

WILPF ANALYSIS



General Debate of the 71st Session of the
General Assembly

The Women, Peace, and Security programme

20-26 September 2016

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR
PEACE & FREEDOM



WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM [WILPF]

Index of Statements made during the General Debate of the 71st Session of the General Assembly (20-26 September 2016)

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INTRODUCTION

The Gender Index includes all references to gender, women, girls, gender equality, violence against women, and women's participation made in statements delivered during the general debate of the seventy-first session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

The Gender Analysis includes the data on the references to specific WILPF PeaceWomen themes used by the speakers, including sexual and gender-based violence, participation, and disarmament. WILPF PeaceWomen also provides a gender-specific assessment of the references to specific country situations and determines the number of female speakers.

Some statements that were not available in English; therefore, they have been translated and included in the Gender Index and Analysis.

OVERVIEW

During the general debate, the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, the President of the UNGA, Peter Thomson, country representatives from one hundred and ninety-three (193) member states, and two observer delegations put forth their concerns, positions and priorities under the theme, "The Sustainable Development Goals: A Universal Push to Transform Our World."

The debate provided an opportunity to evaluate progress one year on from adoption of the 2015 Sustainable Development Goals within the context of other milestones including the three 2015 peace and security reviews. Spotlighting examples of persistent inequality around the globe and highlighting failures to move the Sustainable Development Agenda forward, world leaders participating in the general debate nevertheless expressed optimism that efforts to promote equitable growth, peace and prosperity would prevail. In this vain, world leaders focused on the promotion and protection of human rights and the urgent need for concerted efforts to resolve conflicts and eradicate terrorism. Other important topics included climate change, situations in the Middle East and Africa and in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and the conflicts in Syria, Ukraine, and Gaza. A considerable number of leaders also acknowledged the

close link between peace and sustainable development and invited all stakeholders to create a variety of partnership to move the post-2015 agenda forward.

This year's general debate was preceded by the first ever High-Level Summit on Refugees and Migrants on 19 September 2016, where leaders discussed a global vision to address the international response to refugee crises, agreed to adopt a declaration on refugees and migrants, and pledged to develop a comprehensive framework for refugee response.

GENDERED ANALYSIS

Summary

WILPF PeaceWomen's analysis of the statements at the general debate reveals that there is certainly much more work to be done to build adequate political will and commitment to gender equality and holistic understanding and implementation of women, peace and security.

Out of a total of one hundred and seven (197) statements, one hundred and nine (109) statements (56 percent) contained references to women and gender. Many of these were focused on gender equality and women's rights since these issues are at the center of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted just last year. However, specific gendered references were included only in thirty-seven (37) statements (18.88 percent). In this regard, the representative of Mali noted that "the employment of youth and women's empowerment" is one of the best ways "to ensure the implementation of the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals." However, WILPF PeaceWomen did not locate an in-depth discussion specifically aimed at the women, peace and security agenda. Even though some countries, including Sweden and Croatia, have highlighted the necessity of including women in peace processes, their voices were in the minority. Only a few speakers highlighted the need to ensure greater gender balance in all disarmament discussions. The need to increase women's participation for a stronger implementation of the SDGs also remained under-prioritised.

Regrettably, only eighteen (18) female leaders (9.13 percent) spoke at the general debate.

The Debate

As noted above, most speakers recognised the need to strengthen gender equality and women's rights in their statements. Forty-eight (48) member states (48 percent), including Australia, Estonia, Liberia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Thailand, and the Republic of Korea, attached great importance to the goal of achieving gender equality that can unlock the economic potential of women. According to the representative of Sweden, "it is ultimately our task to enhance rights, representation and resources for women and girls all around the world."

Another prevalent theme of the debate was displacement and humanitarian response. Fifty-seven (57) speakers (28.93 percent), including Brazil, Slovakia and Guyana, focused on the rights, concerns, and needs of people in conflict and post-conflict situations, including those affected by conflict-related displacement. However, less than half of these speakers (9.13 percent) expressed an appreciation of the different impact conflict can have on women. Referring specifically to the situation of female refugees and other displaced women and bearing in mind that women and children are the main victims of organised crime of modern slavery, the representative of Liberia called on the International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to forge an effective response to resolve the issues of migrant smuggling and human trafficking.”

Twenty-two (22) speakers (11.17 percent), including Niger, Luxembourg and Argentina, also emphasised the need to increase women’s protection and address sexual violence in the conflict. The representative of the Netherlands argued that “more consideration is [now] given to the protection of civilians, tackling gender and sexual violence and the importance of establishing the rule of law.” Similarly, twenty (20) speakers (10.15 percent) focused on the prevalence of violence against women in conflict and post-conflict settings. The representative of Morocco, in this vein, underscored that “women still suffer so much violence and discrimination, and the unacceptable increase of sexual violence.”

The speakers refrained from linking the issues of disarmament and conflict prevention with gender. However, a few countries constituted an exception from the rule. Only seven (7) speakers (3.5%) of the speakers have discussed the active role of women in disarmament, while one hundred and eleven (111) speakers (56.34 percent) highlighted the critical importance of advancing disarmament. The representative of Guinea, for example, said that “substantial investments in empowerment for women and youth are all the more necessary in the face of the scourges of terrorism, extremism and intolerance, and the illicit traffic of arms and drugs.” Moreover, the representative of Trinidad and Tobago reminded the international community of its action directed towards encouraging women’s participation in all disarmament, nonproliferation and arms control decision-making processes at the local, regional and national levels.

Only ten (10) speakers (5.07 percent) urged other states to think and collaborate more in terms of conflict prevention. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in this regards, expressed that the country’s government is committed to humanity, with renewed focus on conflict prevention and resolution, strengthened efforts towards sustainable development, equal opportunities for all, promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Despite this statement, the references to conflict prevention were very general and gender-blind.

Country-Specific Situations

Many member states acknowledged the devastating impact of conflict on people, including women and girls, particularly in Ukraine and Syria.

Ninety-five (95) speakers (48 percent) referenced the situation in Syria in their statements. The situation in Syria was generally brought up in the context of disarmament or the refugee crisis. The representative of Turkey noted that in Syria [...], hundreds of thousands of children, women, young and elderly continue to be killed.” The representative of Holy See noted that the international community failed to respond to the hopes and promises of all who consider that region sacred and holy. However, the representatives of members states consistently failed to acknowledge that women have power and agency to participation in finding alternative solutions.

The crisis in Ukraine was mentioned less often. Only twenty-two (22) speakers (11.16 percent) have referenced the situation in Ukraine. The situation remains a big concern for the international peace and security. President of the Republic of Bulgaria, for example, claimed

that “any attempt to destabilize Ukraine is unacceptable.” The issue of equal participation of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes in Ukraine, however, has not been addressed.

In light of a recent missile test conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), the speakers referred to this situation quite often. As expressed by the representative of Australia, “the provocative and dangerous actions of this rogue state breach unanimously-agreed United Nations Security Council Resolutions and threaten global peace and security.” Some member states, however, had an opposing view on this situation. Acknowledging the violation of Security Council resolutions by the DPRK, the representative of Russia said that “it is inadmissible to use this situation as a pretext for massive militarisation of North-East Asia and deployment of another position area for US global missile defense there.” Again, all statements on the situation in the DPRK remained gender-blind.

Female Speakers at the Podium

This year, there were eighteen (18) female speakers in the general debate. These speakers represented the following countries: the United Kingdom, Chile, Myanmar, Croatia, Gambia, Bangladesh, Lithuania, Norway, Liberia, Marshall Islands, Sweden, Venezuela, Liechtenstein, Dominica, Iceland, Barbados, India, and Suriname. Of these speakers, only two (2) (from Dominica and Barbados) did not mention women or gender at all, whereas six (6) of them (from the United Kingdom, Croatia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, Marshall Islands), specifically referenced women. The remaining ten (10) speakers used only general references to gender equality and women’s rights.

HIGHLIGHTS

As the government of Sweden is proudly pursuing a feminist foreign policy, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Margot Wallström, called for “a true shift in the way we approach global gender equality work.” In her statement, the representative highlighted the role of women and the necessity of including women in peace processes while working on the prevention of armed conflicts.

“On the International Day of Peace, it is necessary to emphasise that women are powerful agents of peace and security,” said the representative of Croatia, Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović. In addition, the speaker stated that women’s increased contribution to preventing and resolving conflict, as well as to maintaining sustainable and inclusive peace, should be encouraged. For example, she claimed that “more female peacekeepers could help us combat sexual violence, promote gender awareness among the host nations’ populations, and improve relationships with local citizens.”

Additionally, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated he is a feminist. “Women hold up half the sky and are essential to meeting all our goals,” he said. He called upon the international community to do far more “to end deep-seated discrimination and violence against women to advance their participation in decision-making, and to ensure that every girl gets the start in life she deserves.”

GENDER INDEX: TYPE OF REFERENCE BY COUNTRY

No References to WPS	General References to WPS	Specific References to WPS
Albania	Afghanistan	Angola
Andorra	Algeria	Argentina
Armenia	Antigua and Barbuda	Bahamas
Barbados	Australia	Bahrain
Belarus	Austria	Bosnia & Herzegovina
Benin	Azerbaijan	Botswana
Bolivia	Bangladesh	Bulgaria
Burkina Faso	Belgium	Costa Rica
Cabo Verde	Bhutan	Croatia
Cambodia	Brazil	Democratic Republic of Congo
Central African Republic	Burundi	Denmark
China	Cameroon	Estonia
Colombia	Canada	Ireland
Congo	Chad	Israel
Côte d'Ivoire	Chile	Jamaica
Cuba	Comoros	Kazakhstan
Czech Republic	Cyprus	Kenya
Dominica	Egypt	Lithuania
Dominican Republic	El Salvador	Malawi
DPRK	Equatorial Guinea	Maldives
Ecuador	Ethiopia	Marshall Islands
Eritrea	Finland	Monaco
Ethiopia	Gambia	Montenegro
European Union	Grenada	Namibia
Fiji	Guatemala	Netherlands
France	Guinea	Norway
Gabon	Haiti	Portugal
Georgia	Hungary	Pres. of General Assembly
Germany	Iceland	Rwanda
Ghana	India	Spain

Greece	Indonesia	Sweden
Guinea-Bissau	Iraq	Tanzania
Guyana	Italy	Timor-Leste
Holy See	Japan	Trinidad and Tobago
Honduras	Jordan	United Arab Emirates
Iran	Latvia	United Kingdom
Kiribati	Lesotho	Yemen
Kuwait	Liberia	
Lao	Liechtenstein	
Lebanon	Luxembourg	
Libya	Madagascar	
Macedonia	Malaysia	
Mauritania	Mali	
Mauritius	Malta	
Micronesia	Mexico	
Mongolia	Moldova	
Mozambique	Morocco	
Nauru	Myanmar	
New Zealand	Nepal	
Nigeria	Nicaragua	
Oman	Niger	
Pakistan	Papua New Guinea	
Palau	Paraguay	
Palestine	Pres. of GA	
Panama	Qatar	
Peru	Republic of Korea	
Philippines	Samoa	

Poland	San Marino	
Romania	Secretary General	
Russia	Serbia	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Sierra Leone	
Saint Lucia	Slovakia	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Slovenia	
Sao Tome and Principe	Solomon Islands	
Saudi Arabia	South Africa	
Senegal	Suriname	
Seychelles	Swaziland	
Singapore	Thailand	
Somalia	Togo	
South Sudan	Tunisia	
Sri Lanka	Turkey	
Sudan	Ukraine	
Switzerland	United States	
Syria	Vanuatu	
Tajikistan	Zambia	
Tonga		
Turkmenistan		
Tuvalu		
Uganda		
Uruguay		
Uzbekistan		
Vietnam		

Zimbabwe		
Kyrgyzstan		

EXTRACTS FROM STATEMENTS

The United Nations Secretary-General

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/secretary-general-united-nations>)

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Conflict Prevention; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Peacekeeping; Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“I have appointed more women to senior positions at the United Nations than ever before - and I am proud to call myself a feminist. Women hold up half the sky and are essential to meeting all our goals.”

“We must do far more to end deep-seated discrimination and violence against women to advance their participation in decision-making, and to ensure that every girl gets the start in life she deserves.”

“The odious acts of exploitation and sexual violence committed by certain UN Peacekeepers and other UN personnel have exacerbated the suffering of populations already caught in armed conflict and undermines the efforts of many other UN personnel worldwide. Protectors should never become predators.”

President of the 71st General Assembly (Opening Remarks)

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/president-general-assembly-opening>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Conflict Prevention; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response.

Extract of statement:

“The gap between rich and poor; between women and men; and between developing countries and advanced economies remains stubbornly high.”

“It is my hope that in collaboration with Member States and the wider UN community, it will also prove possible over coming months to [...] strengthen the UN’s peace and security pillar by enhancing the UN ability to prevent and respond to conflicts and threats; [...] to advance the ‘sustaining peace’ agenda as fundamental to the UN’s engagement across peace and security, development, and human rights [...], to combat discrimination, and to further the realisation of human rights, so that all people are able to live free and equal in dignity and rights, [...] to strive for greater consensus on disarmament and non-proliferation, and to work towards transforming

the UN itself by addressing the need for gender equality and parity and better geographical balance [...].”

President of the 71st General Assembly (Closing Remarks)

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/president-general-assembly-closing>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; General Women, Peace and Security; Disarmament; Protection; Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“Several Member States referenced the importance of women's participation in peace processes, and of implementing commitments following the 2015 review of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.”

“In the area of human rights, Member States renewed their call for the promotion and protection of all human rights, and for dedicated efforts towards the empowerment of women and girls.”

“It is the embodiment of the equality of nations and provides Member States with an opportunity to advance our collective pursuit of solutions to global challenges through dialogue and cooperation.”

Country: Afghanistan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/afghanistan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sarwar Danesh, Vice President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Participation; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We are sparing no effort to implement our commitments towards reforms. Our well-planned and systematic efforts are ongoing to eliminate corruption, strengthen good governance, conduct judicial reforms, promote women's empowerment, ensure effective service delivery for our citizens.”

Country: Albania

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/albania>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Bujar Nishani, President

Date: 23 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform

No gendered language.

Country: Algeria

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/algeria>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ramtame Lamamra, Deputy Prime Minister

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Participation

Extract of statement:

“This February, under the leadership of President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Algeria adopted an important revision to the Constitution which contained considerable democratic achievements. The key ideas focus on the establishment of the rule of law, the enhancement of individual liberties, the institutional role of the opposition, freeing the national economy, the advancement of women, and the establishment of Tamazight as an official, national language.”

Country: Andorra

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/andorra>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Antoni Martí Peti, Head of Government of the Principality

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: None

No gendered language.

Country: Angola

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/angola>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Manuel Domingos Vicente, Vice President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Peace Processes; Participation

Extract of statement:

“The Republic of Angola is also committed to three cross-cutting processes it considers of crucial importance: Women, Peace and Security, Peacekeeping Operations, and the Peacebuilding Architecture. We recognise the important role of women and their participation in all stages and levels of the peace process.”

Country: Antigua and Barbuda

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/antigua-and-barbuda>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Corporate Governance

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“The task of the UN Secretary-General is not easy. Occupied with trying [...] to uphold human rights including the rights of women, refugees and vulnerable communities; to work tirelessly to secure peace and to ensure development in its widest meaning - all of that, is deeply challenging and enormously worrisome.”

“To reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small.”

Country: Argentina

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/argentina>)

Speaker: Mauricio Macri, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Theme: Peacekeeping; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Participation; Peace Processes; Human Rights; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Gender equality is also "a primary objective that we have to work with conviction and political will. [...] Argentina is assuming the full empowerment of women as a state policy and recognises the need to create the National Plan of prevention, action and assistance to women at risk, fa to end violence against women in all its forms. [...] We are working with a transverse approach so that women have the same opportunities as men in our country's social cultural, political, and economic life.”

Country: Armenia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/armenia>)

Speaker: H.E. Edward Nalbandian, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Australia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/australia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Malcolm Turnbull, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Australia has prioritised five key areas in our approach to human rights – gender equality, governance, freedom of expression, the rights of indigenous peoples, strong national human rights institutions and capacity building.”

Country: Austria

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/austria>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sebastian Kurz Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Protection

Extract of statement:

“The destruction of homes, hospitals, schools and other infrastructure forces people to leave. Without these weapons the world would be a safer place - especially for children, women and elderly people.”

Country: Azerbaijan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/azerbaijan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Protection

Extract of statement:

“As a result of Armenia’s reckless attacks, large numbers of Azerbaijani civilians, including children, women and elderly, were killed or seriously wounded.”

Country: Bahamas

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bahamas>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Frederick A. Mitchell, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Participation

Extract of statement:

“As a demonstration of the importance the Bahamas attaches to the advancement of women, Ms. Marion Bethel was nominated for a seat on the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and she was elected in May of this year. We believe that Ms. Bethel will contribute to CEDAW’s efforts to advance women’s empowerment and gender equality. We expect that her experiences on the same body will increase knowledge in the Bahamas relative the advancement of women.”

“This is within the larger fight for the integration of all young people, men and women, into the formal economy.”

Country: Bahrain

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bahrain>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Participation; Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“The achievements of Bahraini women at the international level, notably election to the membership of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) and the Executive Board of UN Women; and its first place internationally for the highest growth rate of women's participation in economic activities as documented in the ILO's report for this year, all clearly testify to the close cooperation between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Nations and the keen interest of my country, represented by the Supreme Council for Women under the leadership of H.R.H. Princess Sabika Bint Ibrahim A1-Khalifa, in enhancing the empowerment of Bahraini women nationally and internationally and accelerating their participation in all government and community sectors as a principal component that has contributed, and will continue to contribute, to the process of community development and progress”

Country: Bangladesh

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bangladesh>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Participation; Protection; Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform

Extract of statement:

“I firmly believe that without women's participation, sustainable development would simply not be tenable. A host of measures, including promoting girls' education, undertaken half a decade ago started yielding dividends.”

“Women in Bangladesh are now increasingly becoming an integral part of our development endeavours. Around 3.5 million women are now working in the garments industry, the leading export earning sector. The percentage of women in all professions is rapidly rising. Bangladesh is perhaps the only country in the world today that has a woman Prime Minister and Leader of the House, Leader of the Opposition, Speaker and Deputy Leader of the House. Presently, we have 70 women Members of Parliament constituting 20% of the House. Over 12,500 elected women representatives are serving in the local government bodies.”

“Our women, youth, families and communities can be our vanguards in offsetting extremism and radicalisation.”

Country: Barbados

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/barbados>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Maxne McClean, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform

No gendered language.

Country: Belarus

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/belarus>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Belgium

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/belgium>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Charles Michel, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human rights; General Women, Peace and Security; Disarmament; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding

Extract of statement:

“Equality between women and men is still not a reality.”

“Sixty-five million women and men worldwide are refugees.”

“We must also guarantee the dignity of every human being. And be especially vigilant for the most vulnerable, women and children”.

Country: Belize

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/belize>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Wilfred Elrington, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response, Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“We stand in solidarity with South Korea in the face of North Korea's irresponsible experiment with nuclear and missile programmes, including the conducting of nuclear tests in violation with United Nations Security Council resolutions.”

“It is up to us leaders, working together, and shouldering our respective sovereign responsibilities, to guarantee that every nation, large and small, and every individual, man, woman or child, shall have a say in our noble endeavours for a more just, equitable and secure world.”

Country: Benin

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/benin>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Patrice Athanase Guillaume Talon, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response,

No gendered language.

Extract of statement:

“Our world, as open as it is today, will more than ever suffer from the consequences of poverty, in particular the migration movements, unruly and destabilising as they are, if nothing is done.”

Country: Bhutan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bhutan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Lyon Po Damcho Dorji, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament, Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Much remains to be done in the pace of change towards gender parity and rights of women. We need to make concerted efforts to close the economic gap between men and women.”

Country: Bolivia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bolivia-plurinational-state>)

Date: September 21, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Evo Morales Ayma, Constitutional President

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bosnia-and-herzegovina>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Bakir Izetbegovic, Chairman of the Presidency

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Peacekeeping; Conflict Prevention; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We collectively committed to humanity, with renewed focus on conflict prevention and resolution, strengthened efforts towards sustainable development, equal opportunities for all, promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.”

“We are proud to have contributed to the UN peacekeeping operations in the Congo and Mali with our military peacekeepers, and with police officers in South Sudan, Liberia, Cyprus and Afghanistan, almost a quarter of which were women.”

Country: Botswana

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/botswana>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Mokgweetsi E.K. Masisi, Vice President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights; Disarmament; Conflict Prevention; Implementation

Extract of statement:

“It is crucial that we step up our efforts in the implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 in order to effectively protect women and children in armed conflict, and to involve them in all levels and processes of mediation, peacekeeping and peace maintenance, reconstruction and development, given the fact that they suffer most from the effects of armed conflict.”

Country: the Federative Republic of Brazil

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/brazil>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Michel Temer, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“Brazil is the work of immigrants, men and women from all continents.”

Country: Bulgaria

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/bulgaria>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Rosen Plevneliev, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Conflict Prevention; Participation; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“Violations and abuses of human rights occur every day and innocent women and children are the most affected.”

“In the last few decades the UN has made significant progress in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. These efforts should continue and be further strengthened. Bulgaria is actively engaged at all levels in promoting gender equality, as well as in ending gender-based discrimination and all forms of violence against women and girls. My Country strongly supports UN Women's "Planet 50-50" campaign for achieving gender equality by 2030.”

“Women in Bulgaria enjoy full participation in all areas of life. In our Government 2 out of 3 Deputy Prime Ministers and 9 out of 18 Ministers are women. Two thirds of the magistrates at all levels are women. Bulgaria ranks third in the EU in terms of women's participation in the executive boards of large companies.”

Country: Burkina Faso

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/burkina-faso>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Roch Marc Christian Kaboré, President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Burundi

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/burundi>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Alain Aime Nyamitwe, Minister of External Affairs

Date: September 25, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We believe that it is important to sit down and analyze the deep-rooted causes of mass exodus of young men, women and children, who find it necessary to risk their lives in the wild seas, in search for better opportunities.”

Country: Cabo Verde

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/cabo-verde>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Luis Filipe Lopes Tavares, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Cambodia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/cambodia>)

Speaker: H. E. Mr. Prak Sokhonn, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Participation; Peacekeeping

Extract of statement:

“Our country, which has acquired, in pain, considerable experience, operates in peacekeeping operations. Today, 900 women and men participate.”

Country: Cameroon

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/cameroon>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Paul Biya, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“We have adopted agendas, declarations and action programmes which raised great hopes in the world among youths, women and men in the cities and countryside.”

Country: the Republic of Canada

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/canada>)

Speaker: H.E. Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Peacekeeping; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“I heard from women and girls who still face inequality in the workplace and violence just because they are women, even in a progressive country like Canada.”

Country: Central African Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/central-african-republic>)

Speaker: H.E. Faustin Archange Touadera, President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“On peace and security, the government is determined to swiftly apply and implement the disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration and repatriation programme DDRR to allow all men and women in the Central African Republic and everywhere to live in peace and security.”

Country: the Republic of Chad

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/chad>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Idriss Déby Itno, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament, Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“Africa is not only a resource for raw materials. Africa also comprises over a billion men and women who hope for harmonious development along with social well-being and prosperity.”

Country: Chile

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/chile>)

Speaker: H.E. Mrs. Michelle Bachelet Jeria, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Participation.

Extract of statement:

“They are showing us that in their daily lives, at their places of work, [...] in relations between men and women, the negative effects of inequitable development are still being felt.”

“The United Nations must play its role as a place of consensus and an option for the most vulnerable, opposed to inequality and discrimination against religious, ethnic or gender minorities.”

Country: the People’s Republic of China

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/china>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Colombia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/colombia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Juan Manuel Santos Calderón, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding

No gendered language.

Country: Comoros

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/comoros>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Azali Assoumani, President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“There is an issue of migrants and refugees which has been of the focus of this debate since the start of this session and it calls for urgent action. We know that these men and women put their lives at risk and leave their lands and homes now as tourists but out of desperation.”

Country: the Republic of Congo

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/congo>)

Date: September 24, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Themes: Human Rights, Reconstruction and Peacebuilding; Peace Process

Extract of statement:

“The new constitution [...] provides for gender equality. [...] Advisory Council for Women [among others]...are all innovations sought by sovereign people.”

Country: Costa Rica

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/costa-rica>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Protection; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Participation; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“This legal framework guides the design and implementation of national policies to address the migrant smuggling from the gender perspective.”

“We will continue to highlight the need to address the impact that migration has on women and the need to adopt public policies to address these particularities. We will also continue to actively call for action to combat gender-based and sexual violence.”

“I firmly believe there is great potential to be released by valuing and empowering women. The energy, power, and creativity of women is very much needed, not just to make a better world but to ensure their survival in years to come.”

“The vast majority of women in the world work. They participate in the informal sector as entrepreneurs, in the public and private sectors, as well as in domestic work and unpaid case. Women have half the possibilities compared to men to get a full-time paid job. It is estimated that there are 1.27 billion women worldwide in paid jobs compared to 2 billion men. We are talking about a difference of more than 700 million women who do not have the same opportunities as men.”

“Women undertake unpaid work and assume the majority of caregiving responsibilities three times more than men. For us to understand the deep and unfortunate impact of this situation, it is estimated that unpaid care work is equivalent to USD 10,000,000,000 (ten billion) or 13% of the world's GDP.”

“The Sustainable Development Goals are interconnected and interdependent. [...] The [High-Level Panel on Economic Empowerment of Women proposes seven principles and seven guiding actions. As basic principles, we assume that no woman should be left behind and that nothing should be done for women without the participation of women, and that we should focus equally on the rights and profits (empowerment is not only the right thing to do but it is the intelligent road map towards human development, growth and business promotion). We must address the root causes of economic gender inequality based on gender inequities in society, and respect internationally agreed standards; as well as recognise the need to work with partnerships and global compliance in all countries. [...] The High Level Panel on the Economic Empowerment of Women recommends the following measures in order to bring about the economic empowerment of women: 1. Break stereotypes. [...] 2. [...] Guarantee labor and social protections. [...] 3. Invest, as a social co-responsibility, in care, recognising, reducing and redistributing unpaid work in this field. [...] 4. Guarantee an adequate distribution of digital, financial and physical goods. [...] 5. Change culture and the way we do business. [...] 6. Create opportunities through government, improving practices in the public sector. [...] 7. Make women's voices heard. [...]”

“We have advocated, and shall continue to advocate, that a woman should occupy the office of Secretary-General for the first time in history. We have reached a new milestone in history by having six extraordinary women, including a Costa Rican, as candidates for the position of UN

Secretary General. The transformation demanded by humanity requires new sensibilities and forms of exercising leadership.”

“My goal is that my daughter Inés, who is 10 years old right now, will tell her descendants of a strange former era, where women did not earn as much as men for the same task, that they were not equal owners of the means of production, where the care of children was a chore largely reserved for themselves and where their sexual and reproductive rights were not safeguarded.”

Country: Côte d’Ivoire

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/c%C3%B4te-d%E2%80%99ivoire>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Alassane Ouattara, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Peacekeeping

No gendered language.

Extract of statement:

“This is the time to reaffirm the commitment to (...) and goal 17 of the SDGs).”

“The worsening of the security situation in a number of countries has led to sudden rise in migratory flows (...) We welcome the progress made in the High level Summit on migration held here. But we must do more.”

“In the past, Côte d’Ivoire have contributed to stabilisation efforts in the Congo and Central Africa through monusco and minusma. In that spirit, in Minusma, we have worked side by side with our brothers and sisters of Mali (...) Côte d’Ivoire is prepared to send by the end of the year a protection company of approximately 100 individuals.”

Country: Croatia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/croatia>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Participation; Peacekeeping; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Today, on the International Day of Peace, it is necessary to emphasise that women are powerful agents of peace and security. We must not treat women only as victims of conflict and violence. Women are powerful agents of change. Their increased contribution to preventing and resolving conflict, as well as to maintaining sustainable and inclusive peace, should be encouraged. More female peacekeepers could help us combat sexual violence, promote gender awareness among the host nations' populations, and improve relationships with local citizens.”

“To contribute to this goal, Croatia is conducting a UN training course for women police officers from Asia, Africa and Europe. This course is organised back-to-back with predeployment military training in order to enhance the synergy between the military and civilian sectors, by

simultaneously integrating gender and multicultural aspects of peacekeeping.”

Country: Cuba

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/cuba>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Bruno Eduardo Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Cyprus

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/cyprus>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“[Sustainable development] can only be achieved if we adopt a targeted and results-oriented approach of development cooperation, which will create those political and socio-economic conditions leading to institution building, stability and economic growth, through, among others:

- Elimination inequality and social exclusion;
- Addressing gender inequality and combating gender-based violence;
- Facilitating investment in human capital via capacity development and education, especially by promoting girls’ education.”

Country: Czech Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/czech-republic>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Miloš Zeman, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Protection

No gendered language.

Country: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/congo>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Raymond Tshibanda N'tungamulongo, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Particular attention is therefore granted to the specific needs of young people and women in terms of education, health and employment.”

“This is particularly the case concerning the protection of women's rights. Two important laws had been promulgated, the one on gender parity, and that changing the outdated provisions of the Family Code in order to comply with this & international legislation in force. Other reforms are underway.”

“As for violence against women, reliable indicators inform a net decrease of cases of sexual violence in 2014 and 2015, a decrease of 50%.”

Country: Democratic Republic of Korea (DPRK)

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/democratic-peoples-republic-korea>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ri Yong Ho, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Denmark

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/denmark>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative

Date: 26 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Denmark sees gender equality and the empowerment of women as key requirements to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This is a cornerstone of our foreign policy. Studies tell us that when a girl receives just one additional year of education, she can increase her earnings by up to 20 per cent.”

“Denmark was extremely proud to host the Women Deliver Conference in Copenhagen earlier this year. The conference was a testimony to the importance that Denmark places on ensuring women’s and girls’ full and equal enjoyment of all human rights. A plethora of programs, initiatives and strategies were showcased at the conference.”

Country: the Commonwealth of Dominica

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/dominica>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Francine Baron, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Caricom Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: the Dominican Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/dominican-republic>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Danilo Medina, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Implementation

Extract of statement:

“The word which has been coined to describe the situation of these men and women is vulnerability (...) If we take this opportunity, not only can these men and women leave their difficulties behind forever, they can also convert their countries into middle class, democratic and peaceful societies with less need for emigration abroad.”

“Millions of men and women are also our best partners and our most urgent reason to keep working.”

“Within the framework of this United Nations Assembly, the Post-2015 Development Agenda, with its adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, is a good roadmap for many of the challenges we face in Latin America, the Caribbean and the World.”

Country: Ecuador

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/ecuador>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Guillaume Long, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Arab Republic of Egypt

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/egypt>)

Date: September 20, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, President

Themes: Participation; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Protection

Extract of statement:

“The Egyptian people approved a new constitution that enshrines the rights and freedoms outlined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a constitution that establishes equality on the basis of citizenship, and consolidates protection for vulnerable groups, paving the way for women to occupy 15% of seats in the House of Representatives and expanding the representation of youth within it.”

Country: El Salvador

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/el-salvador>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Salvador Sánchez Cerén, President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Participation; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We are making significant efforts to increase the productive capacity of our country [...] executing special projects of support to vulnerable sectors such as the youth and women, in order to be able to generate opportunities of employment and growth.”

Country: Equatorial Guinea

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/equatorial-guinea>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Agapito Mba Mokuy, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Disarmament; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding

No gendered language.

Country: the State of Eritrea

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/eritrea>)

Speaker: H. E. Mr. Osman Saleh Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Conflict Prevention

Extract of statement:

“No less an authority than President Obama stated publicly that he had ‘renewed sanctions on some of the worst abusers, including Eritrea.’ And he added, ‘We are partnering with groups that help women and children escape from the grip of their abusers.’ The objective was ‘regime change’ as a prelude to bringing Eritrea to its knees.”

Country: the Republic of Estonia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/estonia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Toomas, Hendrik Ilves, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response, Conflict Prevention, Human Rights, Protection

Extract of statement:

“Estonia attaches great importance to the goal of achieving gender equality that can unlock the economic potential of women. More equal societies work better for everyone. Achieving gender equality is firstly the duty of political leaders.”

“Amidst current conflicts and crises it is important to ensure that women do not fall victim to gender-based violence and that they are also included in conflict resolution and peace negotiations. Therefore it is important to continue to implement UNSCR resolution 1325 and related resolutions on women, peace and Security.”

Country: Ethiopia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/ethiopia>)

Date: September 21, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Hailemariam Dessalegn, Prime Minister

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

European Union

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/european-union>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Donald Tusk, President of the European Council
Date: September 21, 2016
Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Fiji

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/fiji>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister

Date: September 20, 2016

Summary: Peacekeeping; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Finland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/finland>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sauli Niinisto, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Peacekeeping.

Extract of statement:

“Gender equality and the political, economic and social empowerment of girls and women are key drivers in Sustainable development and in combating climate change. In my own country gender equality has been vital in our rise from poverty to prosperity. I welcome all efforts that raise the issue, such as the HeforShe movement initiated by UN Women. I am personally involved in this important work. But the UN and its Member States still have a long way to go to meet the target of gender.”

Country: France

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/france>)

Date: September 20, 2016

Speaker: Francois Hollande, President

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Gabon

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/gabon>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response, Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“In the mobilisation of human resources, human kind must remain at the center of our policies and actions. For this reason, the involvement of all actors is more than critical and by actors I am referring here to youths, women, persons with disabilities, refugees, migrants, civil society and private sector (...) Implementation of the SDGs requires we meet a whole set of needs.”

“My country is disappointed in the lack of progress in the disarmament process as well as the paralysis in the multilateral disarmament mechanisms. The work requires all members of the UN recommit their efforts. The status quo cannot become a viable solution.”

Country: the Islamic Republic of the Gambia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/gambia>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Isatou Njie Saidy, Vice President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“To complicate an already difficult situation, the impasse in Darfur and the frequent outbreaks of fighting in the Central African Republic and Burundi, pose a serious threat to the civilian population, particularly women and children.”

“The future of Africa and indeed the world is inextricably linked to women and the youths.”

Country: the Democratic Republic of Georgia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/georgia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Giorgi Kvirikashvili, Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Georgia

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform

No gendered language.

Country: Germany

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/germany>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Member of the German Bundestag and Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Conflict Prevention; Peace Processes; Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Ghana

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/ghana>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Greece

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/greece>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Alexis Tsipras, Prime Minister

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Extract of statement:

“We focus on how - on the basis of political and financial stability- we can work towards economic growth, more effective and humane migration management, as well as peace and security in our broader neighbourhood”

“Despite the calls for violating the Geneva Convention, my country- a country whose asylum service didn't exist three years ago - deals fairly and on the basis of the Geneva Convention, with the fourth largest number of asylum applications in Europe”

Country: Grenada

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/grenada>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Elvin Nimrod, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Grenada is committed to Sustainable Development Goal 5, which speaks to gender equality and discrimination against women and girls. In this regard, the reforms also call on the state to ensure that men and women are entitled to equal rights and status in all spheres of life, especially in economic, educational, political, civic and social activities; that women shall not be discriminated against by reason of marital status, pregnancy or any other gender-based attribute; and that Parliament may enact laws suitable to correct disparities and inequalities between men and women. [...] The United Nations was built to steer us away from anarchy and perpetual antagonism. With the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, we have created a new pathway to achieve a more equitable and lasting brand of development. This pathway is paved with clean energy, universal access to education, affordable healthcare, food security, clean water and air, and gender and racial equality.”

Country: Guatemala

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/guatemala>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Jimmy Morales, President of the Republic of Guatemala

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Participation; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“Even so, there are commitments that have been postponed or which are lagging, and today is precisely the moment to evaluate and re-launch them. I'm referring to issues as vital as the identity and rights of indigenous peoples, rural development and women's participation.”

Country: Guinea

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/guinea>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Alpha Condé, President

Date: 23 September 2016

Themes: Participation; Disarmament; Conflict Prevention

Extract of statement:

“The development and implementation of public policy should fully incorporate the creation of jobs and economic opportunities for the most vulnerable sectors of society, particularly women and young people, with the aim of effectively including them in socioeconomic life and realising their full potential.”

“Substantial investments in empowerment for women and youth are all the more necessary in the face of the scourges of terrorism, extremism and intolerance, the illicit traffic of arms and of drugs, which feed on poverty and the weakness of economic opportunities for these sectors of society.”

“We are pleased with the resolution A/70/L.43, adopted by the General Assembly on 27 April 2016, and with Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) on the UN’s peacebuilding architecture, which put a particular emphasis on prevention, and the integration of young people and women in all the sectors of our society.”

“The most vulnerable [to Ebola virus] in society, in particular women and young people, are more likely to be affected, and new challenges emerge around their reintegration into society.”

Country: the Republic of Guinea-Bissau

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/guinea-bissau>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. José Mario Vaz, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Cooperative Republic of Guyana

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/guyana>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. David Arthur Granger, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response.

No gendered language.

Country: Haiti

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/haiti>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Jocelerme Privert, Acting Head of State

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“Rights of men and women, the inviolable principle of parity subjects of international law and the right of peoples to self.”

Country (Observer State): Holy See

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/holy-see>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Secretary of State

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Honduras

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/honduras>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Juan Orlando Hernández Alvarado, Constitutional President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament.

No gendered language.

Country: Hungary

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/hungary>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Peter Szijjarto, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“143 Hungarian men and women have been taking part in actions against ISIS, serving in Iraq as a force protection unit and as trainers of the peshmergas.”

Country: Iceland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/iceland>)

Date: September 24, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Lilja Alfreðsdóttir Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Participation; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“For many years, Iceland has hosted UN University training programs in four areas of importance to our agenda: gender equality, sustainable geothermal energy, sustainable management of the oceans and combating desertification.”

“He [Ban Ki-moon] has laid the groundwork for reforming the UN’s peacekeeping operations and shown strong leadership on gender issues.”

Country: India

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/india>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Protection; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“The true challenge of our time is [...] to take forward the mission of gender equality and protect women where there is gender regression; and to ensure peace across boundaries, not least because there can be no prosperity without peace.”

“The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (Educate the Girl Child, Save the Girl Child) programme has become a nation-wide mission.”

Country: Indonesia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/indonesia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Muhammad Jusuf Kalla, Vice President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“A country where democracy, Islam, modernity and women empowerment go hand in hand... at the forefront of the promotion of democracy, tolerance, pluralism and peace.”

Country: the Islamic Republic of Iran

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/iran-islamic-republic>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Hassan Rouhani, President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Iraq

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/iraq>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Haidar al-Abad, Prime Minister

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Daesh, which falsely claimed the defense of Sunnis; is killing Shiites, Sunnis, Christians, Yazidis, Arabs, Kurds and Turkmens as well. Their atrocities involved all the spectrum of Iraq, it diversified between Takfir, displacement, women enslavement, genocides, and destruction of antiquities, mosques and churches.”

“Our intent is to provide a proper environment that promotes freedom, human rights, impartiality and vital participation of women in the state and society.”

Country: Ireland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/ireland>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Charles Flanagan, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security; Peacekeeping; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Protection; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“We recognise the importance of the empowerment of women to have a visible and recognised role in decision making. [...] Gender equality and women's empowerment are key cross-cutting priorities for Ireland. We are committed to strengthening our engagement on these priorities during our membership of the Commission on the Status of Women which commences on 1 January next. Ireland calls for the implementation of the conflict prevention and peacebuilding aspects of the three high-level reviews of the UN's peacekeeping and peacebuilding systems which took place in 2015, and for a sustained commitment to the Women, Peace and Security agenda.”

“We call for all members of the Security Council, but in particular China, the USA, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and France, to refrain from voting against credible draft resolutions on action to end the commission of genocide, crimes against humanity or war crimes, including conflict-related sexual violence.”

“Therefore, it is critical that the performance, behaviour and reputation of troops or civilians engaged in UN operations is to the highest possible standard. Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by UN peacekeepers, sent to conflict zones to protect innocent civilians from harm, is absolutely unacceptable and Ireland calls for an end to impunity for these crimes.”

“Human rights abuses are among the root causes of migration. Moreover, migrants, refugees and IDPs, in particular women, children and vulnerable people, can also be at risk of human rights abuse both during their journey and on arrival at their destination.”

“The UN has a central role in humanitarian action, and Ireland strongly supports the efforts to reform the UN System and coordination mechanisms to ensure a more effective response to the increasingly complex humanitarian needs around the world. This includes the protection of vulnerable groups in emergencies, notably women and girls.”

Country: Israel

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/israel>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“As women are being systematically raped, murdered, sold into slavery across the world, which is the only country that the UN's Commission on Women chose to condemn this year? Yep, you guessed it – Israel. Israel. Israel where women fly fighter jets, lead major corporations, head universities, preside – twice – over the Supreme Court, and have served as Speaker of the Knesset and Prime Minister.”

“I am filled with hope because the valour of our fighting men and women is second to none.”

Country: the Italian Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/italy>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Matteo Renzi, Prime Minister

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

"[R]isks connected to the environment, risks to which this community of women and men responded by signing the important Paris Agreement this past April."

"Nadia, the Yazidi girl whom I met yesterday, who escaped from the violence of Daesh, and is today a courageous witness of a battle on behalf of human rights, of women's rights, of freedom."

"Our people continue to work, our women and men who serve the ideals of peace; our women and men in diplomacy and politics; the women and men who serve our Country by wearing a uniform in Afghanistan, in Somalia, protecting the Mosul Dam in an area fundamental to the future of our planet and at the same time in the Balkans, in particular in Serbia. They are security professionals with an added gear: the priority they place on humanity. These women and men who make us proud to belong to Italian history know that we do not come from nothing, but rather from the tradition to which I referred and that finds its highest expression in the Mediterranean Sea."

Country: Japan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/japan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

"And the country carrying this out [North Korea] is a country that abducted a large number of Japanese, including a girl aged 13 at the time, and deprived them of their peaceful lives, not allowing them to return to their homeland even now. It is a country that tramples human rights, where no heed whatsoever is paid to restraints on or balances of power."

Country: Jamaica

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/jamaica>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Andrew Holness, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

"The hallmark of any civilised society is how it treats its most vulnerable. We must treat the issue of prevention of violence against our most vulnerable, particularly our women and children as a priority. We must seek to empower our women to realise their full potential. Jamaica has a long track record of championing the rights of women and will continue to advocate for full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action."

Country: the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/jordan>)

Speaker: H.M. Mr. Abdullah II Ibn Al Hussein, King

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Muslim men and women bring to the world a rich heritage of civic responsibility, justice, generosity, family life, and faith in God.”

“Islam teaches that all humanity is equal in dignity.”

Country: Kazakhstan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/kazakhstan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Erlan Idrissov, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Disarmament and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Peacekeeping; General Women, Peace and Security; Participation

Extract of statement:

“We will strive to contribute to the Council’s work in the area of maintenance of international peace and security, preventive diplomacy, conflict settlement and post-conflict rehabilitation, peacekeeping, human rights, gender equality and international law.”

“Together with Japan and the UNDP we are helping to improve [Afghanistan’s] civil service capacity with a special emphasis on gender equality.”

“Kazakhstan stays committed to active cooperation with UN human rights mechanisms and pays special attention to gender equality and the empowerment of women. By the end of the year, a new 2030 national strategy for gender equality will be adopted in my country.”

Country: Kiribati

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/kiribati>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Taneti Maamau, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Kuwait

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/kuwait>)

Speaker: H.H. Sheik Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al Sabah, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Kyrgyzstan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/kyrgyzstan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Erlan Abdyldayev, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Human Rights; Conflict Prevention

No gendered language.

Country: Lao People's Democratic Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/lao-people%E2%80%99s-democratic-republic>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: Latvia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/latvia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Raimonds Vējonis, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Peacekeeping; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has been driving the push for worldwide action on climate change and gender equality.”

Country: Lebanon

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/lebanon>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Tammam Salam President of the Council of Ministers

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Lesotho

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/lesotho>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Participation; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“We believe that inclusion of all stakeholders, especially women and youth, in a programmatic and results-orientated action, will bring about fundamental changes in the livelihood and well-being of our Societies. In Lesotho women constitute a significant majority of the population and are the backbone of our rural communities. Their human resource potential cannot be underestimated. It is for this reason that we have promulgated laws that allow them access to land, credit and resources necessary for their unfettered engagement in economic activity.”

Country: Liberia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/liberia>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“We acknowledge, with profound gratitude, [the Secretary-General’s] stewardship that brought a paradigm shift in development programs within the UN system, ushering in the New Global Agenda which envisions a world without poverty, a world of shared values and responsibilities, a world of gender equality and women’s empowerment, and a planet saved through effective mitigations – in effect, a world that leaves no one behind.”

“We anticipate cogent inter-agency dialogue and collaboration between the IOM [International Organisation for Migration] and the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in facilitating voluntary return and the reintegration of refugees and displaced persons. We call on the two agencies to forge an effective response to resolve the issues of migrant smuggling and human trafficking, bearing in mind that women and children are the main victims of organised crime of modern slavery.”

“We reiterate our commitment to continue to address extreme poverty, to empower women and girls, to bring marginalised communities into mainstream society, and to make their voices heard.”

Country: Libya

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/libya>)

Date: September 22, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Faiez Mustafa Serraj, President

Themes: Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform; Reconstruction and Peacebuilding; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Liechtenstein

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/liechtenstein>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“It is my strong personal wish to finally see a woman lead this organisation – which has been such a trailblazer for gender equality. We do believe that this is an appointment that should take place on the basis of merit. The best qualified person available should have this job. I would be very happy if this person was to be a woman.”

Country: the Republic of Lithuania

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/lithuania>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Dalia Grybauskaitė, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Protection; Participation

Extract of statement:

“Successfully implementing Sustainable Development Goals will also require to dedicate special attention to women – often more impacted, but left behind and ignored. Let’s take some Goals as examples.

First, ending poverty. Both men and women are affected, but lifting women out of poverty is much more difficult. As if poverty was not hard enough, women also have to face gender-based discrimination, stereotypes and social marginalisation. According to a UN Women report:

- Woman earns around 24 per cent less than a man;
- Finds it more difficult to get a loan to start a business;
- Is likely to receive a smaller part of inheritance or nothing when she decides to leave her abusive husband.

The trend of poverty feminisation has to change. By not allowing women to prosper we condemn entire families to poverty.

Second, ending hunger. Although around half of the world’s agricultural work is done by women, if food is running out, women are the first to suffer. When public order breaks down, a woman’s trip to bring her family food or water may easily cost her life. In times of hunger, women give the little food they have to their children. In a breadline, however, they often end up being pushed aside or abused. Empowering women by expanding land ownership or providing credit would not only feed a family, but would also raise incomes of women and make more food available for all.

Third, providing education. For so many girls and women around the world the road to inclusive learning remains an impossible dream:

- According to the UN Sustainable Development report, out of the world’s 750 million illiterate adults, two thirds are women;
- Girls are sent off or sold into early marriages, blocking their path to education, higher income and independence;
- Criminals abduct women and sell them into slavery.
- Extremists burn down schools and kill teachers, because they do not want educated girls to make their own life choices.

That needs to change. Education is a key that opens many doors. Educated women are a tremendous resources and a power for the common good. Women must be free to have access to education, choose the profession they want. Information technologies must be available to uncover their full potential.”

“The task ahead of us is immense. However, it *can* be achieved if each of us finds the strength and courage to become part of the change by:

- Encouraging women to dream big and demand their rightful place at national parliaments, negotiating tables, science labs and company boards;
- Ensuring that nothing can stand in the way of a girl’s dream to receive free quality education;
- Combating gender stereotypes and abusive social practices; making sure that laws give women and girls equal voice and power they deserve;
- Reducing the cost of violence against women so that billions more could be directed into poverty reduction and development.

We cannot afford to fail in this challenge. To achieve this, we need everyone on board. Only if all members of the society – both women and men – are fully represented and engaged, can the world’s future be truly sustainable.”

Country: Luxembourg

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/luxembourg>)

Date: September 23, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Disarmament; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Armed conflict that still remain or are likely to break out, challenge the survival of thousands of civilians exposing them to violence, including sexual violence, and threaten their most basic rights.”

Country: Macedonia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/former-yugoslav-republic-macedonia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Gjorge Ivanov, President of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response, Justice and Security Sector Reform

No gendered language.

Country: Madagascar

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/madagascar>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Hery Martial Rajaonarimampianina Rakotoarimanana, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Participation; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Youth, women, and girls are the backbone of our public policy and our actions for development.”

“The protection of women, young girls and their empowerment, equal rights and equal participation in processes of development, respect for the rights of the child and the youth are at the heart of our concerns and our discussions. We continue to reform our strategies and our national plans to promote equal access for women and men to economic resources and basic services.”

“One of the important realisations of the rights of women in Madagascar has been the reform of the Code of Nationality to allow children born of a Malagasy mother and a foreign father to acquire Malagasy nationality by the maternal line, independent of the nationality of the father.”

Country: the Republic of Malawi

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/malawi>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Peter Mutharika, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Participation

Extract of statement:

“Africa, and the rest of the developing world, is suffering from dehumanising poverty; the pain of hunger; insufferable diseases; disgraceful inequalities; and unjustifiable gender imbalances.”

“On gender equality, Malawi is taking proactive measures to eliminate the vulnerability of women and adolescent girls to violence and abuse. We are, consequently, focusing on balancing reproductive and productive roles in order to enhance women’s participation, in decision-making, and are also focused on addressing gender-based violence. This work entails collaboration with traditional leaders, in order to tackle retrogressive traditional practices that harm our women and the girl child. We have also enhanced legal and policy reforms and improved on law enforcement in this area. We have adopted the 2016/2020 Gender Equality Implementation Plan as well as strengthened gender-sensitive data collection approaches.”

“We have also enhanced legal and policy reforms and improved on law enforcement in this area. We have adopted the 2016/2020 Gender Equality Implementation Plan as well as strengthened gender-sensitive data collection approaches.”

“We are focusing on balancing reproductive and productive roles in order to enhance women’s participation, in decision-making, and are also focused on addressing gender-based violence.”

Country: Malaysia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/malaysia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Deputy Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Participation; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Maldives

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/maldives>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Mohamed Asim, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Participation, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

Extract of statement:

“Empowering women and girls, to make their own choices, to determine the destiny of their choosing, is not only the moral, responsible and the right choice to make; but it is the smart decision to take. Women constitute half of our population. They can and should contribute to our economy. They can and should contribute to our society.”

“Women in the Maldives have had the right to vote since our first constitution in 1932. Women in the Maldives have always been in our offices, in our politics, in our society. They have always had equal pay and equal rights. It’s now enshrined in our Constitution. Today, a woman in the

Maldives, can also go to a court of law, and use the newly defined Gender Equality Act to claim those rights. They can challenge cases involving gender inequality, sexual harassment, and sexual abuse, with specifically defined laws to back them up. Still, we have a long way to go - every country does. But we believe we are on the right track, making institutional and structural changes, to bring lasting, and sustainable normative change.”

Country: Mali

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mali>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Protection; Participation

Extract of statement:

“We have adopted a law on quotas guaranteeing 30% of the elected posts to women. At the adoption of this law which without any doubt will contribute to improve to the participation of women in national institutions.”

“Millions of men and women await this of us, impatiently, steering towards the horizon of hope, we have no right to deceive them. To this end, Mali is determined to play its part.”

Country: Malta

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/malta>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“This has been a year of atrocious, terrorist attacks against innocent victims – bystanders, men, women and children who have been killed while going about their daily lives...”

Country: Marshall Islands

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/marshall-islands>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Hilda Heine, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Participation; Human Rights; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“In the Pacific, it is often women, and mothers, who are the heart of our communities and ensure resilience. If women, do not plan for the long term, families and communities do not thrive.”

“As in many parts of the world, sadly, domestic violence is a serious issue in the Pacific. UN SDG Goal 5 commits to ending worldwide domestic violence against women and girls, and my government is moving forward with our own commitment to build safe houses - the first one to be known as Weto In Mour, for abused women. And it may be that the Pacific - and the world -

must adjust to a new era, where the voice of women and girls gains its rightful place in community, home, and all levels of politics - from the local to the UN.”

Country: Mauritania

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mauritania>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Isselkou Ould Ahmed Izid Bih, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 25, 2016

Themes: Peacekeeping; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Mauritius

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mauritus>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Anerood Jugnauth, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human rights; Implementation

No gendered language.

Country: the United Mexican States

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mexico>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Enrique Peña Nieto, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Implementation

Extract of statement:

“Another of the cross-cutting issues of the 2030 Agenda is gender perspectives and the empowerment of women. In fulfilling the commitments reached at last year’s meeting of global leaders for equality, Mexico now has a stronger institutional framework: the national system for equality between women and men. This system is headed by Mexico’s President, thereby ensuring that the quality policy is upheld at the highest level and is reflected in the national government’s various actions.”

“These [the SDGs] are very clear goals for overcoming poverty, and ensuring equality opportunity, gender equity, equality, environment protection, justice and peace on which all our countries must focus our efforts.”

Country: the Federated Republic of Micronesia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/micronesia-federated-statesronesia>)

Speaker: Peter Christian, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Moldova

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/moldova>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Pavel Filip, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Conflict Prevention; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“The issue of gender equality should be also considered within the selection process. We believe that a possible decision to elect a female candidate as the UN Secretary-General will resonate well with the growing international expectations in this regard.”

Country: Monaco

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/monaco>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Serge Telle, Head of Government

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights; Protection

Extract of statement:

“Every month, every week, every day, the Mediterranean is the shroud of dozens of women, children, and men desperate to escape their fate, but who we struggle to give the little that they demand: safety, basic needs, and the hope of a better place.”

“At a time when women still suffer so much violence and discrimination, and the unacceptable increase of sexual violence, we must support the necessary action of UNICEF.”

“I wish, in this regard, to reiterate the full support of the Principality of Monaco for the goals of the Security Council Resolutions on women, peace and security, particularly regarding the protection of women in conflict and strengthening their role in the maintenance, restoration, and consolidation of peace.”

“In this fragile and unjust world, we know that education, in particular that of girls, is the solution to many of the problems. It is through women that we enhance the values of tolerance and respect. This is why the education of girls, and more generally the equal access to education for all children, should be one of our priorities.”

“The strength of the UN is to unite us in the service of a common good. Bringing about this common good is still on our agenda today... It comes through the education of children and the establishment of true equality between men and women.”

Country: Mongolia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mongolia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. J. Tshakhia Elbegdor, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Montenegro

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/montenegro>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Milo Đukanović, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Brutal and long-term conflicts claim the hundreds of thousands of victims and destroy the lives of millions of people, mostly women and children.”

Country: Morocco

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/morocco>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Salaheddine Mezouar, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; General Women, peace and Security; Peacekeeping

No gendered language.

Country: the People's Republic of Mozambique

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/mozambique>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/myanmar>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Namibia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/namibia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Hage Geingob, President

Date: September, 21 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We are confident that we will join the global drive towards ensuring a life of dignity for all and we will spare no effort in working to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanising conditions of extreme poverty.”

Country: the Republic of Nauru

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/nauru>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Baron Divavesi Waqa, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Human Rights.

No gendered language.

Country: Nepal

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/nepal>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Prakash Sharan, Mahat Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Participation; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“The Constitution guarantees equal participation and incorporates principle of proportional representation of the women, indigenous nationalities, Madheshis, Dalits and other marginalised groups in elected and other organs of the state structure.”

“Nepal has a strong commitment to gender equality and empowerment of women. Women are guaranteed minimum one third representation in the federal and provincial parliaments and 40% in the local government.”

“I am proud to inform this General Assembly that Nepal's Head of State, Chief Justice and Speaker of the Parliament are all Women.”

Country: the Netherlands

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/netherlands>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Albert Koenders, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Protection

No gendered language.

Country: New Zealand

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/new-zealand>)

Speaker: H.E Mr. John Key, Prime Minister

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes; Disarmament; Conflict Prevention

No gendered language.

Country: Niger

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/niger>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Protection

Extract of statement:

“The UN has made great accomplishments which would not have been possible without the many men and women that work for the United Nations and I would like to pay tribute to all of them.”

“Although not all Millennium Development Goals were reached, progress was made. (...) the mother and child mortality also were reduced in half.”

Country: Nigeria

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/nigeria>)

Date: September 20, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Muhammadu Buhari, President

Themes: Human Rights, Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Norway

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/norway>)

Speaker: H. E. Ms. Erna Solberg, Prime Minister

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Peacekeeping; General Women, Peace and Security; Implementation; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We have a clear responsibility to fight terrorism and step up our efforts to prevent violent extremism. In order to do so, we need to work closely with civil society, women, young people, faith leaders, and with local communities.”

“We need to translate the Women, Peace and Security agenda into more effective action on the ground.”

“Sexual exploitation and abuse must stop.”

“The Sustainable Development Goals are groundbreaking. They provide us with a roadmap for the future we want. We have agreed to leave no one behind. This means that we must address inequality and social injustice and safeguard the rule of law. It also means that we must empower women and men alike.”

“Girls' education is especially important. When girls go to school and get an education, this is not only their fundamental right, it's also good for the economy.”

Country: Oman

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/oman>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: Pakistan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/pakistan>)

Speaker: His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Protection

Extract of statement:

“On behalf of the mothers, wives, sisters, and fathers of the innocent Kashmiri children, women and men who have been killed (...) I demand an independent inquiry into the extra-judicial killings, and a UN fact finding mission to investigate brutalities perpetrated by the Indian occupying forces, so that those guilty of these atrocities are punished.”

Country: the Republic of Palau

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/palau>)

Speaker: H.E. Dr Caleb Otto, Permanent Representative

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Papua New Guinea

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/papua-new-guinea>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Puka Temu, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister and Minister for Public Service

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Conflict Prevention; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Another glaring unfair practice in the existing UN system is under-representation of the qualified women at the senior management level at the UN Secretariat. The UN must not merely preach about gender equality and empowerment but be seen to be exercising and implementing what it advocates.”

Country (Observer State): the State of Palestine

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/palestine-state>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Panama

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/panama>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Juan Carlos Varela Rodriguez, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Paraguay

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/paraguay>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Eladio Ramón Loizaga Lezcano, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Disarmament; Peacekeeping; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“Paraguay would like a man or woman Secretary General who will attach priority to a preventative diplomacy and mediation and who, as the main person responsible for the administration will ensure that the United Nations system is an example of inclusion- promoting national diversity and gender balance in its civil service”.

“We also have specific programs to put an end to intergenerational transmission of poverty such as the program “Sewing Opportunities” which improve the access of families to health and education, where women who are heads of households are prioritised.”

Country: the Republic of Peru

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/peru>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Pedro Pablo Kuczynski Godard, Prime Minister

Date: 20 September 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Philippines

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/philippines>)

Date: September 24, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Perfecto Yasay, Secretary for Foreign Affairs

Themes: Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: the Republic of Poland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/poland>)

Speaker: H. E. Andrzej Duda, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: the Kingdom of Portugal

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/portugal>)

Speaker: Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“To this end, I would like to highlight the opportunity for reinforcing the preventative capability of the United Nations offered by the process of review of the peace and security architecture, including in the women, peace and security dimension.”

“On the issue of human rights, too, we have come a long way in gender equality, although much still needs to be done. This is a topic of cross-cutting importance, particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.”

Country: Qatar

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/qatar>

Speaker: H.H. Mr. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: General Women Peace and Security; Disarmament; Peace Process

Extract of statement:

“But after major massacres such as the one on August 25, 2012 which claimed hundreds of lives, mostly women and children, the city was forced, like other cities, to defend itself.”

“...meet the aspirations of the Syrian people and maintain the unity and sovereignty of Syria, on the basis of equal rights for all citizens of Syria, without discrimination on the basis of faith, creed, ethnicity...”

Country: Republic of Korea

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/republic-korea>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Yun Byung-se, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“Over the past year, we launched major initiatives in the areas of education, women empowerment, science and technology and rural development.”

“Let me commend his [SG Ban Ki-Moon] commitment and leadership, as well as his remarkable achievements in a range of areas, most notably on climate change, sustainable development, gender equality, humanitarian assistance and UN management reform.”

Country: Romania

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/romania>

Date: September 21, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Dacian Ciolos, Prime Minister

Themes: Disarmament, Peacekeeping

No gendered language.

Country: Russia

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/russian-federation>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Peacekeeping; Human Rights; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Rwanda

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/rwanda>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Participation

Extract of statement:

“That means being inclusive, especially of women, because if they are not reaching their potential, then none of us are. I am proud to be a HeForShe and urge others to support this important campaign.”

Country: Saint Kitts & Nevis

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/saint-kitts-and-nevis>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Timothy Harris, Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: St. Lucia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/saint-lucia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Allen Michael Chastanet, Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/saint-vincent-and-grenadines>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Samoa

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/samoa>)

Date: September 23, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister

Themes: Displacement, Disarmament, General WPS

Extract of statement:

“Continuing commitment [is needed] to provide civilian policemen and women for United Nations peacekeeping operations around the world.”

Country: San Marino

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/san-marino>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Pasquale Valentini, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“The conflict in Syria, which continues uninterrupted since March 2011, has already caused more than 270,000 deaths, of which Over 13,000 are children and more than 8,000 women.”

Country: São Tomé and Príncipe

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/sao-tome-and-principe>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Patrice Emery Trovoada, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Saudi Arabia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/saudi-arabia>)

Speaker: H.H. Prince Mohammed bin Naif bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, Crown Prince

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Protection; Displacement and Humanitarian Response,

No gendered language.

Country: Senegal

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/senegal>

Date: September 20, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Macky Sall, President

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: Serbia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/serbia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Aleksandar Vučić, Prime Minister

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: Conflict Prevention; Human Rights; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“We believe that peace is the foundation for all our common endeavours in fighting poverty, unemployment, organised crime, corruption, violence and all kinds of extremism as we strive to build a better world based on universal respect for justice, rule of law and human rights and freedoms that are applicable for everyone, without distinctions as to race, sex, language or religion.”

Country: the Republic of Seychelles

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/seychelles>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Marie-Louise Potter, Permanent Representative

Date: September 26, 2016
Themes: Human Rights, Displacement
No gendered language.

Country: Sierra Leone

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/sierra-leone>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Ernest Bai Koroma, President

Date: September 22, 2016

Themes: General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“We have hastened to put in place major relevant policy decisions and enacted appropriate legislations to empower women, improve the situation of youth and ensure that the physically challenged are not marginalised. My Government’s vision for the empowerment of women as enshrined in Pillar 8 of our A4P is consistent with global aspirations, in recognition of the crucial importance of women and gender parity in our development processes.”

Country: Singapore

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/singapore>)

Date: September 26, 2016

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Themes: Displacement

No gendered language.

Country: the Slovak Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/slovakia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Andrej Kiska, President

Date: Sept, 20, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“As His Holiness Pope Francis reminds us, migrants and refugees are not pawns on the chessboard of humanity. They are children, fathers, mothers, real men and women.”

Country: the Republic of Slovenia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/slovenia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Borut Pahor, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“My country is also a strong supporter of effective multilateralism and is among those countries that strive to: bring the global community closer to universal respect for human rights; promote respect for international law; strengthen the rule of law; preventive democracy, particularly in the field of mediation; protect peace and viable security; promote gender equality and empowerment of women; protect the vulnerable; elder; protect natural resources; implement sustainable development goals; and ensure a decent life for all.”

Country: Solomon Islands

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/solomon-islands>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Manasseh Sogavare, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“The Beijing Programme of Action remains a source of guidance and inspiration on gender equality and gender empowerment Solomon Islands remains committed to the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the programme, which should enable the realisation of gender goals and targets under the SDGs, in April of this year my Government welcomed the entry into force of the Family Protection Act.”

Country: the Federal Republic of Somalia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/somalia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Abdusalam Hadliyah Omer, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Investment Promotion

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Participation; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“We are also championing a 30% quota for women in Parliament, as their representation and political participation is central to our national progress.”

Country: South Africa

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/south-africa>)

Speaker: HE Mr. Jacob Zuma, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Participation; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“We marked the sixtieth anniversary of the 1956 Women's March against discriminatory and racist laws and the 40" anniversary of the June 16" 1976 Youth uprising against apartheid.”

“The Women's March in 1956 brought the gender dimension of the struggle and the equal role of women in the fight against white domination, oppression and injustice into sharp focus.”

Country: South Sudan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/south-sudan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Taban Deng Gcai, the First Vice President

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: the Kingdom of Spain

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/spain>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Don Felipe VI, King

Date: 20 September 2016

Themes: Participation; Human Rights; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Disarmament

Extract of statement:

“Spain has led initiatives in the humanitarian field, and we encourage the increasing participation of women both in the prevention of conflicts and in the construction and consolidation of peace, and in doing so we are determined in fighting violations and abuses against their freedom and dignity.”

“Spain is a candidate to become a member of the Human Rights Council for 2018-2020 term and I ask for your support. The promotion and defense of human rights are a hallmark of our foreign policy. We are particularly committed to gender equality, the right to safe drinking water and sanitation, the rights of persons with disabilities, and the fight against racism, xenophobia and hate crimes.”

Country: Sri Lanka

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/sri-lanka>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Maithripala Sirisena, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Sudan

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/sudan>

Speaker: H.E. Mr Ibrahim Ahmed Abd al-Aziz Ghandour, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament

No gendered language.

Country: Swaziland

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/swaziland>

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini, Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Protection; Participation; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“According to the UN Charter, the UN mission is to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small”

Country: Sweden

<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/sweden>

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Margot Wallström Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Participation; Peace Processes; Disarmament; Protection

Extract of statement:

“As a government proudly pursuing a feminist foreign policy, we call for a true shift in the way we approach global gender equality work. Of course, UN Women has a key role. But so do we, as member states. It is ultimately our task to enhance rights, representation and resources for women and girls all around the world. To increase women's participation in peace processes; secure protection against gender-based violence in humanitarian crises; and strengthen women's political and economic empowerment. The UN can lead the way.”

“By improving the gender balance in the UN system and having a gender-responsive budget of its own - not only recommending it to national governments. By using gender-disaggregated data when dealing with matters of peace and conflict, including in the Security Council - not only advising it for national action plans on 1325.”

“We bring our foreign policy perspectives with us to execute this assignment: preventing armed conflict, sustaining peace, the necessity of including women in peace processes, and an understanding of security that stresses the links to sustainable development. Swedish foreign policy rests firmly on international law, respect for human rights, gender equality and a humanitarian perspective.”

“More than 50 years of conflict. Hundreds of thousands killed. Millions on the run. Let us pay our respects to the victims. Let us welcome the peace agreement. But let us also remember what is unique about this agreement. The architects were not only the government and the guerrilla. Victims of the conflict, women's organisations and civil society were also involved. Peace does not come about because it is printed in a headline. It happens step by step.”

Country: Switzerland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/switzerland>)

Speaker: H.E. Johan Schneider-Ammann, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response

No gendered language.

Country: the Syrian Arab Republic

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/syrian-arab-republic>)

Speaker: H. E. Mr. Walid Al-Moualem Deputy Prime Minister Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: Tajikistan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/tajikistan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Sirodjidin Aslov, Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Protection; Peace Processes; Conflict Prevention

No gendered language.

Country: Thailand

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/thailand>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Peacekeeping; Peace Processes

Extract of statement:

“Every man and woman, boy and girl, must be granted with opportunities and basic rights in an equitable and non-discriminatory manner.”

“Moreover, the Government places high importance to the freedom, equality and well-being of people, as well as inclusive and equitable access to basic services. [...] A new legislation on gender equality to promote women's rights has been enacted.”

Country: the Democratic Republic of Timor Leste

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/timor-leste>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Rui Maria de Araújo, Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Participation

Extract of statement:

“While a symbol of the ideals of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, worked for a safer world, for women and youth, for Sustainable development, and to add relevance to the role of prevention. This is an opportune moment for change, based on the experience that we have accumulated and on the recommendations included in the reports on Peacekeeping Operations, Peacebuilding Architecture, and Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, Promoting intergovernmental coherence, and strengthening the Peacebuilding Commission and partnerships for its maintenance are some recommendations that will provide improvements to the United Nations system.”

Country: Togo

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/togo>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Kokou Kpayedo, Permanent Representative

Date: September 26, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; General Women, Peace and Security; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract of statement:

“We implement infrastructure, diverse economy, business, and the promotion of youth and women entrepreneurship”

“Our belief is that the SDGs should enable us to make the world give priority to the most vulnerable groups, that are women, youth, and children, and people affected by conflict and disaster”

Country: Tonga

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/tonga>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Samiuela ‘Akilisi Pohiva, Prime Minister

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

No gendered language.

Country: Trinidad and Tobago

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/trinidad-and-tobago>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Denis Moses, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights, disarmament, participation

Extract of statement:

“Since 2010, Trinidad and Tobago introduced and sponsored General Assembly resolution "Women, Disarmament, Nonproliferation and Arms Control" encouraging women's participation in all disarmament, nonproliferation and arms control decision-making processes at the local, regional and national levels.”

“The thrust of the 2030 Agenda for global transformation whereby no one is left behind, calls for action to enhance the quality of life of all segments of society including those groups who are systematically marginalised. Among those groups, I include women, girls and the differently abled who have historically been denied equitable access to opportunity and mobility that would ensure their-participation in society as equal partners with men and the enhancement not only of their own quality of life and happiness, but also that of the family, community and Society as a whole.”

“It is deeply regrettable that in many parts of the world women and girls, and the differently abled continue to be denied fundamental human rights and freedoms, are not equally paid for equal work as men, and are systematically prevented from obtaining an education and reaching their full potential as human beings and as citizens.”

“It has been a longstanding position of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, which has enacted several laws, policies and other measures to promote and strengthen the role of women and girls in society, and their overall contribution to national development.”

Country: Tunisia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/tunisia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Béji Caïd Essebsi, President of the Kingdom of Tunisia

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Participation

Extract from statement:

“The establishment of a government of a National Union, headed by a young leader at the head of the government with robust participation of women as well, which confirms our intention to allow young people and women to assume an important role in this democratic experience.”

Country: Turkey

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/turkey>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Peacekeeping; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights

Extract from statement:

“In Syria, Iraq, and many countries suffering in the grip of terrorism and war, hundreds of thousands of children, women, young and elderly continue to be killed.”

Country: Turkmenistan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/turkmenistan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Rashid Meredov, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: 22 September 2016

Themes: None

No gendered language.

Country: Tuvalu

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/tuvalu>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Enele Sosene Sopoaga, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Human Rights

Extract from statement:

“On peace and security, we applaud the work of the UN on many fronts and encourage further work to find long-lasting solutions to the long drawn conflicts in Syria, Ukraine, and other troubled spots of the world.”

“It is vitally important that we address gender inequalities and ensure the rights of people with disabilities.”

Country: Uganda

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/uganda>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: General Women, peace and Security; Human Rights

Extract from Statement:

“Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.”

"Nevertheless, there is no harm in singling out and highlighting this problem of the pseudo-ideology that exploits identities of people (religion, tribe, gender, etc.)."

Country: United Arab Emirates

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/united-arab-emirates>)

Speaker: His Highness Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Protection; Displacement and Humanitarian Response

Extract from statement:

“This belief is paired with practical policies which are built on the conviction that true development does not only involve economic development, but also puts investment in people at the forefront based on the principles of tolerance, acceptance of the other, and equality among all, without discrimination between men and women. The empowerment of women has become a central policy in our country because of our belief in their pioneering societal role, their active contributions to generation-building, and their success in doing so.”

Country: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/united-kingdom-great-britain-and-northern-ireland>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Theresa May, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; General Women, Peace and Security

Extracts from statement:

“Tackling horrific abuses such as female genital mutilation and the use of sexual violence in conflict.”

“when criminal gangs do not respect our borders- trafficking our fellow citizens into lives of slavery and servitude.”

“I am setting up the first ever government taskforce for modern slavery, bringing together every relevant department to co-ordinate and drive all our efforts in the battle (...). We are also using our aid budget to create a dedicated fund focused on high risk countries where we know victims are regularly trafficked to the UK. The first £5m from this fund to work in Nigeria to reduce the vulnerability of potential victims and step up the fight against those who seek to profit from this crime.”

“We will continue to champion the rights of women and girls.”

Country: Ukraine

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/ukraine>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Petro Poroshenko, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: General Women Peace and Security

Extract From statement:

“We keep on working to fulfil our commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level, in particular those related to ensuring healthy environment and sustainable energy supply, promoting gender equality, and fighting corruption.”

Country: the United Republic of Tanzania

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/tanzania>)

Speaker: H.E. Dr. Augustine Philip Mahiga, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Participation

Extract of statement:

“Mr. President; gender equality and women’s empowerment has now become an enduring theme of mankind’s pursuit for equality and justice, a scale for measuring social progress, and an important goal in realising sustainable Development. Women’s political and economic participation in leadership roles and decision making strengthens democracy, equality and the economy. This is the essence of Goal 5. Moreover, while women’s empowerment and full participation in society are important goals in themselves, they are vital for reducing poverty, achieving universal education, improving maternal and child health, and fulfilling other development goals. Economic empowerment is also a strategic tool to expand women’s political participation and leadership. Without the capacity to generate their own incomes, women face considerable barriers to reaching the higher levels of education, health care and the autonomy to participate in politics. Collectively, and universally, women represent more than half of human resource, potential skills and talents available to humankind. Tanzania is committed to promoting women empowerment at all levels. We are striving to engage more women in formal sectors through capacity building programs and advocacy. We have removed discriminatory laws and policies to empower women including reforming our land laws to permit inheritance and equal access to land for all.

Tanzania has continued to take actions to ensure more representation of women in decision making. During the 2010 general elections 126 women were elected whereas 2015 elections the number increased to 142 which constitutes 36.9 percent of all parliamentarians. It was during the 2015 elections that, President Magufuli elected the first ever woman Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania which happened to be me. This reaffirms my country’s determination to see more women on key decision making positions and to continue scaling up these initiatives in Tanzania women empowerment is now owned by the women themselves. Mr. President; Goal 16 of the SDGs recognises that corruption undermines efforts to combat poverty and gender inequality.”

“In addition, Tanzania wishes to reaffirm the decision of the AU Summit during its 27th Ordinary Session held in July 2016 that, the election of the SG should respect geographical rotational principle and take into account gender balance.”

“Additionally, the education policy and strategy aim at reaching specific vulnerable and marginalised populations, including girls, women and the disabled.”

Country: United States of America

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/united-states-america>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Barack Obama, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Conflict Prevention; Justice, Rule of Law and Security Sector Reform; Disarmament

Extract from statement:

“But because of our democratic Constitution, because of our Bill of Rights, because of our ideals, ordinary people were able to organize, and march, and protest, and ultimately, those ideals won out -- opened doors for women and minorities and workers in ways that made our economy more productive and turned our diversity into a strength [...]” “Surely, we can sustain our unique traditions while giving women their full and rightful role in the politics and economics of a nation.” “Because in the eyes of innocent men and women and children who, through no fault of their own, have had to flee everything that they know, everything that they love, we have to have the empathy to see ourselves.”

Country: Uruguay

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/uruguay>)

Speaker: H.E Mr. Tabare Vazquez, President of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: Uzbekistan

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/uzbekistan>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Kamilov. Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Peace process

No gendered language.

Country: Vanuatu

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/vanuatu>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas, Prime Minister

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Disarmament; Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Participation

Extract of statement:

“Gender equality as well as education and health are all priorities for our region.”

“The inclusion of vulnerable groups, people with special needs, girls and women are important priority for my government. The policy of my government is also to make sure that we have inclusive economic growth.”

“The evil of sexual violence against women and girls is still a major challenge and we must make sure that women play a greater role in decision making and establishing policies. My government is taking steps in order to do this.”

Country: Venezuela

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/venezuela>)

Speaker: H.E. Ms. Delcy Eloína Rodríguez Gómez, Minister for Foreign Affairs

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Displacement and Humanitarian Response; Human Rights; Protection

Extract of statement:

“The dramatic images of children, women and men seeking to cross the Mediterranean reflects the seriousness of the armed conflict.”

Country: Viet Nam

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/viet-nam>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Pham Binh Minh. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Date: September 24, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.

Country: Yemen

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/yemen>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Abdrah Mansour Hadi Mansour, President of Yemen

Date: September 23, 2016

Themes: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence; Disarmament; Human Rights

Extract of statement:

“The Deputy President and the government used its forces in the liberated provinces, and now this destructive project, led by Iran through mercenaries in Yemen in the books of men are paid today by coup grudges revenge against our people and the payment of children and women to the fronts of death is without conscience and inhuman.”

“Yemen extends our hand to everyone to build a new Yemen, and despite what caused the revolutionary project of the severe damage to the political, social, economic and cultural level, we are still look at them as a class. Yemeni sex workers must return to the right nor expropriate the right in the future, we are still looking for a decent living and secure life for all Yemenis.”

Country: the Republic of Zambia

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/zambia>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President

Date: September 20, 2016

Themes: Human Rights; Participation; General Women, Peace and Security

Extract of statement:

“Zambia has made efforts towards strengthening the legal framework for gender equity and equality by enacting the Gender Equity and Equality Act of 2015. This progressive law has effectively domesticated the Convention of the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Protocol on the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights of Women in Africa; and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Protocol on Gender and Development.”

“I was further humbled in 2015 to have been conferred with the title of Promoter for the “He for She” campaign, by the UN Women movement for gender equality in recognition for the role Zambia has played in the area of women empowerment. This signifies the special attention and efforts that Zambia has continued to render to issues of empowerment of women and the youth to promote inclusive and sustainable growth. [...] To address some of the challenges faced by women, we need support towards the creation of lines of credit for women empowerment programmes, skills development, employment creation, poverty reduction, and technical assistance in fostering environmentally friendly agricultural methods.”

“Some of the deliberate measures my government has taken include promoting women participation in the area of commerce, trade and industry”.

Country: Zimbabwe

(<https://gadebate.un.org/en/71/zimbabwe>)

Speaker: H.E. Mr. Mugabe, President

Date: September 21, 2016

Themes: Peace Processes

No gendered language.