

Reports - Beijing Platform for Action - Strategic Objectives

Women and Poverty

- Review, adopt and maintain macroeconomic policies and development strategies that address the needs and efforts of women in poverty;
- Revise laws and administrative practices to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources;
- Provide women with access to savings and credit mechanisms and institutions;
- Develop gender-based methodologies and conduct research to address the feminization of poverty.

Education and Training of Women

- Ensure equal access to education;
- Eradicate illiteracy among women;
- Improve women's access to vocational training, science, and technology and continuing education;
- Develop non-discriminatory education and training;
- Allocate sufficient resources for and monitor the implementation of educational reforms;
- Promote lifelong education and training for girls and women.

Women and Health

- Increase women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate affordable and quality health care, information and related services;
- Strengthen preventive programmes that promote women's health;
- Undertake gender-sensitive initiatives that address sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, and sexual and reproductive health issues;
- Promote research and disseminate information on women's health;
- Increase resources and monitor follow-up for women's health.

Violence Against Women

- Take integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women;
- Study the causes and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of preventive measures;
- Eliminate trafficking in women and assist victims of violence due to prostitution and trafficking.

Women and Armed Conflict

- Increase the participation of women in conflict resolution at decision-making levels and protect women living in situation of armed conflicts or under foreign occupation;
- Reduce excessive military expenditures and control the availability of armaments;

- Promote non-violent forms of conflict resolution and reduce the incidence of human rights abuse in conflict situations;
- Promote women's contributions to fostering a culture of peace;
- Provide protection, assistance and training to refugee women in need of international protection and internally displaced women;
- Provide assistance to the women of the colonies and non-self-governing territories.

Women and the Economy

- Promote women's economic rights and independence, including access to employment and appropriate working conditions and control over economic resources;
- Facilitate women's equal access to resources, employment, markets and trade;
- Provide business services, training and access to markets, information and technology, particularly to low-income women;
- Strengthen women's economic capacity and commercial networks;
- eliminate occupational and all forms of employment discrimination;
- Promote harmonization of work and family responsibilities for women and men.

Women in Power and Decision-Making

- Take measures to ensure women's equal access to and full participation in power structures and decision-making;
- Increase women's capacity to participate in decision-making and leadership.

Institutional Mechanism for the Advancement of Women

- Create or strengthen national machineries and other government bodies;
- Integrate gender perspectives in legislation, public policies, programmes and projects;
- Generate and disseminate gender-disaggregated data and information for planning and evaluation.

Human Rights of Women

- Promote and protect the human rights of women, through the full implementation of all human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
- Ensure equality and non-discrimination under the law and in practice;
- Achieve legal literacy.

Women and the Media

- Increase the participation and access of women to expression and decision-making in and through the media and new technologies of communication;
- Promote a balanced and non-stereotypes portrayal of women in the media.

Women and the Environment

- Involve women actively in environmental decision-making at all levels;
- Integrate gender concerns and perspectives in policies and programmes for sustainable development;
- Strengthen or establish mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels to assess the impact of development and environmental policies on women.

The Girl Child

- Eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child;
- Eliminate negative, cultural attitudes and practices against girls;
- Promote and protect the rights of the girl child and increase awareness of her needs and potential;
- Eliminate discrimination against girls in education, skills development and training;
- Eliminate discrimination against girls in health and nutrition;
- Eliminate the economic exploitation of child labour and protect young girls at work;
- Eradicate violence against the girl child;
- Promote the girl child's awareness of and participation in social, economic and political life;
- Strengthen the role of the family in improving status of the girl child.

Source: NGLS Roundup, November 1995.