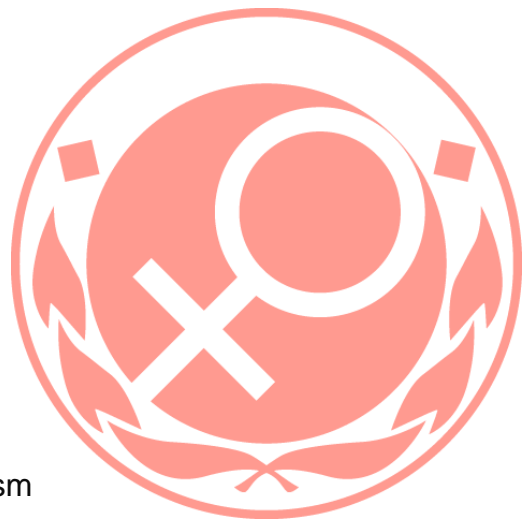


UNWOMEN



Topic A: Indigenous women's rights and activism

Topic B: Women, peace and security: preventing war and sustaining peace

President: Cynthia Vazquez

Moderator: Ana Paula Lozano

Conference officer: Alondra Palacios

Dear delegates:

We formally welcome you to the UNWOMEN committee; where we certainly know you will be able to play the correct roll of the country you're representing, according to its jurisdiction, political point of view, cultural perspectives, and all of the factors that directly and indirectly influence on your country's contribution to actual problematics that will be discussed during the stablished period of time. The topics to discuss will be Indigenous women's rights and activism and preventing and sustaining peace. We will do whatever is possible for us, for you to have a decent experience in this committee. Beforehand, we thank you for participating in this committee with objective facts and interest in the committee's topics and procedure.

President: Cynthia Vazquez

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Committee introduction

“Around the world, UN Women acts to build women’s participation and influence in decision-making to prevent and resolve conflicts. We support women’s engagement in all aspects of peacebuilding, towards more inclusive, egalitarian societies that can end gender discrimination and resolve conflicts without violence.”

The United Nations General Assembly created UN Women on July of 2010, this decision that the UN Member States made created a big historic step in the acceleration of the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The creation of UN WOMEN is nowadays part of the UN reform agenda, it brings together resources and mandates that can generate a bigger impact.

Women have faced a lot of discrimination among decades, the fact that we are all human beings and should be respected has been ignored, especially in the industry and economic area. This problematic goes worse when war and diverse ethnic groups get involved, unrecognizing women as human beings; ignoring the fact that human rights are women’s rights.

List of the 30 basic human rights (according to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights) :

1. We are all free and equal. We are all born free. We all have our own thoughts and ideas. We should all be treated in the same way.
2. Don’t discriminate. These rights belong to everybody, whatever our differences.
3. The right to life. We all have the right to life, and to live in freedom and safety.
4. No slavery – past and present. Nobody has any right to make us a slave. We cannot make anyone our slave.
5. No Torture. Nobody has any right to hurt us or to torture us.
6. We all have the same right to use the law. I am a person just like you!
7. We are all protected by the law. The law is the same for everyone. It must treat us all fairly.
8. Fair treatment by fair courts. We can all ask for the law to help us when we are not treated fairly.
9. No unfair detainment. Nobody has the right to put us in prison without a good reason and keep us there, or to send us away from our country.

10. The right to trial. If we are put on trial this should be in public. The people who try us should not let anyone tell them what to do.

11. Innocent until proven guilty. Nobody should be blamed for doing something until it is proven. When people say we did a bad thing we have the right to show it is not true.

12. The right to privacy. Nobody should try to harm our good name. Nobody has the right to come into our home, open our letters or bother us or our family without a good reason.

13. Freedom to move. We all have the right to go where we want in our own country and to travel as we wish.

14. The right to asylum. If we are frightened of being badly treated in our own country, we all have the right to run away to another country to be safe.

15. The right to a nationality. We all have the right to belong to a country.

16. Marriage and family. Every grown-up has the right to marry and have a family if they want to. Men and women have the same rights when they are married, and when they are separated.

17. Your own things. Everyone has the right to own things or share them. Nobody should take our things from us without a good reason.

18. Freedom of thought. We all have the right to believe in what we want to believe, to have a religion, or to change it if we want.

19. Free to say what you want. We all have the right to make up our own minds, to think what we like, to say what we think, and to share our ideas with other people.

20. Meet where you like. We all have the right to meet our friends and to work together in peace to defend our rights. Nobody can make us join a group if we don't want to.

21. The right to democracy. We all have the right to take part in the government of our country. Every grown-up should be allowed to choose their own leaders.

22. The right to social security. We all have the right to affordable housing, medicine, education, and child care, enough money to live on and medical help if we are ill or old.

23. Workers' rights. Every grown-up has the right to do a job, to a fair wage for their work, and to join a trade union.

24. The right to play. We all have the right to rest from work and to relax.

25. A bed and some food. We all have the right to a good life. Mothers and children, people who are old, unemployed or disabled, and all people have the right to be cared for.

26. The right to education. Education is a right. Primary school should be free. We should learn about the United Nations and how to get on with others. Our parents can choose what we learn.

27. Culture and copyright. Copyright is a special law that protects one's own artistic creations and writings; others cannot make copies without permission. We all have the right to our own way of life and to enjoy the good things that "art," science and learning bring.

28. A free and fair world. There must be proper order, so we can all enjoy rights and freedoms in our own country and all over the world.

29. Our responsibilities. We have a duty to other people, and we should protect their rights and freedoms.

30. Nobody can take away these rights and freedoms from us.

Quorum:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Cameroon | 11. Russia |
| 2. Liberia | 12. Brazil |
| 3. Nigeria | 13. El Salvador |
| 4. China | 14. Panama |
| 5. Japan | 15. Canada |
| 6. Pakistan | 16. Finland |
| 7. Republic of Korea | 17. Netherlands |
| 8. United Arab Emirates | 18. France |
| 9. Croatia | 19. United Kingdom |
| 10. Yemen | 20. United States |

Topic A: Indigenous women's rights and activism

TOPIC I INTRODUCTION:

Activism for indigenous women directly gets affected when their rights to contribute and participate in social economic or political involvement when discrimination plays an important role for social acceptance.

Traditions are not supposed to change, but sometimes they are used as an excuse to not include women in social participations. Traditions should be used to enrich a country with culture, not as an excuse for removing rights, that as a citizen, you should have by contributing to a country.

No one has the right to claim ownership, but indigenous women often face and have to deal with slavery, indecent living conditions, and no freedom to choose for themselves, even though the capacity of living with freedom is a basic human right.

According to World Bank data:

- In 2016, there were about 370 million indigenous people in the world, which represent a 5% of worldwide population.

- Indigenous groups live in more than 90 countries, and also conform part of the 15% of poor population in the world.

Women face a lot of discrimination into indigenous groups and outside of them, as well as being excluded.

TOPIC I HISTORY:

The UN Permanent Forum on the Right of Indigenous Peoples, has an annual session that takes place at the UN Headquarters located in New York. this session would celebrate its 10-year anniversary on 24th of April. This Forum will discuss many ways to apply a declaration in order to ensure the right of an estimated of 370 million indigenous people in the world.

Even though there has been a huge progress in laws, constitutions, education policies and health over the last years, this people is still being mariginated and are still vulnerable in society. It is known that at least a 33% of the people that lives in

extreme rural poverty are from indigenous communities. Women from these communities continue to face many types of violence from discrimination to rape. This last violation of right and human dignity leads to have higher average rates of maternal mortality, teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. UN Women 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's has the responsibility to provide strong importance to the empowerment of indigenous women and girls and to

TOPIC | UN ACTION:

The SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) which is approved by the UN Member States in the 2015, takes a look in the way that women are affected by the 17 proposed SDG's. This declaration looks for the good of all women, but it seeks for the benefit of indigenous women and girls.

No poverty

Zero hunger

Good health and well being

Quality Education

Gender Equality

Clean water and sanitation

Affordable and clean energy

Decent work and economic growth

Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Sustainable cities and communities

Responsible and sanitation

Climate action

Life below water

Life in land Peace, justice and strong institutions

Partnerships for the goals

Topic B: Women, peace and security: Preventing war and sustaining peace.

TOPIC II Introduction:

“When women lead and participate in peace processes, peace lasts longer.”

According to UNWOMEN since the UN Security Council resolution 1325, calling for women’s participation in peacebuilding, there have been plenty of evidence that women are powerful and very important actors at keeping peace in their communities and nations. Despite the evidence, actions for women’s inclusion, leadership and protection are still inadequate. In some areas, there has even been a roll back on progress.

Acknowledging that gender gaps can be seen independently of the status or situation. As of June 2017, 141 million people needed humanitarian assistance. Gender gaps in humanitarian settings are glaringly evident. Taking into consideration that in conflict and post conflict environment, maternal mortality rates increase at the point it doubles the global ratio, also girls are two and a half more prone to left school.

At the same time the rate of violent extremism it’s growing. Gender norms and stereotypes are being controlled and manipulate to recruit. Women are not only target for their systematic sexual violence, but have become also target for recruiters, making women up at least 20-30 percent of foreign terrorist.

Women have always played a role in war, if not in actual combat then in the vital areas of intelligence gathering, medical care, food preparation and support. Women are victims, in terrorism and the ones who are fighting back.

Gender Gap

Gender gap is the difference between women and men as reflected in social, political, intellectual, cultural, or economic attainments or attitudes. Countries need to pay attention to the gender gap not only because such inequality is inherently unfair. But also because numerous studies suggest greater gender equality leads to better economic performance, stability and peace. According to World Economic Forum (WEF), which, as part of its annual Global Gender Gap Report, ranked almost 150 countries on gender equality. In which the worst 10 countries were Yemen, Pakistan, Syria, Chad, Iran, Mali, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Morocco, Jordan. Countries known for being in constant conflict.

Maternal mortality

Armed conflict has been described as creating a public health problem and an important contributor to the social and political determinants of health and a driver of poverty and health inequity. Of the armed conflicts that have taken place since World War II, about 90% have been in developing countries. The conflicts affect the women reproductive health through increased social insecurity, loss of reproductive health services, and lower female education.

What's going on?

At time of conflicts, women and girls suffered from sexual and gender-based violence. These crimes can fall under war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide, and are considered especially grave violations of international law.

- South-Southeast Asia are among the world's regions most severely affected by the threats of terrorism and violent extremism. To address these challenges the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and UN Women held two regional workshops in Bangkok, Thailand, during the week of 25 to 29 September 2017 on the topic of "Engaging communities in approaches to countering violent extremism (CVE) and incitement in Asia."

- The extremist organization ISIS manipulates gender dynamics far better than its opponents often understand.

"Protecting women must be at the heart of any global counter-terrorism response" - Zainab Haw Bangura, the U.N. secretary general's special representative for sexual violence in conflict.

Joining the two strands will produce stronger policy responses, by considering women not only as victims of extremist violence but also as potential agents of change, said Nancy Lindborg, president of the U.S. Institute of Peace.

- Once recruited, the women play various roles in the violent extremist group as recruiters, spies, cooks and cleaners, according to a report by the Institute for Security Studies in Africa. Researchers interviewed 108 women from communities in Nairobi, Mombasa, Garissa, Diani, Kwale and Kisumu, which have been affected by violent extremism. Responses from the study,

"Violent Extremism in Kenya: Why women are a priority", provide an expansive view of women beyond being mere victims of violent extremism. Even though the full extent of women's involvement in violent extremism remains unknown, researchers Irene Ndung'u and Uyo Salifu found that women were more actively involved in non-combative or indirect roles than in direct ones.

TOPIC II HISTORY:

When women lead and participate in peace processes, peace lasts longer. Research has proven that achieving gender equality could prevent many massive conflicts, and high rates of violence towards women. Despite the evidence, in some regions around the world there has been a roll back in this process. Violent extremism is on its highest. Terrorists and extremist groups manipulate gender norms and women to advance their agenda.

Women nowadays are the main target in sexual violence and recruiters. Women have become a manipulative target in wars. They are sexually assaulted and in most of cases, they occupy the biggest percent in hostages. Victims and survivors of this have the right to justice. But, how can justice be achieved? UN Women, is still working on engaging women in peace and security resolutions; to encourage young women to become worldwide leaders and peace builders, starting in their own communities.

TOPIC II UN ACTION:

The UN has reached the creation of agreements to end aggression against women, which considerably increments during war; where sexual and mental harassment against women is really common to happen. The agreements that the UN has consolidated as solutions are: The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), especially through General Recommendations 12 and 19, and the 1993 UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

Questions that could help you to do research and conform your position paper:

- 1.- What percentage of women in your country's population?
- 2.- How much money does your country spend on promoting women's rights?
- 3.- What solutions has your country implemented against gender discrimination?
- 4.- What is the acceptance to refugees in your country?
- 5.- How much discrimination exists in your country?
- 6.- Which are the countries with less discrimination against women?
- 7.- How does war directly affect women?
- 8.- How does war affect on ethnic groups? (Specifically, women)
- 9.- Think about short term solutions in which your country can contribute.
- 10.- Can your country economically contribute in solutions against actual problematics that involve discrimination against women?

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