

WASMUN 2018

March 3rd and 4th, 2018 | University of Washington | Seattle, Washington



Background Guide for the

Executive Board of UN Women

Contents

Contents	2
Letter from Director General.....	3
Letter from the UN Women Committee Staff	4
Committee Overview	5
History and Mandate	5
Organization and Structure.....	5
Functions and Powers.....	6
Recent Work	6
Conclusion.....	7
I. Prevention and Elimination of Gender-based Violence in Africa	8
Introduction.....	8
International Frameworks and Committee-specific Action	9
Key Issues.....	11
Case Study	13
Conclusion.....	14
Research Questions	14
II. Promoting the Involvement of Women and Youth in Government.....	16
Introduction.....	16
International Framework and Committee-Specific Action.....	16
Case Study and Key Issues	18
Next Steps.....	18
Works Cited	20
Committee Overview	20
I. Prevention and Elimination of Gender-based Violence in Africa.....	20
II. Promoting the Involvement of Women and Youth in Government.....	24

Letter from Director General

Dear Delegates,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to Washington State Model United Nations (WASMUN) 2018. My name is Tyler Lincoln, and I am serving as your Director-General for this year's WASMUN conference.

Throughout my time at the University of Washington, I have been able to participate in Model United Nations as a delegate, committee staff, and executive staff, each bringing their own sets of challenges and rewards. I have been working with WASMUN for 3 years now, first serving as committee staff, and last year as the Assistant-Director-General for WASMUN 2017. As Director-General for this year's conference, it has been my goal to continue to increase WASMUN's ability to provide a fun, challenging experience from which all can grow and learn.

The theme of this year's WASMUN conference is building a more sustainable future together. With the conference taking place in the Pacific Northwest, and keeping in mind the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals, this year's WASMUN is focusing on diversity and inclusivity. The wide range of committees chosen for WASMUN this year aims to reflect the importance of sustainable development. Additionally, the diversity of committees aims to show the interlinkages between the social, economic and political pillars of sustainable development. Each of these three dimensions is crucial for promoting the development of all. We hope you keep this in mind as you pursue your own unique solutions to the challenges we provide you.

On a final note, each committee dais worked hard in ensuring they provide you with helpful and useful information through writing the background guides. That being said, I wish you the best of luck in preparing for this conference and I look forward to meeting you all in a couple of months! If you have any questions during your preparation, please don't hesitate to send them to dg@wasmun.org.

Best,

Tyler Lincoln

Director-General

WASMUN 2018

Letter from the UN Women Committee Staff

Dear Delegates,

I am pleased to welcome you to University of Washington's 2018 Model United Nations (WASMUN) conference. My name is Gillian Lait, and I am excited to be serving you as your Director of UN-Women.

In my high school years, I was very involved in Model UN but thought my journey with the club ended when I graduated. As I came to college, I decided to continue my work and join the collegiate team that was offered. This led to a myriad of opportunities, including traveling to New York for an international Model UN conference. I urge you to look not just to future high school conferences, but to how you can continue your Model UN experiences through college so you can one day share the lasting memories as well.

While your work over this weekend may seem to last only for the conference, the skills that you are working on will last you a lifetime. Public speaking, teamwork, and academic writing are only a few of the abilities that will help to create many opportunities once you enter the working world. I hope you treat this not only as means to step into another country's shoes, but as means to improve on your own. It is very easy to get focused on a simple task, such as a second round of edits, but it is also important to assess what the bigger picture may be, like working to include a delegate who may be having difficulty. Being cognizant of what is happening around you and helping to bridge the gap between students is a skill that takes many people years to finally work on, but you are given the opportunity to improve on such skills at conferences such as these.

I am excited to meet you and look forward to seeing the work of the body over the weekend. Please bring a pen, your laptop, and your best attitude.

Sincerely,

Sabrina Suen, Chair

Jiani Wang, Assistant Director



Gillian Lait, Director

Committee Overview

History and Mandate

UN Women was created in 2010 by the General Assembly (GA) as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to help accelerate the organization's goals on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The mandate for UN Women is articulated in GA resolution 64/2009:

“Based on the principle of universality, the Entity shall provide, through its normative support functions and operational activities, guidance and technical support to all Member States, across all levels of development and in all regions, at their request, on gender equality, the empowerment and rights of women and gender mainstreaming.¹

The creation of UN Women merged together four previously separate entities dedicated to women's rights: the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI), and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).² Thus, the mandate of UN Women combined DAW's dedication to women's empowerment, INSTRAW's pledge to research, OSAGI's devotion to implementation, and UNIFEM's commitment to proper funding. The main goal of UN Women, however, is to support Member States as they strive towards global standards of achieving gender equality as designated under the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. UN Women has five focal priorities: increasing women's leadership and participation, ending violence against women, engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes, enhancing women's economic empowerment, and making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting.³

Fundamentally, UN Women believes that gender equality is not only vital in the exercise of human rights, but also plays an enormous role in spurring socioeconomic growth. Yet, gender inequality continues to plague societies across the world. Women, apart from often being denied decent work, are commonly subjected workplace harassment and gender wage gaps. Additionally, women are frequently denied healthcare and suffer from abuse and violence. Women are also the most underrepresented group in political and economic decision-making processes.⁴

Organization and Structure

UN Women has two multi-tiered governance structures. The first structure consists of the GA, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and the Executive Board. They determine the organization's operational activities and provides operational policy guidance to UN Women. The Executive Board consists of 41 members, all originating from different regions of the world, which ensures that all Member States have a voice in important budgetary and

¹ UN General Assembly, System-wide coherence (A/RES/64/289), 2010, p. 9. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/479/17/PDF/N0947917.pdf?OpenElement>

² Ibid.

³ UN-Women, About UN Women, 2017. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women>

⁴ Ibid.

financial decisions for UN Women.⁵ The other governance structure consists of the GA, ECOSOC, and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). This structure provides normative policy guidance to UN Women. ECOSOC also is responsible for ensuring overall consistency and cohesion between UN Women and the CSW.⁶ For the purposes of WASMUN 2018, we will be simulating the Executive Board, though it will not be limited to its sole mandate over financial matters; delegates will have a chance to shape UN Women policy and programming within the mandate of UN Women itself.

Functions and Powers

UN Women serves as an intergovernmental forum that brings Member States together to debate and find solutions to global gender equality norms and standards. In accordance with its mandate, UN Women supports Member States in setting norms and goals. It conducts research and compile and provide evidence, including good practices and lessons learned, to inform intergovernmental debates and decisions.⁷ It also assist in implementing norms and standards through different intergovernmental programs. In addition, UN Women leads and coordinates the UN system's work in support of gender equality and the empowerment of women. All intergovernmental discussions and decisions are made by the Executive Board.⁸

UN Women's areas of activity include peace and security, political participation and government planning, the fight against HIV/AIDS, the economic empowerment of women, participating in and shaping the process of formulating sustainable development goals for the upcoming decades, and ending violence against women and girls.⁹ As such, UN Women works closely with other UN bodies and intergovernmental programs to design and achieve these goals.

Recent Work

On August 30, 2017, UN Women adopted the UN Women Strategic Plan 2018-2021. This plan outlines the body's direction, objectives, and approaches to support gender equality throughout the world. The plan is in line with the goals set out in the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* as well as the 2030 Agenda. The plan highlights five strategic priorities for UN Women, which are as follows:

- Strengthening and implementing a comprehensive and dynamic set of global norms, policies, and standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.
- Women lead, participate in, and benefit equally from governance systems.
- Women have income security, decent work, and economic autonomy.
- All women and girls live a life free from all forms of violence.

⁵ UN General Assembly, System-wide coherence (A/RES/64/289), 2010, p. 10. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/479/17/PDF/N0947917.pdf?OpenElement>

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ UN-Women, What we do, 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do>

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ UN-Women, What we do, 2014; UN-Women, Annual Report 2013-2014, 2018, p. 4. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2014/annual%20report%202013-2014%20pdf.pdf?la=en>

Women and girls contribute to and have greater influence in building sustainable peace and resilience, and benefit equally from the prevention of natural disasters and conflicts and humanitarian action.¹⁰

Conclusion

Overall, UN Women plays an integral role in connecting intergovernmental forums with international agendas and goals for women's empowerment. Its main function is to reach out and empower disadvantaged women through cohesive dialogue and coordination efforts. UN Women works in collaboration with many other UN agencies such as ECOSOC and CSW to monitor and evaluate the progress of goal implementations. Through these coordinated efforts, UN Women can effectively carry out its mandate and strive to achieve greater participation and representation for women all over the world.

¹⁰ UN-Women, UN-Women strategic plan, 2018-2021, 2018, p. 3. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/executive%20board/2017/second%20regular%20session%202017/unw-2017-6-strategic%20plan-en-rev%2001.pdf?la=en&vs=2744>

I. Prevention and Elimination of Gender-based Violence in Africa

Introduction

Violence against women (VAW) and girls is a serious violation of human rights according to UN Women document of *Ending Violence Against Women*. It has multiple physical, sexual, and mental short- and long-term consequences. Moreover, VAW negatively impacts women as human beings and prevents them from full political participation in society and decision-making processes.¹¹ Social norms, gender stereotypes, and gender-based discrimination perpetuates the existing problems of violence against women and girls. UN Women has provided a multitude of responses and services for these survivors, including, preventing violence against women and girls, by addressing structural causes.¹² A 2013 global review by the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported that 35% of all women globally have experienced sexual and/or physical violence.¹³ In other words, this statistic shows that one out of five girls, as well as one in three in some countries, experience abuse during their childhood.¹⁴

According to the Department of Justice and Constitution Development in South Africa, in 2016, 51,895 sexual offences—an average of 142.2 per day—were recorded in South Africa, which is only one country in southern Africa.¹⁵ UNODC reported that Gender-based Violence (GBV) is an impediment to gender equality and that up to 70% of women in their lifetime have experienced GBV by their husbands and close partners.¹⁶ GBV has gained prominence around the world as a grave violation of human and legal rights, which prevent all societies to achieve full gender equality. In addition to *Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against Women* released by WHO, there were variations across the regions in data they collected on the prevalence estimates of non-partner sexual violence, with the prevalence ranging between 3.3% and 21.0%. The highest prevalence was reported in the sub-Saharan Africa, Central region (21%) followed by the sub-Saharan Africa Southern (17.4%) region.¹⁷

The New Global 2030 roadmap and *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs), which were approved on 25 September 2015, including gender equality, reduced inequalities, peace, justice and strong institutions, and other 14 goals, which also specifically highlight the impact women have on the global community.¹⁸ Goal 10 of the SDGs has indicated that inequalities based on income, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, race, class, ethnicity, religion and opportunities continue to persist across the world, within and among countries.¹⁹ Goal 5 of the SDGs in particular recognizes the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and also addresses

¹¹ UN Women. Ending Violence Against Women. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women>

¹² United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime Southern Africa. South Africa: Are We Doing Enough to End Violence against Women. <https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/vaw/index.html>

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime Southern Africa. South Africa: Are We Doing Enough to End Violence against Women. <https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/vaw/index.html>

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ World Health Organization. Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against Women: Prevalence and Health Effects of Intimate Partner Violence and Non-Sexual Partner Violence. 2013. <http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/9789241564625/en/>

¹⁸ UN Women. Women and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs>

¹⁹ United Nation Sustainable Development Goals. Equality: Why It Matters. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/16-00055j_Why-it-Matters_Goal10_Equality_new-icon.pdf

violence against women and girls. UN Women recognizes the importance of ensuring women's power and rights globally by legislative and legal changes.²⁰ Decades of mobilizing by civil society and women's movements have led to prioritization of addressing GBV by the international community.²¹ As a result of civil society mobilizing, an increasing number of countries are making efforts to establish laws against domestic violence.

International Frameworks and Committee-specific Action

According to the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVW)*, which was adopted by the General Assembly in 1993, violence against women and girls refers to "...any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women [or girls], including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."²² The international community has recognized and committed to eliminating gender-based violence through a variety of regional and global legal and policy instruments, which play an important role towards leading to progress and ending the problem²³. *The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)* committed States Parties to take "...all appropriate measures to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women," with a view of achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women."²⁴

DEVW enhanced the definition of violence against women and also included protection of women from violence committed in the private domain as being an obligation of the state.²⁵ The *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA)*, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, recognized the complexity of the underlying causes of violence against women and girls, and the need to link prevention and response activities.²⁶ Other international framework relevant to the prevention of violence against women includes the 1958 International Labor Organization's *Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention*, which protect workers from violence and harassment and outlaw's discrimination.²⁷

The BPfA sets forth government's commitments to enhance women's rights. Member states reaffirmed and strengthened the platform in 2000 during the global five-year review of progress and pledged to accelerate its implementation during the 10-year review in 2005, the 15-year review in 2010, and the 20-year review in 2015. The Platform for Action covers 12 critical areas of concern that are including: poverty, education and training, health, violence; armed conflict, economy, power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms, human rights, media, environment, and the girl child.²⁸

²⁰ UN Women. SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality>

²¹ Ibid.

²² UNGA. A/RES/48/104. Declaration on Elimination of Violence Against Women. 20 December 1993. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm>

²³ UN Women; Commission on the Status of Women. Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls. 4-15 March 2013. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/csw57-stop-violence-against-women>

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ UN Women. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Actions and Beijing 5+ Political Declaration and Outcome. 2014. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/01/beijing-declaration>

The African Union (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government has declared 2015 as the Year of Women Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063. AU Member States have overseen the development and harmonization of gender-related policies; initiates gender-mainstreaming strategies within the Commission and for AU organs and Member States.²⁹ *Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA)* has adopted by AU Heads of States in 2004, which is the landmark commitment by Africa's leaders to report on progress made in gender mainstreaming.³⁰

UN Women, in partnership with the *World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)*, has developed a global non-formal education curriculum, which do not either have the level of curriculum, syllabus, accreditation and certification associated with formal learning, to engage young people in efforts to prevent and end violence against girls and women.³¹ The *Victim Empowerment Program* found in 2008 by *United Nation Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC)* emphasized that crime takes an enormous physical, financial, and emotional toll on victims. In many instances, victims of crime are forgotten. They are rarely allowed to participate fully in decisions that concerns them and do not always receive the assistance, support and protection they need.³² Since 2009, UNODC Southern Africa, in partnership with the SADC Secretariat and the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization Secretariat has been successfully implementing a region project – *Making the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region Safer from Crime and Drugs, Regional Programme: 2013-2016*.³³ To provide further assistance, the regional office is also carrying out training and capacity building.³⁴ The mandate for the project comes from the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2006/29, entitled 'Crime prevention and criminal justice response to violence against women and girls' in which the Council recognized the importance of targeting the special needs of women and girls in the criminal justice system.³⁵ The Criminal justice system requires a victim-centered approach which is a practice that is not widely implemented on the global scale. This undermines trust in the justice and law enforcement system. There is a need to development an integrated a data collection system, which would allow establishment of baseline and proper monitoring of progress.³⁶ There is a need for dedicating personnel that offer services, which helping establish framework of GBV crimes, including in Criminal Justice system.³⁷

UN Women works with countries at the global level to advance the international framework through the support provided to inter-governmental processes, such as the General Assembly and Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). UN Women supports governments in adopting and enacting legal reforms aligned with

²⁹ African Union Commission. African Gender Scorecard. December 2015. https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/31260-doc-2015_auc_african_gender_scorecard_en.pdf

³⁰ The Heads of States and Government of Member Starts of African Union. Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa. July 2014. <http://www.chr.up.ac.za/undp/regional/docs/audeclaration11.pdf>

³¹ UN Women. Focusing on Prevention to Stop the Violence. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/prevention>

³² United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – Regional Office Southern Africa. Introducing UNODC Southern Africa Part II. http://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica/UNODC_Southern_Africa_Newsletter_Issue_02.pdf

³³ United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. Making the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region Safer from Crime and Drugs, Regional Programme: 2013 - 2016. May 2014. https://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica/Stories/UNODC_-_SADC_-_Regional_Programme_-_online.pdf

³⁴ United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime Southern Africa. South Africa: Are We Doing Enough to End Violence against Women. <https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/vaw/index.html>

³⁵ Ibid.

³⁶ Ibid.

³⁷ Ibid.

international standards and has partnered with governments,³⁸ UN agencies, civil society organization and other institutions to advocate for ending violence, increase awareness of the cases and consequences of violence and build capacity of partners to prevent and respond to violence.³⁹

Key Issues

Child Marriage and Forced Marriage

United Nation Children’s Fund (UNICEF) widely recognized as a violation of human rights, forced marriage and child marriage deprive young girls of their rights to health, education, development, and equality. Contributing social and community factors include tradition and customary law, religion, poverty, bride price, and notions of morality and family honor associated with a girl’s ‘virginity’.⁴⁰ The right to ‘free and full’ consent to a marriage is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights—with the recognition that consent cannot be ‘free and full’ when one of the parties involved is not sufficiently mature to make an informed decision about a life partner.⁴¹

The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) mentions the right to protection from children marriage in article 16—child’s marriages have no legal effect and all necessary action including legislation.⁴² The Convention on the Rights of the Child linked child marriage to the other rights, such as the right to express their views freely, the right to protection from all forms of abuse, and the right to be protected from harmful traditional practices, which is addressed by the committee on the Rights of the Child.^{43 44}

In 2003, UNICEF and partners agreed to focus on five indicators related to child marriage, including ‘percentage of women first in union by age 18 by age group (15-19, 20-24, and 45-49)’, ‘percentage of girls 15-19 years of age currently in union’, ‘spousal age difference’, ‘percentage of women currently in a polygynous union by age groups’, and ‘percentage of ever-married women who were directly involved in the choice of their first husband or partner’.^{45 46}

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

A practice typically carried out by traditional circumcisers, FGM involves partial or total removal of the external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. FGM has no medical benefit whatsoever and harms girls and women in

³⁸ UN Women. Ending Violence Against Women. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women>

³⁹ Ibid

⁴⁰ The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice, A Statistical Exploration. 2005. https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Early_Marriage_12.lo.pdf

⁴¹ UNGA. Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 10 December 1948. <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

⁴² UN Women. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm>

⁴³ United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner. Convention on the Rights of the Child.

⁴⁴ UNGA. Resolution A/RES/44/25. 20 November 1989. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r025.htm>

⁴⁵ The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice, A Statistical Exploration. 2005. https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Early_Marriage_12.lo.pdf

⁴⁶ World Health Organization. Violence Against Women: Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Against Women. November 2017. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>

both immediate and long-term ways.⁴⁷ The causes of female genital mutilation include a mix of cultural, religious and social factors within families and communities.⁴⁸ FGM is recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. It reflects deep-rooted inequality between the sexes and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women. It was nearly always carried out on minors and is a violation of the rights of children.⁴⁹

UNICEF estimated in *Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: A Global Concern* 2016 that 200 million women living today in 30 countries including 27 African countries have undergone the procedures.⁵⁰ On 20 December 2012, UNGA adopted a milestone resolution A/RES/67/146 calling on the international community to intensify efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilations.⁵¹

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the acquisition of people by improper means such as force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them. The Protocol to Prevent, suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children has been adopted by General Assembly resolution 55/25. It was the first global legally binding instrument with an agreed definition on trafficking in persons.⁵² UNODC has offered help to States, not only helping to draft laws and create comprehensive national anti-trafficking strategies but also assisting with resources to implement them. States receive specialized assistance including the development of local capacity and expertise.⁵³

UNODC's Thematic Programme Against Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking (2011-2013) has addressed the problems and challenges faced in preventing and combating organized crime worldwide.⁵⁴ However, the international community is still in a urgent situation due to the following factors: lack of evidence base and understanding of the nature of the challenge inadequate progress on the implementation of the international legal framework and multilateral instruments against transnational organized crime; insufficient capacity and coordination between law enforcement institutions at the national level to investigate transnational organized crime, and so on.⁵⁵

Sexual Violence in Conflict

In 2016, sexual violence continued to be employed as a tactic of war, with widespread and strategic rapes, including mass rapes, allegedly committed by several parties to armed conflict, mostly in conjunction with other

⁴⁷ World Health Organization. Female Genital Mutilation Fact Sheet. February 2017.

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/>

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ UNICEF. Female Genital Mutilation / Cutting: A Global Concern.

https://www.unicef.org/media/files/FGMC_2016_brochure_final_UNICEF_SPREAD.pdf

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto. 2004. <http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf>

⁵³ UNODC. Thematic Programme: Action against Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking, Including Drug Trafficking (2011-2013). April 2011. https://www.unodc.org/res/human-trafficking/2012/strategy-on-human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling_html/Thematic_Programme_on_Transitional_Threats.pdf

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ Ibid.

crimes such as killing, looting, pillage, forced displacement and arbitrary detention.⁵⁶ Since 2014, the United Nations has intensified its focus on the use of sexual violence as a tactic of terrorism by a range of violent extremist groups. The term “Conflict-related sexual violence”,⁵⁷ as used in the present report, refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict.⁵⁸ The Adoption of resolution 1960 (2010) ushered in a new compliance mechanism on conflict-related sexual violence.⁵⁹ Guidance on the monitoring, analysis and reporting arrangements and on the analytical and conceptual framing of conflict-related sexual violence was prepared in collaboration with the United Nation Action network and disseminated in July 2011 to UN field teams in Line with Policy Committee Decision No. 2010/30 on sexual violence in conflict.⁶⁰

Case Study

After South Sudan gained independence from Sudan, the internal conflicts have been continued existing in the new nation, which has created a humanitarian crisis with displacement of population and reversal of development gains. Women and girls have been suffering hideous consequences of the violence, abuse, deprivation and loss of livelihoods from these conflicts. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has estimates that 716, 508 civilians have been displaced by armed violence and insecurity.⁶¹ The United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) has provided shelter and protections for 7, 308 people; women, girls and children make up the majority of in need of humanitarian assistance.⁶² Since the total population of South Sudan has 16% of people under the age of five and 51% of people under the age of 18 years,⁶³ traditional practices such as early and forced marriages, child abductions and teenage pregnancies subordinate women and girls and disable their efforts to contribute the development. Sexual and gender-based violence is prevalent, with at least 4 out 10 women reported to have experienced one or more forms of violence.⁶⁴

According to *South Sudan Crisis Situation Report 2014*, 15, 616 women and girls and 458 men and boys were reached with GBV awareness messages.⁶⁵ Rape is a common feature of the conflict threatening civilians inside

⁵⁶ UNGA. Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence. 15 April 2017.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict/pdf/1494280398.pdf>

⁵⁷ United National General Assembly Security Council. A/66/657*-S/2012/33* Conflict-Related Sexual Violence – Report of the Secretary General. 13 January 2012. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/650/18/PDF/N1165018.pdf?OpenElement>

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ United Nation Security Council. S/RES/1960(2010) Resolution 1960(2010). 16 December 2010.

<http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BFCF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/WPS%20SRES%201960.pdf>

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ UNOCHA. About OCHA South Sudan. <http://www.unocha.org/country/south-sudan/about-ocha-south-sudan/about-ocha-south-sudan>

⁶² UNMISS. UNMISS Facilitates CTBPS Training for SSNPS 777 Response Units. 12 February 2016.

<https://unmiss.unmissions.org/unmiss-facilitates-ctbps-training-ssnps-777-response-units>

⁶³ The World Factbook. Africa: South Sudan. 03 January 2018. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/od.html>

⁶⁴ Ibid.

⁶⁵ UNOCHA. South Sudan Crisis Situation Report as of 2 May 2014 Report Number 34. 2 May 2014.

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/South_Sudan_crisis_sitrep_34_as_of_2_May_2014.pdf

and outside the Protection of Civilians (POC) sites.⁶⁶ The scale and severity of GBV in South Sudan negatively impacts the protection, health and development of individuals and the nations.⁶⁷ The ongoing humanitarian response to the South Sudan crisis continues challenging by many factors including the inadequate integration of gender equality and women' empowerment as a central tenet in the overall response.⁶⁸ The United Nation Security Council has adopted *South Sudan National Action Plan 2015-2020 on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and Related Resolutions* in 2000 and recognized the political significance of women and gender for the sustainability of international peace and security by adopting the resolution.⁶⁹

Conclusion

UN Women has dedicated the gender equality and supports UN Member States setting their global standards for achieving gender equality and reducing GBV. UN Women Africa has been supporting the development, implementation and adoption of regional and national policies and strategies in line with international standards to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls. The CSW reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the international commitment made at relevant United Nation summits and conferences in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women. It also highlights the role of UN Women played as a monitor of progress towards meeting international development goals. The different response to violence against women and girls can only be efficient in the perspective of a cooperation between the United Nation bodies and specialized agencies, including WHO, UNICEF, and other relevant stakeholders.

Research Questions

There is no doubt that it is crucial to craft solutions to address the dire situation that UN Women currently facing. However, with many faces to the situation and the differing state of the issues of GBV, it is hard to draft comprehensive and adequate proposals. While conducting your research, it will be useful to keep the following questions in mind:

- What role can international community and regional institutions play in sustainably ending GBV?
- How effective are existing programs at recognizing and addressing the existence and needs of minority survivor of GBV?
- What UN-led initiatives have made a tangible impact on the prevention of conflict related sexual violence and against which baseline information can this be measured?
- What factors lead to the sustainability or failure of programs to prevent GBV?

⁶⁶ Ibid.

⁶⁷ UNHCR. GBV Sub-Cluster Strategy South Sudan 2017. 2017.

https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/gbv_sub-cluster_strategy_final_1.pdf

⁶⁸ Inter-Agency Standing Committee. Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan Gender Alert 2. May 2014.

<http://www.unwomen.org/->

</media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2014/iasc%20gender%20reference%20group%20%20gender%20alert%20south%20sudan%20may%2013%202014%20refo%20%20%20%20pdf.pdf?la=en>

⁶⁹ Republic of South Sudan. South Sudan National Action Plan 2015-2020 on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and Related Resolution.

<http://www.ss.undp.org/content/dam/southsudan/library/Reports/southsudanothertools/SS%20NAP%201325.pdf>

II. Promoting the Involvement of Women and Youth in Government

Introduction

Connecting women and youth to positions of governing power promotes the achievement of peace and development, as well as human rights and international justice.⁷⁰ By giving women and youth the opportunity to contribute to national and international governments, it gives rise to policies that focus on gender equality and gender-based violence, and policies that improve the social, economic, and political rights of women and children. There is a large disparity in the number of women voters and women in leadership positions, especially when looking at the highest levels of elected office, and which does not include the local level, for which there is minimal tracking and reporting.⁷¹ Youth, defined as individuals between the ages of 15 and 30, are even more underrepresented, as they make up half the world's population but are less than 6 percent of the parliamentarians.⁷² There has been a steady rise in the inclusion of women and youth in government affairs in the past 25 years, but the goals set by the international community are not close to being met.⁷³

There are a number of challenges that women and youth face in working towards inclusion in governmental decisions, and there are not fast solutions to ameliorate these problems. There has been a global push to strengthen national commitments to a more diverse political community and to endorse programs that center on involvement of women and youth in government. By creating networks of information sharing and capacity-building on the international level, the global community can effectively work towards mitigating these obstacles that women and youth face.⁷⁴

International Framework and Committee-Specific Action

Regarding the international commitments to the political rights of women, many of these existing agreements and treaties focus heavily on such issues. In particular, the International Bill of Human Rights provides the foundation upon which the UN builds human rights framework from, as it includes other agreements such as the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948), which highlighted the importance of individual freedom without gender discriminations, the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (ICCPR) (1966), pushing for the end of political violence against women and promoting political involvement, and the *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) (1966), which noted the importance that State Parties play in ensuring the equal rights of men and women.⁷⁵ These documents ensure the continued protection of women and

⁷⁰ UN Women & International Gender Champions Geneva, Shaping the International Agenda: Raising Women's Voices in Intergovernmental Forums, 2017. <https://www.unog.ch/women-voices-intergov-forums-en>

⁷¹ UN Women, The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action Turns 20, 2015, http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/sg%20report_synthesis-en_web.pdf?la=en&vs=5547

⁷² UN Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, #YouthStats: Public and Civic Participation, 2017. <http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/political-participation/>

⁷³ UN Women, Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights, 2015. http://progress.unwomen.org/en/2015/pdf/UNW_progressreport.pdf

⁷⁴ 2 UN Women & International Gender Champions Geneva, Shaping the International Agenda: Raising Women's Voices in Intergovernmental Forums, 2017. <https://www.unog.ch/women-voices-intergov-forums-en>

⁷⁵ UN General Assembly, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III)), 1948. http://www.un.org/en/udhrbook/pdf/udhr_booklet_en_web.pdf

girls and guarantee equal opportunity and participation in political matters; however, these issues are highlighted deeper and more specifically in the *Convention on the Political Rights of Women* (1952), which the UN General Assembly adopted quickly after the GA's conception.⁷⁶ Later following this international document the UN created the *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action* (BPfA) after the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, which emphasized the importance and set international goals for involving women and youth in decision-making processes. This document specifically called upon Member States to create specific targets and tests that would aid in achieving gender equality in public office.⁷⁷ UN Women is mandated to aid in the implementation of the BPfA and focus on introducing diverse, gendered perspectives into the UN.⁷⁸

While there are many clearly outlined plans for the promotion of women in government that have been discussed since the founding of the UN in 1945, the political rights of children have not had equal attention. When children are not offered the same rights as adults, the opportunity for growth in developing countries is squandered because there is not legislation in place to foster a strong future. In 1989, the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (CRC) was adopted, establishing the right for children to aid in decision-making processes that affect their livelihood.⁷⁹ Directly following the CRC, the *World Program of Action on Youth* (WPAY) was adopted by the General Assembly in 1995, which highlighted the tools that youth need to become successfully involved in governmental affairs, specifically pushing information sharing amongst youth and promoting youth caucuses.⁸⁰ It is important that more documents, similar to the WPAY, are adopted because the current international youth population will be responsible for the social, political, economic, and environmental future of the entire global community, which creates a need for quality education and financial stability to promote sustainable living in the future. These will not only help future populations, but can also serve as a guide in improving the current educational and financial stability.⁸¹

UN Women has set a strong precedence in focusing on the involvement of women and youth in government, as it supported 82 countries in strengthening gender equality priorities at a national, sectorial, and local governing level.⁸² UN Women has also created a partnership with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) monitoring group, named the Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), which is working as a global indicator to monitor progress towards the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (2015).⁸³ Along with UN Women, this group has focused on monitoring SDG 5, which focuses on gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, and Target 5.5, which ensures women's full and effective participation in political and economic decision making.

⁷⁶ UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Political Rights of Women* (A/RES/640 (VII)), 1953. <http://www.un-documents.net/cprw.htm>

⁷⁷ UN Fourth World Conference on Women, *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*, 1995. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>

⁷⁸ UN Women, *Commission on the Status of Women*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>

⁷⁹ UN General Assembly, *Convention on the Rights of the Child* (A/RES/44/25), 1989. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r025.htm>

⁸⁰ UN General Assembly, *World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond* (A/RES/50/81), 1996. http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay_guide.pdf

⁸¹ UN General Assembly, *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (A/RES/70/1), 2015. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

⁸² UN Women, *Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the progress made in implementing the Strategic Plan, 2014–2017 for the year 2016*, 2017. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/executive%2520board/2017/annual%2520session%25202017/unw-2017-2-annual%2520report%2520of%2520the%2520executive%2520director-en.pdf>

⁸³ UN DESA, *IAEG-SDGs: Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators*, 2017. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>

Case Study and Key Issues

Case Study: Improving political access and presence of Guatemalan women in higher level decision-making processes

Guatemalan women are not given equal opportunity to participate in the decision-making process, especially in higher level offices, additionally excluding them from economic opportunities due to limited representation. Present in Guatemala is a high number of incidences of gender-based violence that is not being addressed at the state level.⁸⁴ There has historically been a limited capacity for which international policy-makers can implement legislation in Guatemala that places importance on involvement of youth and women due to their weak presence amongst government officials. Additionally, due to high instances of gender-based violence and discrimination, there are few avenues for which women and youth can find education to prepare themselves for political office.⁸⁵

Moving forward, it is important that Guatemala tackles this issue so that gender-based violence and discrimination can be discussed. However, because of the slippery slope with lack of access and resources for women and youth, it will not be appropriately addressed until these underlying issues are ameliorated.

Key Issues

The following list highlights the key issues surrounding political access for Guatemalan youth and women in high-level government positions:

- **Failed legislature.** In 1996, Defense of Indigenous Women (DEMI) and the Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM) were both enacted, hoping to give opportunities for women of both indigenous ancestry and non-indigenous ancestry access to government positions through international framework. Unfortunately, only 2% of the municipalities are run by women.⁸⁶
- **Youth birth rates.** In Guatemala, 4,000 girls 10-14 years old give birth every year, and 1 in 5 births is by an adolescent girl age 13-19. Because of the demands of pregnancy and subsequent demands of having a child, young women are not able to fortify the necessary connections to begin their lives in government positions. The demands of the job are too great to place on women who are tasked with raising a child.⁸⁷
- **Gender disparity in literacy.** 2011 witnessed a 48% illiteracy rate among indigenous women and 19% among non-indigenous women, when compared to 25% of indigenous men and 10% of non-indigenous men. This highlights the issues that women, both indigenous and non-indigenous, face when attempting to attain access, as this access to formal means of financial resources, health services, and education are limited at best.⁸⁸

Next Steps

⁸⁴ UNDP, Report on Strengthening Women's Institutions in Guatemala, 2007.

<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/project/00067146>

⁸⁵ UN Women, Americas and the Caribbean – Guatemala, 2010. <http://lac.unwomen.org/en/donde-estamos/guatemala>

⁸⁶ UN Women, Advancing Gender Equality: Promising Practices, 2007.

http://www.unwomen.org/mdgf/C/Guatemala_C.html

⁸⁷ UNICEF, Latin America and the Caribbean – Guatemala, 2011.

https://www.unicef.org/arabic/hac2011/files/HAC2011_4pager_Guatemala_rev1.pdf

⁸⁸ Ibid

It is important, going forward, to acknowledge the obstacles that the current international framework presents to promote the inclusion of women and youth in government. Unless these populations are proportionally represented and actively participating, there will not be adequate legislative support to maintain gender equality. The international community has made strides towards achieving equality across all genders, however, the goals that were set are not being monitored, leading to a large disparity in expected population versus actual representation. The following questions will be helpful to keep in mind and to deepen research into finding viable and sustainable solutions:

- How can governments provide age-appropriate opportunities and offer effective involvement of youth in government practices?
- How can the UN remain sensitive to cultural practices but still ensure that the voices of women and youth are heard in the decision-making process?
- What national and regional practices have been effective in addressing these issues, and how can they be applied on an international level?
- What steps could the UN take to have a prominent role in this issue on a global scale? Is the UN the most appropriate forum for which to make these decisions?

Works Cited

Committee Overview

United Nations General Assembly, *System-wide coherence (A/RES/64/289)*, 2010. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N09/479/17/PDF/N0947917.pdf?OpenElement>

UN Women, What we do, 2014; *UN-Women, Annual Report 2013-2014*, 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2014/annual%20report%202013-2014%20pdf.pdf?la=en>

UN Women, What we do, 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do>

UN Women, *UN-Women strategic plan, 2018-2021*, 2018. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/executive%20board/2017/second%20regular%20session%202017/unw-2017-6-strategic%20plan-en-rev%2001.pdf?la=en&vs=2744>

I. Prevention and Elimination of Gender-based Violence in Africa

Annotated Bibliography

UNGA. (1993). *Declaration on Elimination of Violence Against Women (A/RES/48/104)*. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm>.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is often described as an international bill of rights for women. By accepting the Convention, States commit themselves to undertake a series of measures to end discrimination against women in all forms. The Convention provides the basis for realizing equality between women and men through ensuring women's equal access to, and equal opportunities in, political and public life including the right to vote and to stand for election, as well as education, health and employment. Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women was adopted without vote by the United Nations General Assembly. It recognized the urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human being

UNHCR. (2011). *Action against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence: An Updated Strategy*. <http://www.unhcr.org/4e1d5aba9.pdf>

The document pointed out the action against SGBV seeks to enhance the quality of protection delivery by promoting six often overlooked areas and including them, as appropriate in a comprehensive protection strategy: 'protecting children of concern against SGBV', 'addressing survival sex as a coping mechanism in situations of displacement', 'engaging men and boys', 'providing safe environments and safe access to domestic energy and natural resources', 'protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons of concern against SGBV', and 'protecting persons of concern with disabilities against SGBV'.

UNGA. (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_70_1_E.pdf

The resolution has recognized the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 69 targets that provide demonstration of scale and ambition of the new universal Agenda in order to build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and complete what have not been achieved yet. The resolution recognizes that each State Members has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and acknowledge the importance for international financial institutions to support with their mandates.

UNGA. (1966). *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*. <https://treaties.un.org/doc/publication/unts/volume%20999/volume-999-i-14668-english.pdf>

The International Covenant on civil and Political rights (ICCPR) is a multilateral treaty adopted by the United Nation General Assembly with resolution 2200A(XXI). The ICCOP is a part of the International bill of Human Rights. Article 17 mandates the right of privacy, which specify protection private adult consensual sexual activity. Article 2 mandates each state to respect and to ensure all individuals with its territory and subject to its jurisdiction the rights recognized in the present Covenant, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, etc. Article 24 pointed every child shall have the equal rights without any discrimination as to race, color, sex, etc.

UNGA. (1966). *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Right*. Resolution 2200A (XXI). <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CESCR.aspx>

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights (ICESCR) has committed its parties to work toward the granting of economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR) to the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories and individuals. Article 11 recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living. Article 2 committed the States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated will be exercised without discrimination of any kind including gender.

UN Women. (2014). *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Actions and Beijing 5+ Political Declaration and Outcome*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/01/beijing-declaration>

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995 is a visionary agenda for the empowerment of women. The declaration recognizes the status of women has advanced in some importance respects in the past decade but that progress has been uneven, inequalities between women and men has persisted and major obstacles remain, with serious consequence for the well-being. It also pointed out that women's empowerment and full participation in all aspects are fundamental for the achievement of equality. Women's rights are human rights.

Other Sources

African Union Commission. (2015). *African Gender Scorecard*. https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/31260-doc-2015_auc_african_gender_scorecard_en.pdf

- Inter-Agency Standing Committee. (2014). *Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan Gender Alert 2*.
<https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/iasc-transformative-agenda/documents-public/humanitarian-crisis-south-sudan-gender-alert-2-may-2014>
- Republic of South Sudan. (n.d.) *South Sudan National Action Plan 2015-2020 on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and Related Resolution*.
<http://www.ss.undp.org/content/dam/southsudan/library/Reports/southsudanotherdocuments/SS%20NAP%201325.pdf>
- The Heads of States and Government of Member States of African Union. (2014). *Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa*. <http://www.chr.up.ac.za/undp/regional/docs/audeclaration11.pdf>
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF). (2005). *Early Marriage: A Harmful Traditional Practice, A Statistical Exploration*. https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Early_Marriage_12.lo.pdf
- United National General Assembly Security Council. (2012). *A/66/657*-S/2012/33* Conflict-Related Sexual Violence – Report of the Secretary General*. <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N11/650/18/PDF/N1165018.pdf?OpenElement>
- United Nation Security Council. (2010). *S/RES/1960(2010) Resolution 1960(2010)*.
<http://www.securitycouncilreport.org/atf/cf/%7B65BF9B-6D27-4E9C-8CD3-CF6E4FF96FF9%7D/WPS%20SRES%201960.pdf>
- The World Factbook. (2018). *Africa: South Sudan*. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/od.html>
- UNHCR. (2017). *GBV Sub-Cluster Strategy South Sudan 2017*.
https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/gbv_sub-cluster_strategy_final_1.pdf
- UNGA. (1993). *Declaration on Elimination of Violence Against Women (A/RES/48/104)*.
<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/48/a48r104.htm>
- UNGA. (2017). *Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence*.
<http://www.un.org/en/events/elimination-of-sexual-violence-in-conflict/pdf/1494280398.pdf>
- UNGA. (1989). *Resolution A/RES/44/25*. <http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r025.htm>
- UNGA. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>
- UNMISS. (2016). *UNMISS Facilitates CTBPS Training for SSNPS 777 Response Units*.
<https://unmiss.unmissions.org/unmiss-facilitates-ctbps-training-ssnps-777-response-units>
- UNODC. (n.d.). *Southern Africa Regional Report*.
https://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica/UNODC_Southern_Africa_-_E-brochure_-_September_2010.pdf

- UNODC. (2011). *Thematic Programme: Action against Transnational Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking, Including Drug Trafficking (2011-2013)*. https://www.unodc.org/res/human-trafficking/2012/strategy-on-human-trafficking-and-migrant-smuggling_html/Thematic_Programme_on_Transitional_Threats.pdf
- UNODC. (2004). *United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols Thereto*. <http://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNTOC/Publications/TOC%20Convention/TOCebook-e.pdf>
- UNOCHA. (n.d.) *About OCHA South Sudan*. <http://www.unocha.org/country/south-sudan/about-ocha-south-sudan/about-ocha-south-sudan>
- UNOCHA. (2014). *South Sudan Crisis Situation Report as of 2 May 2014 Report Number 34*. https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/South_Sudan_crisis_sitrep_34_as_of_2_May_2014.pdf
- United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime. (2014). *Making the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Region Safer from Crime and Drugs, Regional Programme: 2013 - 2016*. https://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica/Stories/UNODC_-_SADC_-_Regional_Programme_-_online.pdf
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – Regional Office Southern Africa. (n.d.). *Introducing UNODC Southern Africa Part II*. http://www.unodc.org/documents/southernafrica/UNODC_Southern_Africa_Newsletter_Issue_02.pdf
- United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime Southern Africa. (n.d.). *South Africa: Are We Doing Enough to End Violence against Women*. <https://www.unodc.org/southernafrica/en/vaw/index.html>
- United Nation Sustainable Development Goals. (n.d.). *Equality: Why It Matters*. http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/16-00055j_Why-it-Matters_Goal10_Equality_new-icon.pdf
- UN Women. (2014). *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Actions and Beijing 5+ Political Declaration and Outcome*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2015/01/beijing-declaration>
- UN Women. (n.d.). *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*. <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm>
- UN Women. (2013). *Commission on the Status of Women. Report of the Expert Group Meeting on Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/csw57-stop-violence-against-women>
- UN Women. (n.d.). *Ending Violence Against Women*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women>
- UN Women. (n.d.). *Focusing on Prevention to Stop the Violence*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/prevention>
- UN Women. (n.d.). *SDG 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs/sdg-5-gender-equality>

UN Women. (n.d.). *Women and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*.
<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/women-and-the-sdgs>

World Health Organization. (n.d.). *Female Genital Mutilation Fact Sheet. February 2017*.
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs241/en/>

World Health Organization. (2013). *Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against Women: Prevalence and Health Effects of Intimate Partner Violence and Non-Sexual Partner Violence*.
<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/9789241564625/en/>

World Health Organization. (2017). *Violence Against Women: Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Against Women*. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>

II. Promoting the Involvement of Women and Youth in Government

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2017). *IAEG-SDGs: Inter-agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators*. <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/>

United Nations Development Programme. (2007). *Report on Strengthening Women's Institutions in Guatemala*.
<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/project/00067146>

United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women. (1995). *Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action*.
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>

United Nations General Assembly. (1953). *Convention on the Political Rights of Women (A/RES/640 (VII))*.
<http://www.un-documents.net/cprw.htm>

United Nations General Assembly. (1989). *Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/RES/44/25)*.
<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/res/44/a44r025.htm>

United Nations General Assembly (2015). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1)*. http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

United Nations General Assembly. (1948). *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (A/RES/217 A (III))*, 1948.
http://www.un.org/en/udhrbook/pdf/udhr_booklet_en_web.pdf

United Nations General Assembly. (1996). *World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (A/RES/50/81)*. http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/wpay_guide.pdf

United Nations Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth. (2017). *#YouthStats: Public and Civic Participation*. <http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/political-participation/>

UN Women. (2010). *Americas and the Caribbean – Guatemala Case Study*. <http://lac.unwomen.org/en/donde-estamos/guatemala>

UN Women. (n.d.). *Commission on the Status of Women*. <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw>

-
- UN Women. (2015). *Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights*. http://progress.unwomen.org/en/2015/pdf/UNW_progressreport.pdf
- UN Women. (2015). *The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action Turns 20*. http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/sg%20report_synthesis-en_web.pdf?la=en&vs=5547
- UN Women. (2017). *Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the progress made in implementing the Strategic Plan, 2014–2017 for the year 2016*. <http://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/executive%2520board/2017/annual%2520session%25202017/unw-2017-2-annual%2520report%2520of%2520the%2520executive%2520director-en.pdf>
- UN Women & International Gender Champions Geneva. (2017). *Shaping the International Agenda: Raising Women's Voices in Intergovernmental Forums*. <https://www.unog.ch/women-voices-intergov-forums-en>