CLIMATE CHANGE • ENVIRONMENT DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

GENDER EQUALITY AT THE CENTRE OF SOLUTIONS

Review theme

Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work (Agreed Conclusions of the sixty-first session) Friday, 18 March 2022, 10.00-12.00 and 3.00-5.00

Overview

In accordance with its working methods, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) each year will evaluate progress in the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that includes:

- (a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identify means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;
- (b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data in regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global level.

The outcome of the discussion on the review theme will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau.

The review will be supported by a report of the Secretary-General on progress made on the review theme at the national level (E/CN.6/2022/5).

Review theme at CSW66

At the sixty-sixth session, the Commission's review theme will be "Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work", contained in its <u>Agreed Conclusions</u> of its sixty-first session of 2017.

The Agreed Conclusions emphasized action in seven key policy areas, with the full and effective participation and leadership of women and girls:

- 1. **Strengthening normative, legal and policy frameworks** to tackle gender-based discrimination and the persistent work-related structural barriers.
- 2. Strengthening education, training and skills development for women and girls.
- 3. **Implementing economic and social policies for women's economic empowerment,** including gender-responsive macroeconomic, labour and social policies.
- 4. Addressing the growing informality of work and mobility of women workers, to improve the terms and conditions of work for informal women workers.
- 5. Managing technological and digital change for women's economic empowerment.
- 6. Strengthening women's collective voice, leadership and decision-making, in both the public and private sectors.
- 7. Strengthening the role of the private sector in women's economic empowerment.

Member States making voluntary presentations should specifically address some or all of these seven key areas of focus of the Agreed Conclusions Member States should provide concrete examples of measures taken in response to the Agreed Conclusions from CSW61 and their impacts or results; identify good practice examples, as well as key lessons, gaps and challenges; and highlight successful inclusive collaboration with stakeholders and comprehensive approaches to the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions.

Proposed format for the review

In order to enable an interactive dialogue, 12 Member States will make voluntary presentations. Each voluntary presentation will be no more than 18 minutes, including comments and questions by 'partners', and brief responses by the presenting Member State. It is proposed that each presenting country identifies in advance 2 to 3 partners' (other Member States, international organizations, UN entities, civil society organizations) to comment on its presentation in a constructive manner, including posing questions. The 'partners', could be invited based on ongoing cooperation with the presenting country, on similar experiences, or because they would seek to benefit from the lessons of the presenting country. Presenting Member States may also wish to consider inviting a United Nations entity and civil society organizations to contribute to the discussion from the floor.

Timetable

Presenting Member States were **identified through their regional groups** to allow sufficient time for consultations at the national level and preparation of the presentations. The following Member States have been designated to make voluntary presentations: Iran (Asia-Pacific States Group), Georgia, Ukraine and Armenia (Eastern European States Group); Egypt, South Africa and Uganda (African States Group); Argentina, Chile and Colombia (Latin American and Caribbean States Group); and Finland and Germany (Western European and other States Group).

The Commission has allocated **two meetings** on 18 March, 10.00 a.m.-12.00 p.m. and 3.00-5.00 p.m. for the review, totaling 4 hours. Approximately **18 minutes** will be allocated to each presentation (voluntary presentation, comments from 'partners', and responses from presenting country).

Format of voluntary presentations

Voluntary presentations should:

- At national level, be prepared through a multi-stakeholder consultation
- Focus on actions taken since March 2017 in response to the CSW61 Agreed Conclusions
- Focus on lessons learned, challenges and best practices, covering one or more areas of the Agreed Conclusions
- Be presented through live virtual presentations with participation from capital-based speakers or pre-recorded presentations
- Be presented, if possible, by a team of up to 3 speakers, led by a Minister or senior Government official, and including a civil society representative.