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United Nations General Assembly

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United Nations General Assembly

Agenda item: Human Rights and Gender Equality

Sponsor: Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, <u>China</u>, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, <u>India</u>, Israel, <u>Japan</u>, Kenya, <u>Mexico</u>, Nicaragua, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sudan, Turkey

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Optional Protocol, resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), and 2242 (2015) on women, peace and security;

Taking into consideration the importance of respecting regional, cultural and religious values, as well as finding a universal approach for progress on the same footing as an international community,

Recognizing that the cycle of monitoring, keeping track, reporting, sharing, discussing, applying, then monitoring the implementation, is crucial for keeping track of gender equality situation in rural areas,

*Noting with deep concer*n that women are being restrained by their unconscious obedience to explicitly violent gender-based conventions which are often caused by stringent cultural or religious backgrounds, even though women have the fundamental right to manage and make decisions about their bodies and sexuality,

Regretting that the harmful effects of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is not widely recognized, and also regretting that nations have failed to precisely keep track of FGM being conducted, therefore limiting their ability to determine necessary counter-measures,

Affirming that child marriage means the marital bonding of all humans under the age of eighteen years, according to the Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child which decides that a child means every human below the age of eighteen years and Article 16-2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women which states that the betrothal and the marriage of a child shall have no legal effect, as well as the definition presented by The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Recognizing that child marriage, which is often the result of poverty, detrimentally effects national economy because it hinders youth from realizing their full potential and skillfully contributing to society, and regrets that the social facades of child marriage is not fully understood;

Emphasizing the importance of providing young women with future opportunities so that they and their family members or society will understand that they may contribute to local society without having to be married at an early age,

Emphasizing that, at the present, the discussion on gender equality has progressed in the world, so that the achievement of equality for both sexes is more advanced than the elimination of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

Further emphasizing the importance of making a long-term policy in order to enforce law by making the people recognizing it,

- 1. Defines gender equality as the idea of gender fairness regardless of the biology,
- 2. *Defines* that gender equality is to guarantee the following rights for the above:
 - a rights to present their ability,
 - b rights to protect one's own dignity,
 - c rights to have freedom and security,
 - d rights to have freedom of choices,
 - e rights to live with basic standard of livings,
 - f rights to feel that they are entitled to the same equality as others;
- 3. Affirms that in the process of reaching the state of gender equality, all states and relevant organizations must:
 - a acknowledge the status quo of gender inequality and work on the improvement,
 - b fully consider the differences of various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds,
 - c hold opportunities for representatives of Member States to discuss about citizens on the improvements of gender inequality,
- 4. *Calls upon* Member States to provide women with the opportunity to learn about their sexual and reproductive rights as well as their potential in society so that they may think critically and objectively perceive gender stereotypes in order to make informed decisions;
- 5. *Encourages* Member States to establish adequate laws to prevent and criminalize child marriage that applies to all regions including rural areas as well as refugee camps, and strengthen its implementation;
- 6. *Calls upon* Member States to directly conduct awareness campaigns to its citizens in order to realize the potentials of women, by encouraging representatives of regions such as state officials and heads of villages to make citizens aware that it is potentially better for households' finance to have girls in education rather than marriage;

- 7. *Encourages* Non-Governmental Organizations in cooperation with the United Nations to hold vocational training programmes especially for women in order to provide women with means to contribute to their local society other than marriage, and also to propel cooperation and communication among local women while keeping in mind the following:
 - a wide range of local young women should participate in the vocational training programme so that they may
 develop a cooperative relationship that will allow them to continue on with the programme after the departure of
 the NGO contingent,
 - b. the career mastered in the programme should promote local industries so that the participants may receive appreciation or acceptance from their family and community;
- 8. Requests Member States to strengthen their monitoring of FGM in their country by establishing an adequate organization, to request help from the World Health Organization (WHO) if this exceeds national capacity, and to multilaterally share the information accumulated, which will be used in discussing international policies against FGM at the WHO general assembly;
- 9. *Approves* measures to save the next generation of women who may undergo FGM, by the work of NGOs and private sectors who will communicate with both families and medical systems that might perpetuate FGM;
- 10. *Supports* the establishment of places including but not limited to schools where community members may discuss about the harmful effects of gender-based violence;
- 11. *Approves* the implementation substitute and alternative measures to FGM that do not physically or mentally harm women and encourages States who have succeeded in this procedure to share their experience;
- 12. *Encourages* Member States to establish a national committee, collaborating with the private sector, that is responsible for the following in order to alleviate national gender-based violence:
 - a. provide stations where any citizen may consult and request advice about gender-based violence,
 - b. mentally and socially support the victims of gender-based violence by increasing social welfare for victims including counselling and medical care,
 - c. provide social welfare for victims trying to be reintegrated to society,
 - d. create regional communities for women where participants may, as a part of everyday conversation, give their opinions on women's rights and protection, share their experiences on gender-based violence, and talk about steps they may take in order to avoid being the victims of gender-based violence,
 - e. increase collaboration between UN Women and regional police forces,
 - f. create hotlines for evading violence
 - g. support the perpetrators of violence by helping them be reintegrated to society;
- 13. *Emphasises* that the reason women and sexual minorities often become victims of honor killing is the custom to think of women and sexual minorities as dishonorable, and thus in order to eliminate honor killing, there is a need to change the citizens' awareness;

- 14. Encourages the monitoring of the conduction of policies in rural areas where gender inequality tends to occur;
- 15. *Calls upon* Member States to criminalize honor killing, by enforcing the police to strengthen their monitoring and management of information on honor killing;
- 16. Urges Member States to endeavor to abolish traditional conventions that accept or approve honor killing;
- 17. *Urges* Member States to prosecute perpetrators of gender-based violence, especially perpetrators of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations by improving the mobility of national civil and military judicial systems in areas of conflict;
- 18. *Encourages* Member States to make their judicial systems transparent by accelerating conversation between prosecutor and the person being prosecuted;
- 19. *Encourages* Member States to submit a report to international and regional organizations explaining their national situation concerning gender equality including situations about women's sexual and reproductive rights as well as the right to live free from violence and discrimination, and *encourages* international organizations to support Member States in doing so while keeping in mind the following:
 - a. Include in the report requests on what to be supported for if assistance is needed and how former assistance was lacking to improve collaboration,
 - b. Reports will be submitted to WHO, UN Women, or the General Assembly
- 20. *Requests* developed nations to support gender developing countries either financially, technically, or through human resource development while doing the following:
 - a. Proliferating accurate medical knowledge,
 - b. Member States being supported will Submit a report to clarify what the assistance is going to be used for.