

UN WOMEN'S POLICY ADVOCACY WORK MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

May 2022



Overall response

1

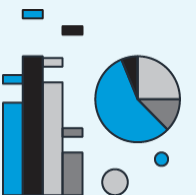
UN Women welcomes the analysis and recommendations of the corporate evaluation of UN Women's policy advocacy work which is a key element of the Entity's effort to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.



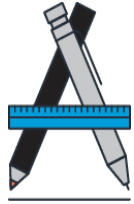
2

UN Women accepts the evaluation's five main recommendations, and partially accepts one recommendation.

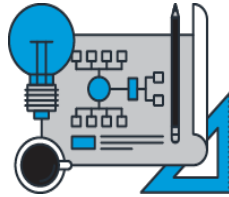
Through the implementation of the new Strategic Plan 2022-2025, UN Women will implement the recommendations. Timeframes and responsible units are assigned across the Entity to carry out specific key actions under each recommendation.



Key Points



UN Women will leverage its **Strategic Plan 2022-2025** to define its policy advocacy priorities in line with the four thematic impact areas and seven outcomes



UN Women will strengthen its **definition of policy advocacy** to clarify priorities, responsible units, knowledge production and monitoring mechanisms



UN Women will continue to rely on its **strong partnerships**, with national governments, UN agencies, feminist movements and women's organizations to support policy change



UN Women staff at all levels does policy advocacy; their efforts will be informed by **strong data, evidence and knowledge** so that the Entity remains a recognized knowledge broker on all gender equality policy issues

RECOMMENDATIONS

1



Leverage the Strategic Plan to enable coherent planning, implementation and monitoring and reporting of policy advocacy priorities

2

Clarify and strengthen the Entity's policy advocacy architecture, including strengthening integration of policy advocacy across the organization, ensuring the meaningful participation of all divisions

3



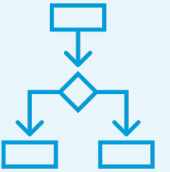
Strengthen data, knowledge generation and knowledge management systems as enablers for policy advocacy work and establish UN- Women as a recognized knowledge broker on gender equality in the policy advocacy sphere

4



Continue to strengthen relationships with national governments, UN agencies, and feminist movements and women's organizations to support policy change and implementation

5



Strategically place policy advocacy specialists across the organization and ensure that field offices have the appropriate level of social and political acumen and adequate capacity in terms of staff with technical expertise and knowledge of local context

6

Strengthen and improve mechanisms and processes within UN-Women by developing guidance tools and best practices to effectively engage groups being left behind through policy advocacy work

UN WOMEN ACTIONS

1



- ❖ Develop a clear Entity-wide definition of policy advocacy and establish global policy advocacy priorities
- ❖ Contextualize policy advocacy priorities for Regional and Country Offices through Strategic Notes and workplans and through Signature Intervention/Theories of Action at HQ

2



- ❖ Map and clarify the key actors and roles of different HQ divisions, Regional and Country Offices involved in policy advocacy
- ❖ Strengthen linkages between UN Women's communication and advocacy efforts at all levels of the organization, and strategic communication plans, so that communication products and messages effectively and consistently, support policy advocacy

3



- ❖ Develop effective data and knowledge generation systems based on UN Women's policy advocacy priorities and evidence from gap analysis on policy development
- ❖ Finalize and implement a corporate DEK strategy, strengthen knowledge management systems for policy advocacy work across global, regional and country levels
- ❖ Disseminate policy guidance, key messages and training/capacity building tools in support of policy advocacy. Finalize a corporate communication plan to disseminate knowledge products

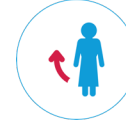
UN WOMEN ACTIONS

4



- ❖ Collaborate with national governments to increase ownership of policy change and implementation
- ❖ Leverage the Resident Coordinator's Office and partnerships with other UN agencies to enhance coordination, scale policy advocacy work and foster support
- ❖ Leverage partnerships with feminist movements and women's organizations at all levels to support policy change and implementation especially as a convener of Generation Equality/Action Coalitions
- ❖ Leverage partnerships with academia, research institutions and think tanks for knowledge generation and sharing

5



- ❖ Locate thought leaders and policy experts throughout the organization, including at the regional and country level, to better support policy advocacy priorities (pending funding)
- ❖ Develop capacity and expertise for policy advocacy work in ROs/COs
- ❖ Review Country Office job descriptions and titles to ensure that policy advocacy work is adequately reflected in Terms of Reference

6



- ❖ Identify or develop approaches for integrating "leave no one behind" principles in policy advocacy work
- ❖ Create safe spaces for LNOB groups to be included in policy advocacy efforts and provide capacity development to support this engagement