



Ecumenical Women

at the United Nations

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNCSW 57

Cultural, structural and economic violence are underlying factors that must be addressed. We urge member state governments to:

- ❖ Recognize women's contributions and promote equality for women as active and equal decision-makers
 - Urge States to promote the goal of gender balance in all public positions and to take all appropriate measure to encourage political parties to ensure that women have a fair and equal opportunity to compete for all elective and no-elective public positions (A/RES/58/142)
- ❖ Oppose all forms of gender-based stereotyping, discrimination, oppression and violence
 - To allocate adequate resources to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality and to prevent and redress all forms and manifestations of violence against women (A/RES/61/143)
- ❖ Eradicate cultural practices that perpetuate violence against women and girls
 - Adopting all appropriate measures, especially in the field of education, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women and to eliminate prejudices, customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women (A/RES/63/155)
- ❖ Reduce the gaps in political parity and representation and work towards greater inclusion of women in decision-making, leadership and representation in governing structures
 - Urges Governments to develop and to promote methodologies for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all aspects of policy-making, including economic policy making (A/RES/54/210)
- ❖ Create and enforce laws by which women are guaranteed equal pay for equal work
 - Encourages Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value (A/RES/64/217)

Education is a vital part of the change process, especially societal change. Education must incorporate men and boys alongside women and girls. We urge member state governments to:

- ❖ Partner with civil society in conducting awareness and educational campaigns about gender discrimination and gender-based violence in all its forms
 - Encourage partnerships and cooperation among Governments, international organizations, in particular international financial institutions, and multilateral organizations, private sector institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, especially women's and community-based organizations (A/RES/S-23/3)
- ❖ Provide training to police, medical staff, teachers and school administrators and others who may encounter victims of violence to recognize that violence, provide education on local and national laws and make reporting of abuse obligatory
 - Develop, in a comprehensive way, preventative approaches and all those measures of a legal, political, administrative and cultural nature that promote the protection of women against any form of violence, and ensure that the re-victimization of women does not occur because of laws insensitive to gender considerations, enforcement practices and other interventions (A/RES/48/104)
- ❖ Work towards education and access to full reproductive health provisions, including contraception, disease prevention, and family planning
 - The human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of

coercion, discrimination and violence. Equal relationships between women and men in matters of sexual relations and reproduction, including full respect for the integrity of the person, require mutual respect, consent and shared responsibility for sexual behavior and its consequences (A/RES/S-23/326)

- ❖ Train law enforcement personnel regarding the prevalence and appropriate serious response to reports of domestic violence especially within indigenous populations, as well as minorities and the poor
 - Member States, in cooperation with relevant non-governmental organizations and professional associations, are urged, as appropriate to provide for or to encourage mandatory cross-cultural gender and child-sensitivity training modules for police, criminal justice officials and professionals involved in the criminal justice system on the unacceptability of all forms of violence against women and their harmful impact and consequence on all those who experience such violence (A/RES/61/143)

We must pay particular attention to the needs of rural and minority populations and improve their access to resources and services. We urge member state governments to:

- ❖ Increase women's and girls' access to education, especially for rural and minority populations, so that women and girls might contribute their full potential and skills in their communities, have increased confidence, and be assisted to better face challenges arising from contact with male dominated enterprises
 - Ensure that indigenous children and children belonging to minorities have access to quality education on the same basis as other children. Efforts must be directed to providing this education in a manner that respects their heritage. Efforts must also be directed to providing educational opportunities so that indigenous children and children belonging to minorities can develop an understanding of and sustain their cultural identity, including significant aspects such as language and values. (A/RES/27/2-40(5))
 - Further calls upon all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights as well as access to health care, social services and education on an equal basis with others and to ensure that all such children, in particular victims of violence and exploitation, receive special protection and assistance; (A/RES/63/241-36)
- ❖ Increase funding for victim support programs that especially address the needs of rural and minority populations
 - To ensure that all services and legal remedies available to victims of violence against women are also available to immigrant women, trafficked women, refugee women, stateless women and all other women in need of such assistance, and that specialized services for such women are established, where appropriate; (A/RES/65/228-18(j))
- ❖ Eliminate transportation constraints that prevent women in rural areas from accessing basic resources that would enable them to participate in local, regional and international economies
 - Identify and address opportunities to achieve affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable, safe and environmentally sound transportation systems, so that rural women have transportation systems, so that rural women have transportation choices that improve access to better jobs, educational facilities, health care, markets, food and water (E/2011/29)
- ❖ Increase access to information, law enforcement and court systems, medicine, food, water, education and other services in rural and isolated areas
 - Investing in and strengthening efforts to meet the basic needs of rural women, including needs relating to their food and nutritional security and that of their families, and to promote adequate standards of living for them as well as decent conditions for work and access to local, regional and global markets through improved availability, access to and use of critical rural infrastructure, such as energy and transport, science and technology, local services, capacity-building and human resources development measures and the provision of a safe and reliable water supply and sanitation, nutritional programmes, affordable housing programmes, education and literacy programmes, and health and social support measures, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care, including psychosocial aspects, and support services; (A/RES/66/129-2(h))