

UNITED NATIONS WOMEN



BACKGROUND GUIDE

AGENDA

Articulation of viable suggestions to combat social barriers and legislative limitations against gender equality with special emphasis on reviewing and implementation of international conventions such as CEDAW and Istanbul Convention

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

SHAURYA JAMWAL: CHAIRPERSON
GUHIKA SACHDEV: CO-CHAIRPERSON
VITASTA ZUTSHI: VICE-CHAIRPERSON
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LETTERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD



LETTER FROM THE EB

First of all, it is an immense pleasure to welcome you all to the United Nations Women (UNW) Committee at the Jodhamal Youth Conclave 2024.

This UNW conference invites the cooperation of delegates representing different member states to deliberate upon the social barriers and limitations in the domestic legislation of various countries along with discussing the implementation of international conventions and reviewing any possible amendments.

The delegates are tasked with formulating actionable solutions to address the objects of the agenda and the board also anticipate heated arguments among delegates questioning the loopholes in the legislation of the member states. They must use case studies of how domestic laws violate the international humanitarian laws to fetch more marks while questioning but also keep in mind the fact that giving solutions oriented speeches are necessary. We expect the delegates to infuse their discussions with diplomacy and cooperation through spirited competition.

While this guide offers a starting point for discussions and lays a foundation for your further research, it's important to dig deeper. Don't rely solely on the information provided here. Remember, this guide is not meant to be the final word on any topic. To support your arguments during discussions, you'll need to conduct your own independent research.

Wishing you all a productive and engaged

The Executive Board

United Nations Women

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Shaurya Jamwal: Chairperson

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COMMITTEE

The United Nations General Assembly founded UN Women, also known as the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, in July 2010. This organisation was established to hasten the process of addressing the needs of women and girls across the globe. The organisation unites and expands upon the work of four distinct UN entities that were devoted solely to women's empowerment and gender equality: the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women (OSAGI), the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW).

Objectives:

The principal aims of United Nations Women are:

- Enhance women's access to economic resources and opportunities to ensure their participation and leadership in the economy.
- Advocate for laws and provide support systems to prevent and respond to all forms of violence against women and girls.
- Increase women's representation in political, economic, and social decision-making processes at all levels.
- Integrate gender perspectives in policies and development plans to ensure equal opportunities and benefits for women and men.
- Support the adoption and enforcement of international agreements and standards promoting gender equality, such as CEDAW.
- Ensure that women and girls have equal access to quality education and comprehensive healthcare services.
- Address the specific needs of women and girls in crisis situations and ensure their protection and participation in humanitarian efforts.

MANDATE:

UN Women has a triple mandate:

- To provide normative support to inter-governmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women, in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms.
- To provide programme implementation support to Member States who request support in implementing these standards, by providing technical expertise and financial resources.
- To coordinate the UN system's work on gender equality to enhance coherence as well as to promote accountability, including through regular monitoring of system-wide progress.

UN Women focuses on five strategic priorities:

- Strengthening global norms and standards
- Increasing women's leadership & political participation
- Enhancing women's economic empowerment
- Ending violence against women
- Engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes & Humanitarian Action

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:

1)SDG 5: Empower all women and girls and achieve gender equality

Globally, SDG 5 seeks to end all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls. It places a strong emphasis on encouraging women to take on leadership roles and make decisions in all areas of life, as well as guaranteeing equal rights to financial resources, such as land and property ownership. UN Women advocates for laws and policies that respect women's rights and give assistance to programmes that give women more economic and political clout.

2)SDG 3: Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well-being for All at All Ages

UN Women works to increase women's access to high-quality healthcare, particularly services related to sexual and reproductive health, in order to achieve SDG 3. This entails tackling gender-based health inequities, lowering maternal death rates, and promoting universal access to reproductive health care. In addition, UN Women supports programmes that improve women's general well-being and works to raise public awareness of women's health issues.

3)SDG 11: Create inclusive, secure, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements

In order to provide safe and inclusive cities for women and girls, UN Women promotes gender-responsive urban planning and infrastructure development, which contributes to SDG 11. This entails encouraging accessibility to cheap housing and essential services, enhancing public safety, and guaranteeing women's involvement in governance and urban development decision-making processes.

4)SDG 4: Guarantee Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Encourage Opportunities for Lifelong Learning for All

UN Women promotes equal access to education for women and girls, especially in underserved and rural communities, in order to meet SDG 4. It strives to reduce gender differences in education, encourage girls to enrol in and stay in school, and support curriculum creation and instruction that is gender-responsive. Additionally, UN Women is in favour of programmes that give women access to possibilities for lifelong learning, such as skill development and vocational training.

5)SDG 16: Foster Inclusive and Peaceful Societies, Enable All People to Access Justice, and Establish Inclusive, Effective, and Accountable Institutions

UN Women promotes women's involvement in peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and post-conflict reconstruction initiatives in order to meet SDG 16. This entails tackling violence against women in crisis and humanitarian circumstances, supporting gender-responsive justice systems, and encouraging women to take on leadership roles in peace discussions and decision-making processes

ABOUT THE AGENDA

Gender equality stands as a cornerstone of human rights, universally recognized and articulated in international agreements and often addressed within the legal frameworks of nations through constitutions, penal codes, and other legislative documents. Despite these efforts, many countries struggle with significant legislative limitations that undermine the realisation of gender equality in practice.

These limitations manifest in various ways across different jurisdictions. Outdated or discriminatory laws may persistently restrict women's rights to inherit land or property, participate fully in economic activities, or engage equally in political decision-making processes. Penal codes in some regions may inadequately address gender-based violence, leaving women vulnerable to domestic abuse, sexual assault, and harmful traditional practices without adequate legal recourse. Moreover, legal systems often fail to address the intersecting forms of discrimination faced by women belonging to marginalised groups, such as indigenous women, women with disabilities, or those from LGBTQ+ communities.

Research has shown that greater gender equality, particularly in education and employment, positively influences long-term economic growth and development. This is particularly relevant for the less developed and developing countries, where women still face substantial barriers to the formal labour market, do not have equal opportunities to get higher education, and are less likely to occupy managerial or administrative positions. Hence, countries with more room to reduce gender inequality have much to gain, as gender inequality hinders economic development. However, there is no solid empirical support for the opposite effect. Namely, economic growth and changes associated with economic development are not sufficient to eradicate gender inequality. Formal and informal institutions will often prevent gender equality even in the face of economic advancement. By constraining women's empowerment and participation in the labour force and/or access to resources, gender inequality is cemented and will not easily be changed in the course of development. Hence, the decrease of gender inequality is neither inevitable nor precipitous and public policies are needed to promote gender equality.

International human rights conventions, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), provide a comprehensive framework for countries to align their domestic laws with global standards on gender equality. CEDAW calls for the elimination of laws and practices that promote discrimination against women and advocates for effective measures to advance gender equality in all spheres of life. By ratifying and implementing such conventions, countries commit to revising discriminatory laws, adopting

proactive policies, and establishing institutional mechanisms to monitor and implement gender equality measures effectively.

Hence, this conference will focus on discussing how member states can address legal loopholes, resolve conflicts within domestic laws, propose amendments to international conventions, and enhance their effective implementation.

EXAMPLES OF CONFLICTING DOMESTIC LAWS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Some of the conflicting domestic laws of various countries are mentioned below to provide a foundation to their research. Delegates are expected to find more of such laws and do not limit themselves to these. They are as follows:

1) IRAQ

Article 402: This article addresses indecent acts on women by men. This is deemed controversial because of the fact that the punishment for such acts like indecent advances to another man or woman or any person who assails a woman in a public place in an immodest manner with words, has been found to provide significantly reduced penalties for perpetrators. This has been criticised as insufficient to deter such crimes and as contributing to a culture of impunity. There have been calls for reforming the Article to ensure that perpetrators of honour killings face appropriate and deterrent penalties, 402 aligned with the seriousness of the crime. However, progress on legal reform in Iraq can be slow due to societal attitudes, traditional practices, and challenges in implementation

2) AFGHANISTAN

Article 21: This article of Afghanistan's penal code has been known to restrict women's freedom of movement and can be interpreted to require women to have a male guardian (mahram) accompanying them in public spaces. The requirement for a male guardian can create significant barriers for women seeking education, employment, healthcare, and other essential services. It effectively limits women's participation in public life and economic activities, hindering their personal and professional development.

3) SAUDI ARABIA

Article 132: In some legal contexts addresses the offence of "khulwa," which denotes the prohibited social interaction between unrelated men and women in private settings. This provision is frequently criticised for its implications on women's freedom of movement and association. Critics argue that such laws reinforce patriarchal norms by disproportionately controlling and surveilling women's behaviour in public spaces, thereby restricting their autonomy and perpetuating gender-based discrimination.

By criminalising private interactions between unrelated men and women, these laws often place a heavier burden of societal expectations and scrutiny on women, limiting their ability to freely engage in social activities or conduct business without male supervision or approval. This legal framework not only impacts women's individual liberties but also reflects broader systemic inequalities in legal and social norms that hinder gender equality and contribute to the marginalisation of women in public and private spheres.

3) RUSSIA

Article 116.1 - This article states that battery committed by a person is subjected to administrative punishment. But in 2017, amendments to this article effectively decriminalised domestic violence if it does not cause significant bodily harm and is committed for the first time. This has been criticised for undermining protections for victims, predominantly women, of domestic violence .

4) PAKISTAN

In Pakistan, inheritance and family laws are heavily influenced by Islamic principles derived from Sharia law. Islamic inheritance laws (faraid) typically grant female heirs half the share of male heirs in certain circumstances, based on Quranic verses and Hadiths. These principles, while not directly codified in the Penal Code, are integral to family and civil matters. Additionally, Islamic legal norms often designate male relatives as legal guardians (wali) over female relatives, affecting decisions regarding marriage, divorce, and other personal matters. These practices can limit women's autonomy in familial decision-making, reflecting broader societal norms and interpretations of Islamic jurisprudence in Pakistan.

UNSUCCESSFUL POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY COUNTRIES TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY

Following are some policies that the countries formulated to promote gender equality but due to poor implementation or large number of loopholes were deemed unsuccessful. Delegates can refer to these to formulate new and better policies. They are as follows

1) FRANCE

The Parity Law enacted in France in 2000 aimed to boost gender equality in politics by requiring political parties to field at least 50% female candidates. Despite this mandate, its impact was constrained by loopholes exploited by parties. Women often found themselves placed in less competitive electoral districts or lower positions on party lists, which limited their chances of winning significant political roles. As a result, while the law increased the visibility of women in electoral processes, it did not translate into proportional representation in influential political positions. The challenges highlighted the complexities of achieving substantive gender parity beyond numerical quotas, pointing to the need for broader cultural shifts and structural reforms within political institutions to truly empower women in leadership roles and ensure their equal participation in decision-making processes.

2) SOUTH KOREA

South Korea's Gender Equality in Employment Act, introduced to combat workplace discrimination and enhance equal opportunities, faced significant challenges in enforcement and effectiveness. Despite its noble intentions, the law encountered weak implementation and loopholes that undermined its impact. Many employers exploited these gaps, particularly by imposing stringent conditions on women returning from maternity leave, thereby perpetuating discriminatory practices and hindering women's job stability and career advancement. As a consequence, while the law aimed to promote gender equality in the workplace, its actual outcomes fell short of expectations. Women continued to face barriers to career progression and job security, highlighting persistent inequalities in South Korean society. Addressing these shortcomings requires not only stronger enforcement of existing laws but also cultural and institutional reforms to foster a more inclusive and supportive environment for women in the workforce.

3) SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) legislation included provisions aimed at advancing gender equality in the workplace through scorecards and incentives. However, the effectiveness of these measures was undermined by weak enforcement and a compliance-focused approach that often prioritised superficial actions over meaningful transformation. Many companies implemented token gestures rather than addressing deep-seated gender biases and structural barriers.

As a result, women, particularly those from marginalised groups, continued to encounter significant obstacles to career advancement. The scorecards and incentives intended to promote gender equality often failed to translate into substantive changes in corporate cultures and practices. To achieve genuine progress, stakeholders emphasise the need for robust enforcement mechanisms, proactive measures to combat discrimination, and initiatives that foster inclusive workplaces where women have equal opportunities to thrive and contribute effectively to South Africa's economic growth.

4) CANADA

Canada's Universal Child Care Benefit, initiated in 2006, intended to assist families by offering monthly payments toward child care expenses. However, critics argue the policy fell short in several key areas. It did not adequately address the high costs associated with quality childcare, nor did it sufficiently expand the availability of childcare services across the country. As a consequence, many women faced significant barriers to full workforce participation, often opting to leave their jobs or work part-time due to the lack of affordable and accessible childcare options. This limitation undermined the policy's effectiveness in promoting gender equality in employment, as women continued to shoulder disproportionate caregiving responsibilities. Moving forward, advocates emphasise the need for comprehensive childcare reform that not only considers affordability but also focuses on enhancing the quality and availability of childcare services to better support working families and advance gender equity in the Canadian workforce.

UNSUCCESSFUL POLICIES IMPLEMENTED BY COUNTRIES TO PROMOTE GENDER EQUALITY

Following are policies or measures adopted by different countries to resolve gender equality in their country

1) COSTA RICA

Costa Rica in 2019 enacted the Law on Salary Equality between Women and Men (No. 9677), which amends article 14 of the Law Promoting Social Equality for Women on equal pay. It states that “Women shall have the right to equal pay with men, both in the private and public sectors, for work of equal value under the same employer, whether it is the same position or different positions of equal value, or in similar or reasonably equivalent functions.

2) RWANDA

Rwanda's post-genocide constitution of 2003, pivotal in its emphasis on reconciliation and reconstruction, included a groundbreaking gender quota mandating a minimum of 30% female representation in parliament. This constitutional provision aimed to foster inclusivity and mitigate historical gender disparities exacerbated by conflict. Remarkably, Rwanda has surpassed this quota, achieving over 60% female representation in recent parliamentary elections. This substantial presence of women in policymaking has catalysed broader gender equality initiatives, including improvements in healthcare, education, and economic opportunities for women. The quota system has not only empowered women politically but also symbolises Rwanda's commitment to rebuilding a more equitable society, leveraging diverse perspectives to drive social progress and sustainable development.

1) ICELAND

Iceland's 2018 Equal Pay Certification mandates that companies with 25+ employees demonstrate gender-neutral pay for equivalent work. This legislation requires regular audits to ensure fairness, making Iceland a leader in gender pay equality. By compelling companies to assess and adjust pay practices, the law has significantly reduced the gender pay gap. It fosters transparency and accountability, ensuring that women receive fair compensation commensurate with their contributions. Iceland's initiative has inspired global efforts to address pay disparities, setting a benchmark for gender equality in the workplace. The certification not only promotes fair wages but also empowers women by validating their worth based on merit rather than gender. As a result, Iceland serves as a model for nations striving to achieve equitable and inclusive economic environments.

4) FINLAND

Finland's Gender Equality Act, instituted in 1986 and subsequently updated, represents a robust commitment to combating gender discrimination across all facets of society. The legislation mandates equal treatment in employment, education, and political representation, fostering a climate where women actively participate in the workforce and hold substantial roles in politics. This comprehensive framework has been pivotal in achieving Finland's notable gender equality outcomes, such as high female labour force participation rates and significant representation in decision-making processes. By promoting equal opportunities and combating stereotypes, the Act has shaped Finnish society into one where gender equality is ingrained, contributing to social cohesion and economic prosperity through the full utilisation of talent and potential, regardless of gender.

IMPORTANT CONVENTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

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1) CEDAW

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. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination.

The Convention defines discrimination against women as "...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field."

By accepting the Convention, States commit themselves to undertake a series of measures to end discrimination against women in all forms, including:

- to incorporate the principle of equality of men and women in their legal system, abolish all discriminatory laws and adopt appropriate ones prohibiting discrimination against women;
- to establish tribunals and other public institutions to ensure the effective protection of women against discrimination; and
- to ensure elimination of all acts of discrimination against women by persons, organisations or enterprises.

The Convention provides the basis for realising 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. States parties agree to take all appropriate measures, including legislation and temporary special measures, so that women can enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2) ISTANBUL CONVENTION

- The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) is the first instrument in Europe to set legally binding standards specifically to prevent gender-based violence, protect victims of violence and punish perpetrators. Following the EU's signing of the Convention in June 2017, the European Parliament's consent is required for the EU's accession to the Convention. Pending Council's formal request for that consent, Parliament adopted an interim resolution in September 2017 and reviewed progress towards EU accession in June 2018.
- Unlike other international treaties for tackling gender-based violence, the Istanbul Convention provides for the implementation of comprehensive and coordinated policies between national and governmental bodies involved in prevention, prosecution, and protection activities. The Convention:

- defines and criminalises various forms of violence against women, including physical, sexual, and psychological violence, stalking, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, forced abortion and forced sterilisation;
- prevents violence by obliging parties to invest in awareness-raising campaigns and education, training for experts in close contact with victims, and treatment programmes for perpetrators, and to address the role of the media in eradicating gender stereotypes;
- protects victims by obliging states to establish appropriate support services such as a free national telephone hotline; shelters; medical, psychological and legal counselling; and help with housing and financial issues;
- sets an obligation for parties to collect data on gender-related crimes; addresses asylum and migration, as it requires gender-based violence to be recognised as a form of persecution when establishing refugee status;
- To ensure effective implementation of the Convention, a two-pillar monitoring mechanism has been established, consisting of an independent expert body (GREVIO), which draws up reports on the themes of the Convention) and a Committee of the Parties. Two types of monitoring procedures have been provided. First, there is a country-by-country evaluation procedure, beginning with a baseline report and concluding with final reports and conclusions adopted by GREVIO. Second, a special urgent inquiry procedure may be initiated by GREVIO, when there is reliable information indicating that action is required to prevent a serious, massive or persistent pattern of any of the acts of violence covered by the Convention.

3) BEIJING DECLARATION

- The Beijing Declaration is a seminal international document adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, in September 1995. It, along with the accompanying Platform for Action, provides a comprehensive framework to advance women's rights and gender equality globally. The declaration addresses critical issues such as poverty, education, health, violence against women, economic participation, and decision-making power. It calls for concerted efforts to eliminate discrimination and promote equal opportunities for women in all aspects of life, including in economic, social, and political spheres. Emphasising the importance of protecting women's rights during conflicts, the declaration also advocates for women's involvement in peace-building and environmental sustainability. By setting clear strategic objectives, the Beijing Declaration has significantly influenced national and international policies, becoming a blueprint for advancing gender equality. Regular reviews, such as the Beijing+25 in 2020, have assessed the progress and highlighted ongoing challenges, reaffirming the declaration's role as a cornerstone in the global fight for women's empowerment and equality.

4) UN SECURITY COUNCIL 1325

- The Security Council adopted resolution 1325 on women and peace and security on 31 October 2000. The resolution reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Resolution 1325 urges all actors to increase the participation of women and incorporate gender perspectives in all United Nations peace and security efforts. It also calls on all parties to conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, in situations of armed conflict. The resolution provides a number of important operational mandates, with implications for Member States and the entities of the United Nations system.

5) UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 70/1

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Goal 5, seeks to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls worldwide. It sets targets to end discrimination and violence against women, eliminate harmful practices, ensure equal participation in decision-making, provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health, and enhance technology for empowerment. Progress is measured through indicators on legal frameworks, education and healthcare access, leadership roles, and prevalence of harmful practices. By addressing these areas comprehensively, the Agenda aims to create inclusive societies where women and girls can thrive and contribute to sustainable development and prosperity for all.

CASE STUDIES

- 1) Loujain al-Hathloul, a prominent Saudi women's rights activist, was detained in May 2018 for advocating women's right to drive and challenging Saudi Arabia's male guardianship system. Her arrest, part of a broader crackdown on dissent, blatantly violated international human rights law, specifically under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Al-Hathloul's detention constitutes discrimination based on gender, contravening CEDAW's Article 2 on non-discrimination, and denies her equality before the law as stipulated in Article 15. Despite recent reforms, her case underscores ongoing challenges for women's rights in Saudi Arabia and the critical need for upholding international standards to ensure equal rights and protections for all individuals.
- 2) On September 13, Jina "Mahsa" Amini, age 22, was detained by Iran's morality police for "improperly" putting on her headscarf as described under Iran's legislation. Her relatives and the local media claim that she was severely abused during this time. Three days later, while still in police custody, she passed away. This incident caused a public uproar and anti-government protests. What began as anger at the hijab law grew into a bigger movement as people were fed up with the regime's corruption, economic mismanagement, and oppression of its citizens. Now, a visible minority of women in Iran are refusing to wear headscarves, in defiant protest against the government and all of its policies.
- 3) The murder of 26-year-old Zainab by her husband Hasan Zaiter in Beirut's Choueifat district has sparked outcry over Lebanon's pervasive domestic violence. Hasan allegedly shot Zainab in the face multiple times in front of their three children, violating both national laws and international human rights standards, including those set forth in the UN's Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The tragic incident underscores urgent calls for legislative reforms to better protect women from such violence and to ensure justice and support for victims in Lebanon's legal system.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER UPON

- Q1. What are the linkages between women's gender-based violence and socio-economic empowerment with the domestic legislation of a country?
- Q2. How can countries reform their legislation to promote economic and social spheres for women and remove various social barriers?
- Q3. What measures can countries take to promote the implementation of international conventions and UN resolutions on gender equality?
- Q4. What are the main obstacles to achieve international cooperation among member states on projects that support women rights?
- Q5. How can global partnerships support under developed nations to gather resources to provide sufficient educational, health and economic opportunities as described under international conventions?
- Q6. What are the repercussions of changing relations and transforming legal structures?
- Q7. What is being taken to identify and resolve barriers and obstacles obstructing women's access to quality education and the promotion of gender equality in educational opportunities?
- Q8. How can current policies and laws of countries be amended to identify and resolve barriers and obstacles obstructing women's access to quality education and the promotion of gender equality in educational opportunities?

DOCUMENTATION

POSITION PAPER

A Position paper is a written document that outlines the stance, policies, and proposed solutions of a specific country or delegation on the agenda topics being discussed. It serves as a means for delegates to communicate their country's position and strategies to other participants in the simulation.

It typically includes an introduction that provides background information on the topic and highlights its significance. It then proceeds to present the country's perspective, outlining its main objectives, interests, and concerns related to the issue.

Delegates often support their arguments with factual evidence, statistics, and references to international treaties or agreements. A Position paper suggests specific measures, policies, or actions that the delegation believes would address the problem effectively. These proposals may range from diplomatic negotiations to development programs, peacekeeping operations, or legal reforms.

The following should be the ideal format of the paper:

Portfolio:

Committee:

Agenda:

Paragraph 1 – Introduction Delegates are required to write about the history of the agenda, the history of relations between their country and UNW, the relevance of the agenda in their country. However, it is to be noted that this paragraph should contain as minimum words as it can.

Paragraph 2 – Content Your country's stance on the issues should be stated here, as well as policies it already follows to curb the issue. Delegates should also justify why their country has taken the particular stance or approach for the issue.

Paragraph 3 – Solutions In the conclusion, delegates are needed to provide a minimum of 3 solutions that would help curb the issue. Be creative and original with these, and make sure they are practical. We will assess your solution-drafting skills with these, so we advise you to put your best in.

All papers should include the delegate's name, the assigned portfolio, the name of the committee, and the agenda as the heading. Your position paper should range from 1 to 2 pages in length and must be submitted in Times New Roman size 12 pt. font. Delegates should strictly adhere to the formatting guidelines provided. Plagiarism of any sort is expressly forbidden. In case of any doubts or concerns kindly reach out to the Executive Board. Position papers must be emailed as a PDF to unwjyc2024@gmail.com by 22nd August 2024.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Draft Resolution is the most important aspect of the committee. It is the Final Drafted document of the committee that contains solutions that were discussed in the committee. This document is supposed to have contained solutions that don't allow the issue to exist in the first place. These solutions are supposed to be globally implemented, so delegates are advised to be practical and consider the conditions of each and every member state. A Draft Resolution has to strictly be in format and there lies no scope for leniency. If any questions pertaining to any form of documentation still do arise, please feel free to reach out to us.

The Following is the format of the Draft Resolution:

Committee Name:

Agenda:

Sponsors:

Signatories:

The (Committee Name),

Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),

Preambulatory Phrase (preambulatory clause),

1. Operative Phrase (operative clause);

2. Operative Phrase (operative clause):

a. (Sub-clause),

b. (Sub-clause),

c. (Sub-clause),

i. (Sub-sub-clause);

3. Operative phrase (operative clause).

- Sponsors – The sponsors are the authors of the Resolution. Their contribution to the drafting of the resolution is higher compared to the rest of the delegates. They shall agree with all of the solutions and points mentioned in the resolution. The Executive Board will entertain 2 sponsors per Draft Resolution.

- Signatories – Signatories are delegates who may or may not agree on the contents of the Resolution, but would like to see it being discussed with the committee.

- Preambulatory clause –

- a.) begins with an italicised preambulatory phrase

- b.) ends with a comma

- c.) they are not numbered

- d.) they cannot have subclasses

- Operative clause –

- a.) begins with an underlined operative phrase

- b.) ends with a semicolon

- c.) they are numbered

- d.) they can have subclasses

- e.) the last operative clause ends with a period

- Amendments – An amendment is a small document which is supposed to strike out, add to, or substitute a word or phrase in the draft resolution. Amendments cannot be made to the preambulatory clauses of a draft resolution. There are 3 types of amendments:

- a.) Modification b.) Deletion c.) Addition

SOURCES TO BE ACCEPTED DURING SESSIONS

Publications, Reports, Resolutions of United Nations and its organs,
Commissions, committees, bodies, task forces etc

Publications, Reports, Legal Documents of Member States, Their ministries,
Organisations and Institutions

News reports of National Press Councils of Various Nations

News Reports from Reuters, BBC, Al Jazeera (not in all instances), Human
rights watch (not in all instances)

FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/about-un-women>

<https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/promoting-women-peace-and-security>

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/gender-equality/>

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/women> <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-women> www.aljazeera.com <https://www.hrw.org/> [Home page - OECD](https://www.oecd.org/)

[Freedom House](https://www.freedomhouse.org/) | [Expanding freedom and democracy Wilson Center](https://www.wilsoncenter.org/)

<https://www.equalitynow.org/> <https://www.amnesty.org/en/>