

Commission: Gender Equality  
Session: 23<sup>rd</sup> National Model United Nations Conference – 2019  
Sponsors: Botswana, Qatar, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nicaragua, Somalia, Kazakhstan, Uruguay, Sweden, Kuwait, Syrian Arab Republic

QUESTION OF: **ENSURING WOMEN'S FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS OF DECISION-MAKING IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND PUBLIC LIFE**

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the status of women is affected by wars, sectarian conflicts, cultural traditions, modern secularism and laws,

Stressing that the level of involvement of women in national parliaments is less than 30% and that the under-representation of women constitutes a serious democratic deficit, which undermines the legitimacy of the contemporary democratic ideal,

Recalling that women's salaries are lower than men's throughout every level of the workforce and that due to gender bias in the hiring process, women earn 23% less money for the same jobs than men,

Conscious that certain orthodox cultures openly exclude and marginalise women from the economic, public and political spheres,

Reminds that women represent more than half of humanity and that parity democracy and the promotion of women in decision-making positions are therefore important,

Further reminds that women's equal participation in decision-making is not only a demand for simple justice or democracy but can also be seen as a necessary condition for women's interests to be taken into account,

Deeply concerned that the significantly low rate of women suffrage during national and local elections is due to women's lack of access to proper education and knowledge,

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Affirming that more than 150 countries still have laws that discriminate against women and women in those countries face intimidation, violence, harassment in various spheres,

1. Calls upon member states to encourage the electoral campaign of parties which have candidate pools that include at least 30% of each gender as funding is a major barrier in the political prospects of women;
2. Requests governments to design and implement effective gender equality policies and multifaceted strategies for achieving parity in participation in political decision-making and leadership at all levels, and welcoming gender quotas for elections;
3. Supports the implementation of quota or zipping system in order to ensure gender balanced lists to eliminate gender barriers and fully integrate women in politics;
3. Further requests member states to provide earmarked funding for women candidates until equal representation is reached;
- 4 Draws the attention of sponsors to work towards achieving sustainable development goal 5 to give women and trans women a voice and greater opportunity to make a difference at local and national levels;
5. Directs member states to implement a legal framework to prevent women from having lower salaries than their male counterparts for the same work by sending yearly salary reports to special governmental bodies;
6. Recommends awareness campaigns and media support to promote gender equality to challenge patriarchal and orthodox culture;
7. Suggests the fundings and organisation of leadership training courses by the UNICEF to initiate empowerment of females in educational institutions and help young women participate individually and collectively in social, economic, political and public life;

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8. Urges all countries to sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discriminations against Women (CEDAW) in a collective attempt to abide by Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

9. Welcomes representatives to regularly organise motivational talks whereby female role models can share their experiences and challenges with women aspiring to become leaders;

10. Further requests member states to establish zero tolerance to sexism with clear channels for report sexual harassment in a bid to renew their commitment to fighting all forms of gender-based violence by upholding legislative actions and prosecuting sex offenders;

11. Invites member states to establish a special helpline with lawyers, medical practitioners and trained psychologists to assist victims of domestic abuse, child abuse and sexual harassment;

12. Demands that companies worldwide endorse Women Empowerment Principles in the hope that adopting those guidelines will bring an end to sexual harassment and discrimination in work place;

14. Calls upon organisations such as The League of Women Voters to boost The Women's Suffrage Movement across the globe to provide women the legal ability to vote.