

BACKGROUND GUIDE



AGENDA:

Women in post-conflict zones.

UNWOMEN



Dear Delegates,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women committee in AUXIMUN'18.

It is a well-known fact that women, have been, through history, subject to neglect and have been treated as second class citizens. It is about time, to discuss and deliberate the role and status of women on an equal standing as men and to have more inclusive conversations and discussions.

At AUXIMUN'18, we plan on doing our bit in bringing about a change in the quality of discussion. We plan to deliberate the role of women- especially in post conflict zones.

We look forward to an interesting exchange of debate, inclusive conversations, and innovative solutions to the issues at hand. The purpose of this study guide is to provide the foundation of your research. We advise you to read the study guide thoroughly to get a brief overview of the agenda, but not restrict your research to its contents.

Warm regards,

Jaanvi Saraf,

Chairperson of UNWOMEN

AUXIMUN 2018.

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

Introduction

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women supports UN Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide.

Status of Women

Gender equality is not only a basic human right, but its achievement has enormous socio-economic ramifications. Empowering women fuels thriving economies, spurring productivity and growth. Yet gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in every society. Women lack access to decent work and face occupational segregation and gender wage gaps. They are too often denied access to basic education and health care. Women in all parts of the world suffer violence and discrimination. They are under-represented in political and economic decision-making processes.

Over many decades, the United Nations has made significant progress in advancing gender equality, including through landmark agreements such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Main Roles of UNWOMEN

- To support inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms.
- To help Member States implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it, and to forge effective partnerships with civil society.
- To lead and coordinate the UN system's work on gender equality, as well as promote accountability, including through regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

History

July 2010, the United Nations General Assembly created UN Women, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, to address such challenges. In doing so, UN Member States took an historic step in accelerating the Organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The creation of UN Women came about as part of the UN reform agenda, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact.

Mandate

The mandate of UN Women consists of the consolidated mandates of the four predecessor entities. In sum, UN Women acts on three fronts:

1. On a normative front, UN Women determines global standards for gender equality and assists inter-governmental bodies, e.g. the Commission on the Status of Women, and international political negotiations on formulating policies and programmes to ensure that the standards are effectively implemented and truly benefit women and girls worldwide.
2. At an operational level, UN Women helps Member States upon their request to implement these standards, policies and programmes by providing technical and financial support, as well as advice and expertise. In this process, it is the Member States that determine their own needs and priorities.
3. Within the UN system, UN Women promotes, leads and coordinates all efforts on gender equality and women empowerment. On this account, UN

Women collaborates closely with other UN entities, such as the UNDP, UNICEF and the WFP.

Priority Areas

- increasing women's leadership and participation;
- ending violence against women;
- engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes;
- enhancing women's economic empowerment;
- and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting

Women in Post Conflict Zones

-their role and the relevance of the topic

Women play a vital role as countries recover from conflict and seek to build lasting peace. Women play peace building roles daily, somewhere in the world – negotiating and mitigating between belligerent parties, typically at the very local level. Sadly though, when negotiations turn serious, when the stakes get high and when money shows up, women are pushed into the background.

Recent research by UN Women and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) showed that economic recovery is one of the lowest performing sectors for women in post-conflict situation.

By failing to invest in women, we undermine prospects for immediate family well-being and long-term peace building. When women have a stable income, they are more able to take care of their families and participate in decision-making. When women are involved in public life, there are pay-offs that matter enormously to peace building and to society in general.

Women's political participation is associated with lower levels of corruption, more inclusive decision-making, greater investment in social services, job creation for women, and family welfare.

In fragile contexts and in post-conflict situations, the economic empowerment of women secures sustainable and lasting peace. And women's economic

empowerment is a central goal in itself. It requires our priority attention in the dialogues over the global sustainable development agenda.

Previous Actions Taken

UNSCR 1889 (2009): Stresses the need to strengthen implementation and establishes indicators for the monitoring of resolution 1325; calls for the Secretary General to submit a report to the Security Council on women's participation and inclusion in peacebuilding. The resolution also welcomes the efforts of Member States in implementing its resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the development of national action plans. 19

- UNSCR 2122 (2013): Addresses persistent gaps in implementing the WPS agenda (e.g. funding aspects); positions gender equality and women's empowerment as critical to international peace and security; recognizes the differential impact of all violations in conflict on women and girls, and calls for consistent application of WPS across the Security Council's work.²⁰

- UNSCR 2242 (2015): Establishes the Informal Experts Group (IEG); addresses persistent obstacles to implementation including financing and institutional reforms; focuses on greater integration of the agendas on WPS and counter-terrorism and countering violent extremism; calls for improved Security Council working methods on WPS

Bibliography ;

[About UN Women](#)

[Anna Rickert](#)

[Women's Empowerment - conflict recovery](#)

[Transitional Justice](#)

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