in an environment of “equality of sexes”, in Article 5 of the CEDAW, States Parties are asked to “ensure that family education includes a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of their children.” Under Article 5, States Parties to the CEDAW are asked to consider what measures have been taken to develop educational programmes and school text books to reflect this provision. Article 10 of the CEDAW too calls for the revision of text books and school programmes and the adaptation of teaching methods in eliminating stereotypes and discrimination against women.²⁴

Examples of how CRC and CEDAW have been Programmatically Linked:

²⁴ <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/CEDAW/Pages/JointCEDAWandCRCRecommendation.aspx>

- Laws enshrining the right to education have been introduced in Bangladesh, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, Pakistan, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia and Belarus, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia and Russia. In Africa and Asia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Togo, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam, laws have been enacted or amended in the light of CRC. In other African and Asian countries national laws have been brought into compliance with CRC (these provisions include the right to be educated in the language of national minorities, requesting educators to respect the freedom of opinion of students, prohibiting the physical punishment of students and the expulsion of pregnant students) and by incorporating activities designed to enhance democracy, tolerance and gender equity into educational programs.²⁵

Point Resolutions Should Address

It is recognized that this is a very complex and broad topic, and thus delegates are encouraged to focus mainly on the role of revisiting the role of CRC and CEDAW in improving the condition of female children. Other ideas are also welcome, so as long as there is a general consensus that they are topics worth visiting for the progress of the debate. As always, the points already discussed earlier in this booklet should be addressed and some of the ideas included here can be used. Top delegates should also be able to devise creative solutions to the problems discussed. Some specific points that this board would like delegates to address include:

- Eliminating gender-bias in national curriculums
- Encouraging access of information to young women related to their welfare
- How can women facilitate a policy buildup where right based approaches can be implemented
- Measures to guarantee equal working conditions for men and women

Appendix:

²⁵ http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/iwraw/women_childHR1998.html



www.municten.com

"About UN Women." UN Women. N.p., n.d., Web. 4 June 2015 <<http://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women#sthash.U1iBLurt.dpuf>>.

- i) "Short History of the Commission on the Status of Women" United Nations. N.p., n.d. Web. 08 June 2015.<<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/CSW60YRS/CSWbriefhistory.pdf>>.