DIPLOMA IN GENDER BASED-VIOLENCE

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ASSIGNMENT FOUR (4)

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1. **In your own words explain how you understand gender mainstreaming**

The concept of gender mainstreaming was first proposed at the 1985 Third world Conference on Women in Nairobi and was developed further by the United Nation development community and is recognized as a global strategy for the promotion of gender equality. The idea of gender mainstreaming was formally featured in 1995 at the Fourth Conference on women which was held in Beijing. The UN Economic and Social Council defined the concept of gender mainstreaming as:

Gender mainstreaming is a long term, complex and multi-dimensional process that focuses on the needs of both men and women in order to achieve the optimal development and equality in the organization. It can also be defined as:

Is a process or a strategy to work toward the goal of gender equality and it is not and end in itself.

It is an approach to governance that makes men’s and women’s concerns and experience and integral part of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programs in all sectors of society.

It involves changing policies and institutions so that they actively promote gender equality. It is a long term, transformative process that involves rethinking socio-cultural values and development goals. The gender mainstreaming involve not restricting efforts to promote equality to the implementation of specific measures to help women, but mobilizing all general policies and measure specifically for the purpose of achieving equality by actively and openly taking the account at the planning stage their possible effects on the perspective situation of men and women.

1. **Explain three enabling conditions that your government has taken in Gender** Expand Women’s Citizenship, Participation and Leadership:

The government has Advance women as Decision-makers because Women need the skills and confidence to influence the decisions that directly affect their lives, including through direct participation in government and the security sector. The government has taken the step because Women are often denied access to business transactions and excluded from negotiations surrounding land titles. Legislation has allowed women to access business and land ownership and they are represented in social, political and economic spheres, giving them a voice in the peace and recovery processes.

Build Peace with and for Women:

The government has Involved Women in all Peace Processes. Women must be involved in all stages of the peace and recovery processes, including as high-level negotiators in peace talks. Peace agreements offer opportunities for inclusiveness, democratic reform and gender equality. These opportunities must be seized. Gender provisions must be included in peace agreements and given priority as agreements are implemented. Government has also Promoted Gender Equality in Disaster Risk Reduction and Support women and men to build back better

Women’s unique needs has been incorporated in analyses of disaster risk and post disaster risk assessments. As community structures crumble and violence escalates, government has taken the steps to prevent the increased vulnerability of women and girls.

Gender Equality and Women’s Background Empowerment Strategy Women’s economic potential goes un-realized as their interests are not factored into the recovery effort. For example, cash-for-work schemes often do not specifically target women-headed households. ■ the government has also provided temporary housing in order to prevent issues that denies women privacy, increases their vulnerability to exploitation and discrimination and marginalizes widows. This has an effect on the well-being of women and children.

Women’s experience and knowledge has been valued and incorporated in any plans or policies.

The government has Ensured Gender-Responsive Recovery and Promote Women as leaders of recovery ■ Women have been given equal opportunities to livelihoods, including access to land and credit. ■ the health sector has been made specifically to benefit women.

Transformed Government has recognized Women by including their Issues in the National Agenda

Government encouraged Women to be engaged in decision making on government budgets and resource mobilization and Incentives has been offered to public institutions that address women’s needs. It has also Developed Capacities for Social Change and Work together to transform society ■ Women’s organizations and networks has been strengthened to ensure responsiveness and accountability on gender issues.

Government has provided education to promote gender equality and support women’s empowerment.

The government has taken into consideration some approaches in gender mainstreaming and are implemented in the country:

**Advance Gender Justice:**

Provide Justice and Security for Women and Laws to protect women’s rights must be included and enforced within legal frameworks. Women must know their rights and be able to access legal systems, e.g. through free legal services. Custom, tradition or religious beliefs should never serve to excuse or justify violence against women.

**Integration of gender equality in interventions in general**

The point about integration of women is to include women on equal footing with men in all sectors, however basic changes in the characteristic of the project will not occur However, efforts are made to increase women’s participation in training courses a well as in employment and other activities. It is a question of numerical equality, Integration of women implies that all staff members have to take women into consideration and start perceiving the target population as gendered. They must find ways to increase women’s participation in the political sectors

**Targeting specific groups or issues through special interventions**

By targeting certain issues and groups, the government of south Sudan has focused on particular area of concern as the method for contributing to a long-term goal of gender equality. Targeted activities has been more efficient and have greater impact when integrated into political dialogue. The targeted programs for women like entrepreneurship and political participationare also common and efficient

Support to training and employment program for women to ensure sustainable employment and income generation for marginalized and asset-less rural and urban poor women across the country

National mission for empowerment of women to strengthen the overall process that promote all round development of women

In order to strengthen the process of gender budgeting the ministry of women and child development has been undertaking various capacity building measures for the officials of the state government by organizing training programs/workshops regularly

Equal remuneration ,provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers for the same work of similar nature without any discriminations .in order to ensure social security to the workers including women in the unorganized sector, the government has enacted unorganized workers social security

The sexual harassment of women at workplace has been enacted, which covers all women irrespective of their ages or employment status and protect them against sexual harassment at allworkplaces both in public private sectors**.** Eradication of SGBV: Through the Access to Justice Program UNDP South Sudan provided training to police personnel in dealing with SGBV. Further the project supported improvement to the collection of crime statistics to more accurately reflect the prevalence of SGBV. Support was also provided to attorneys in order to enable case processing of SGBV cases. Empowering Women’s Participation in Governance and Peace-building: UNDP, through the Access to Justice Programs, and Community Security and Arms Control Programs, encouraged female participation in peace-building forums, trained female traditional leaders on harmonization of traditional law with formal justice forums, as well as dispute resolution mechanisms and international human rights standards. Contributing to sex-disaggregated data collection: Through the Access to Justice Program UNDP has supported the collection and record-keeping of sex-disaggregated data (for example in the Juba Emergency Call Center). This effort to collect sex-disaggregated data is imperative to the development of effective gender policy development. Reducing Women’s poverty, food insecurity and improving women’s access to sustainable livelihoods and Resilience to Disaster: Through the Food Security, Emergency Flood Response and Recovery Project in South Sudan, UNDP provided women with skills training in situational analysis on livelihood skills. Furthermore, this program was cognizant of the increased vulnerability of displaced women to food insecurity and poverty. This project improved women’s resilience to disaster (especially floods). It also showed recognition of the increased vulnerability of female-headed households. The project contributed to sustainable empowerment of women in several of UNDP’s practice areas.

1. **Choosing your own sector explain how gender mainstreaming has occurred.**

With a view to achieving successful implementation of the Gender Mainstreaming Program in education sector, the ministry of education National has decided on and performed a series of strategic programs for gender equality and equity that can functions direction for the establishment of a national education development movement with a gender perspective. One of the programs is capacity building, which aims at creating a process for wider understanding of the importance of right based on an approach to development that underlies commitment to achieve gender equality and equity in education sector. With wider understanding of gender equality in education, every decision, regulation, mechanism, plan, program, management and implementation process of task within Ministry of education will be more sensitive to the needs for a balance between men and women. Capacity building activities have been designed to be systematic and continuous. It begins with meeting and coordination activities among major units of Ministry of National Education through round table discussions in which action plan on educational development with gender perspective is presented and discussed. The next stage involves discussions, interaction, and dialog among decision makers of provincial and district/municipal levels so that wider commitment to increasing gender equality and equity can be achieved. The constitution which was made assigns the government to establish and organize a national education system that can ensure equity in education opportunities, quality improvement, and relevance and efficiency of educational management to face emerging challenges with respect to demands posed by changes at local, national and global levels. Therefore, it is necessary for educational development to be well-planned, focused, and sustainable. Equal opportunity for education aims at creating a situation in which every person has equal opportunity to obtain quality education. Act no. 20/2003 on National Education System stipulates that “every citizen has equal rights to obtain quality education” (Chapter 5 Article 1). Such opportunity does not discriminate people by sex, social economic status, religion, and geographical location. This policy on equity and wider opportunities to obtain education emphasizes that every person, disregarding his or her origin, has equal access to all kinds, levels, as well as types of education so that improved equity in educational services can be expected. The philosophical basis for equity of education is not merely equity for the sake of equal opportunities: rather, it is equity in education for achieving equal fairness and welfare. So far, educational development in South Sudan has shown significant improvement related to equity in learning opportunities for men and women. True equity in learning opportunities will bring implications on gender equality and equity that will eventually result in improvement of the quality of the whole human resources. Quality human resource will become a driving force to all sectors in national development. Development of human resources quality is an integral part of all development programs in South Sudan, and closely related to the national commitment for achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDG) that was set out since 2000 in UNO Millennium Declaration. To improve gender equality and equity in education, the commitment established based on the MDG is related to the second goal of MDG; that is, to establish basic education for all so that, by some years to come , all boys and girls will have obtained basic education. Improvement of gender equality and equity in education is also part of the attempts to achieve Goal of MDG; that is, to promote gender equity and equality that can eliminate all forms of gender disparities in basic and secondary education. MDG commitment has been continuation of various international commitments for coping with the continuously changing challenges posed by the developing world. Therefore, the roles and participation of men and women in all paths of life are necessary to ensure that they can access, benefit, and participate in the various kinds of development programs for efficient management of all resources. The fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, held by UNO in 1995, produced a number of recommendations for UNO member countries related to attempt for increasing access and control of women over economic, political, and social-cultural resources. All recommendations and results of the conference are stipulated in Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Article 30 describes that UNO member countries have decided to guarantee men and women equal access to and treatment in education and health maintenance, as well as improvement of sexual and reproduction health of the women. In the framework of Action Plan for Education for All (EFA), governments of all countries have collectively declared their commitment to achieve, among others, the following objectives:

1. Extending and improving all care and education of the very young children, particularly children in great risks and disadvantageous conditions.

2. Ensuring that all children, particularly girls, children in difficult situations and those belong to ethnic minorities, have access to complete free and compulsory basic education of good quality;

3. Ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are fulfilled through existing access to relevant learning and life skills programs;

4. Achieving 50% improvement of adult literacy rate particularly for the women, and equal access to basic and continuous education for all adults. Some years earlier, UNO, in its Assembly of 18 December 1979, endorsed the convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In the Convention, member countries had condemned all forms of discrimination against women and agreed on implementing the convention in every appropriate ways without delay. The policy became an endeavor towards inclusion of the principles of equality between men and women into their national conventions or other relevant acts/ regulations (Chapter 2, section 1). South Sudan government has attempted to ratify Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women. Furthermore, it also signed the Optional Protocol to CEDAW on 28 February 2000. South Sudan taking side on gender equality and equity is reflected in its various policy documents, which have been prepared based on the country’s acknowledgement that women and men play equal roles in the life of the nation. Result of development shows that, in all sector (including education), achievement of women is far behind that of the opposite sex despite the fact that policy and development programs have been designed with respect to gender antidiscrimination principles. This has been due to the existence of unequal opportunities by gender that have further implications in various gender disparity phenomena. The implication of this is slower national production. In relation to this gender issue, there is a need for redefining the priority of our national development activities by explicitly mentioning that the development is, among others, aiming at achieving gender equality and equity. Gender mainstreaming as basic strategy for achieving gender equality and equity is necessary to integrate gender issues into the process of planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programs, and activities of national development in all sectors.

4. **Compare and contrast how Gender mainstreaming has been encompassed in the new Development agenda (Sustainable Development Goals**)

The sustainable development goals seek to change the course of the 21st century, addressing key challenges such as poverty, inequality, and violence against women over the years, there has been rising awareness and a substantial increase in commitments to gender mainstreaming in the major areas of work of development practitioners, including the UN system. There is now greater recognition of the centrality of gender equality and women’s empowerment to sustainable development, and both national governments and the international community increasingly institutionalize gender mainstreaming. Yet despite these gains, evaluations and studies have found that gender mainstreaming has not been effective in all aspects of policy and programming, or in all sectors. Misleading and false dichotomies between targeted program interventions and those incorporating gender perspectives across different sector policies and program persist. There is also a continuing lack of comparable data for tracking allocations and expenditures of resources for gender equality and the empowerment of women. A lack of accountability delays progress in advancing gender equality. Today we are at a pivotal juncture. Gender mainstreaming is no longer optional. Priority should be given to its implementation as global discussions take place on accelerating progress to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the 20-year legacy of the 1995 Beijing Platform for Action, and the post-2015 development agenda and future sustainable development goals. Through its 2010 founding resolution on system-wide coherence, the UN General Assembly mandated UN Women to lead, coordinate and promote the accountability of the UN system in its work on gender equality and women’s empowerment, and to support gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system. With recent further impetus from General Assembly and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) decisions, the United Nations has been challenged to better support Member States in strengthening the implementation of commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women. It is therefore timely that UN Women provides updated guidance on gender mainstreaming to help bridge gaps between global norms and actual implementation in country policy-making and program planning processes. This Guidance Note addresses major changes in global norms and aid modalities within the current development context; provides general principles for implementing gender mainstreaming at the country level; describes the substantive and technical programming aspects of gender mainstreaming at the country level drawing on good practices; and examines changes related to more gender-responsive organizations.

Women and girls, everywhere, must have equal rights and opportunity, and be able to live free of violence and discrimination. Women’s equality and empowerment is one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, but also integral to all dimensions of inclusive and sustainable development. In short, all the SDGs depend on the achievement of Goal 5.

Gender equality by 2030 requires urgent action to eliminate the many root causes of discrimination that still curtail women’s rights in private and public spheres. For example, discriminatory laws need to change and legislation adopted to proactively advance equality. Yet 49 countries still lack laws protecting women from domestic violence, while 39 bar equal inheritance rights for daughters and sons. Eliminating gender-based violence is a priority, given that this is one of the most pervasive human rights violations in the world today. Based on data from 87 countries, 1 in 5 women and girls under the age of 50 will have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner within the last 12 months. Harmful practices, such as child marriage, steal the childhood of 15 million girls under age 18 every year.

Women do 2.6 times more unpaid care and domestic work than men. While families, societies and economies depend on this work, for women, it leads lower earnings and less time to engage in non-work activities. In addition to equal distribution of economic resources, which is not only a right, but accelerates development in multiple areas, there needs to be a fair balance of responsibility for unpaid care work between men and women.

Sexual and reproductive rights are critical in their own right. Shortfalls in these multiply other forms of discrimination, depriving women of education and decent work, for example. Yet only 52 per cent of women married or in a union freely make their own decisions about sexual relations, contraceptive use and health care.

While more women have entered political positions in recent years, including through the use of special quotas, they still hold a mere 23.7 per cent of parliamentary seats, far short of parity. The situation is not much better in the private sector, where women globally occupy less than a third of senior and middle management positions.

UN Women acts to empower women and girls across all its programs and advocacy. With stepped up action on gender equality, every part of the world can make progress towards sustainable development by 2030, leaving no one behind.

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