

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED
CONCLUSIONS ADOPTED AT THE 60TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN IN MARCH 2016**

1. What measures have been taken to strengthen normative, legal and policy frameworks for the gender responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
 - The National Gender Policy was developed in 2015. The Ministry has commenced the process for reviewing the Policy. The National Gender Policy was developed to mainstream gender equality and Women’s Empowerment into Ghana’s development efforts and in response to the 2030 Agenda.
 - A strategy for addressing Adolescent Strategy in Ghana from 2018 to 2022 is in place. This strategy provides direction for interventions to address all unwanted and mistimed pregnancies amongst adolescents to enable them realize their full potential in the development process.
 - Ghana reviewed its Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security ‘GHANAP 1325’ and has subsequently developed GHANAP 2 (2020- 2025) for implementation.
 - The National Strategic Framework on Ending Child Marriage in Ghana (2017-2026) has been developed. The strategy is to help end child marriage in Ghana and consequently ensure the educational and career advancement of girls who otherwise would have dropped out of school as a result of Child marriage.

2. What actions and investments have been made for financing gender equality and the empowerment of women?
 - In addition to regular funding in the form of government budget allocations to the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment, the government has released One Million Ghana Cedis into the Human Trafficking Fund to effectively combat the menace.

3. What steps have been taken to bolster women's leadership and women's full and equal participation in decision-making in all areas of sustainable development?
 - The Ministry has drafted an Affirmative Action (Gender Equality) Bill for Cabinet approval.
 - Capacity building workshops were held for the women's Caucus in Parliament to make them more effective in their work. They were taken through being confident and making presentations in Parliament without being offensive. The presentation also looked at diplomacy and lobbying, adaptive leadership and branding.
 - Capacity building programmes have also been organized for women at the local level to enable them actively participate in the District Level elections.
 - Sensitisation programmes were also organised to educate the populace on the importance of voting for women in elections and women's participation in decision making at all levels.

4. What macroeconomic labour and social policies have been put in place that promote full and productive employment, decent work for women in response to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women's employment and economic rights and independence?

5. What response and recovery measures to the COVID-19 pandemic have been taken to improve and expand social protection for women?
 - The government through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection provided emergency food relief services in the form of hot meals to vulnerable groups including female head porters (Kayaye) to enable them cope during the lockdown period.
 - Dry food rations were also distributed to over 40,000 vulnerable individuals in the lockdown period.
 - Female Head Porters were also provided with shelter during the lockdown period
 - Emergency LEAP cash grants were paid to beneficiaries to enable them cope during the lockdown period because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, produced 16,000 hand sanitizers for distribution to vulnerable groups.
- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection widely publicized its Helpline of Hope 0800 800 800 and 0800 900 900 for quick response to issues of Sexual and Gender Based Violence and any other emergency need especially of women and girls for response.
- DOVVSU established a National Domestic Violence Toll free line 055 100 0900. This is to enable victims of report abuse in real time.
- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection through the Department of Women increased radio, television and social media advocacy to sensitize the public at all levels on issues of Domestic/Sexual and Gender Based Violence and how to seek redress in the wake of the COVID 19 pandemic.

6. What actions have been taken to expand the availability and affordability of care services to address the increase in unpaid care and domestic work as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic (e.g care subsidies, paid leave)?

7. What action has been taken to increase resources and support for women's and civil society organizations as cope with the COVID-19 pandemic?

- The government has introduced a stimulus package for small and medium size enterprises that have been affected by the COVID- 19 Pandemic.
- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection and International Needs Ghana (a Non-Government Organization) supported over 5000 vulnerable girls in the Central and Volta Regions with three months' supply of sanitary pads, sanitizers and radio sets to cushion them against the effects of the pandemic.

8. What steps have been taken to improve gender responsive data collection in the context of follow-up the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to track and monitor the gender specific impacts and response measures to the COVID-19 pandemic?

- In response to the COVID- 19 pandemic, the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, embarked on an emergency data collection exercise to update existing data on

vulnerable groups including Kayayei (Female Head Porters) and persons with disability in 6 hotspots in the Greater Accra Region. Sex disaggregated of 78,741 vulnerable individuals have been done. The data has been disseminated to facilitate the provision of social protection services by Government and Non-Governmental agencies. The data collected will enable us to track the gender specific impact of interventions.