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17th Session

**Agenda Item: Promoting Women's Contribution to Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)
Towards Building Sustainable Peace and Resilience**

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
Integrating Women in Political Decision-Making and Peace-Building Processes

The United Nations Women Executive Board,

Recognizing that access to disaster preparedness education, emergency response training, and leadership development enables women and girls to contribute more effectively to community resilience and disaster risk reduction and community resilience,

Reaffirming the importance of integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate resilience education into formal education systems to foster a culture of preparedness from an early age,

Acknowledging the crucial role of capacity building and adequate access to disaster education for women in enhancing women's leadership while also managing DRR effectively, as emphasized in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,

Guided by the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and particularly for Sustainable Development, particularly Sustainable Development Goals 4 about Quality Education, 5 about Gender Equality, 11 about Sustainable Cities and Communities, and 13 about Climate Action, recognizing the importance of gender-responsive DRR, inclusive education, and accessible Early Warning Systems (EWS) strengthens community resilience and reduces disaster risks for women and girls,

Expressing deep concern that, despite the recognized global necessity of women's involvement in the design and development of EWS, women's participation rates are 10% to 19% and remain critically low by global standards according to the UN,

Deeply concerned that disasters are not gender neutral and women have limited access to education and personal agency, also, women remain underrepresented in decision-making for DRR despite having essential knowledge and experiences for DRR and recovery processes,

Considering that women remain underrepresented in disaster decision-making, and Community-Based Early Warning Systems (CBEWS) often fail to reach women in rural areas, UN Women reported that women comprised just 34% of the heads of delegation at the 2025 United Nations Climate Change Conference “COP30”, UN Women must strengthen CBEWS,

Alarmed by the lack of access to the internet and communication tools, problems especially affect women, with circumstances,

Deeply concerned that disaster-prone areas continue to suffer disproportionate social and economic losses resulting from natural disasters, and the recognition of the fact that women and girls often face increased vulnerability during and after disasters,

Acknowledging the effect that a disaster can have on a community’s agency and ability to support its women and girls, communities must serve as a logistics hub to spread awareness and distribute disaster resources through Member States when the local government is unwilling,

Emphasizing that integrating gender-inclusive economic development with disaster resilience requires a dual approach of secure individual rights and dedicated local financial mobilization, this is because women’s socio-economic status determines their vulnerability in the run-up to a disaster,

Reaffirming the vital role of women not merely as vulnerable groups, but as essential first responders, community leaders and key decision-makers in DRR, while noting with concern that women accounted for only 7% of negotiators worldwide in 2024, highlighting their persistent underrepresentation in leadership and decision-making processes and the fact that women make up less than 25% of national-level response committees,

Recalling that women are empowered to make independent decisions regarding disaster preparedness, response, and recovery without the approval or authorization of others, while noting that women’s participation in peace-building processes is only 9.6% in 2023, and 90% of women’s organizations are affected by reduced global financial support in 2025, also noting that only 27.5% of women are members of parliament in the world in 2026,

1. *Encourages* cooperation among Member States and UN Women to develop community-based education programs on climate resilience and emergency preparedness, with particular emphasis on training women and girls in disaster response, evacuation procedures, first aid, and risk awareness, including, but not limited to:
 - a. Promoting periodic disaster preparedness workshops in community centers;
 - b. Providing appropriate first-aid and emergency response training through local healthcare providers and disaster management agencies or other relevant competent authorities;

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- c. Organizing periodic community-wide evacuation drills and disaster simulation exercises to strengthen emergency response capabilities;
 - d. Providing resources to assist the marginalized communities during disasters in order to protect themselves, as well as providing leadership training programs to women during the recovery process;
 - e. Requesting Member States and/or local authorities, where appropriate, to create community evacuation maps including accessible and digital formats, where appropriate, to help citizens identify the nearest shelters and access emergency services in their area;
 2. *Encourages* Member States to integrate DRR and climate resilience education into formal education, where appropriate and according to national circumstances and available resources, by:
 - a. Considering the incorporation of age-appropriate DRR education into national primary and secondary school curricula;
 - b. Promoting periodic school-based disaster preparedness drills where feasible to strengthen emergency response readiness;
 - c. Providing teachers with continuous professional development opportunities and locally appropriate teaching resources and materials;
 - d. Promoting equal participation of girls in school-based emergency preparedness activities and leadership opportunities through inclusive training, mentorship, and awareness programs;
 3. *Invites* the governments of Member States, UN Women, women's organizations, NGOs, and community leaders to assist the disaster-vulnerable areas to work with women, especially those living in disaster areas, educated by Training of Trainers (ToT) workshops on DRR to ensure training programs are culturally appropriate and accessible by:
 - a. Creating workshops where a small group of women who are in charge of their local communities in rural areas are focused and carefully trained, hence becoming the trainers and expanding disaster-related training in their own communities;
 - b. Focusing on not only domestic workshops to reinforce indigenous knowledge of disaster but also expanding them on a global scale to share the knowledge or technology;
 - c. Dispatching professional advisors in ToT workshops to provide technical knowledge to make them effective for women's participation in DRR processes;
 - d. Encouraging local organizations to use social media platforms, official websites, and/or publications like posters and banners to encourage women to participate in workshops;

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- e. Asking the governments of Member States to create training programs that not only teach about how to escape or protect themselves, but also train them to operate technologies such as gender-responsive EWS to prevent loss;
 - f. Suggesting that the governments of Member States and international cooperators assist in funding to create the workshops;
4. *Encourages* Member States, UN Women, educational institutions, and civil society organizations to strengthen women's participation in DRR by:
- a. Promoting inclusive disaster preparedness education, leadership development, and community-based resilience programs, in accordance with the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015–2030 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to build resilient communities and promote sustainable peace;
 - b. Encourages Member States to integrate women into national and local DRR planning and decision-making processes;
 - c. Requesting educational institutions, in cooperation with UN Women, to provide disaster preparedness, disaster risk awareness, and leadership education for women and girls, particularly in disaster-prone areas;
 - d. Supporting the implementation of evacuation plans and gender-responsive emergency shelters that address the specific needs of women and girls;
 - e. Inviting UN Women to monitor the implementation of gender-responsive DRR policies and encourage Member States to share best practices and voluntarily report annual progress;
 - f. Further inviting UN Women to monitor the implementation of these initiatives, facilitate the exchange of best practices among Member States, and publish annual progress reports on progress toward achieving the Sendai Framework and the SDGs, including reports on women's participation in disaster resilience and sustainability;
5. *Encourages* Member States to increase the participation of women in the design and development of EWS by:
- a. Expanding Official Development Assistance (ODA) projects on EWS, especially disaster-vulnerable committees using successful models like Weather and Climate Information Service (WISER);
 - b. Encouraging developed Member States to coordinate financial contributions and technical expertise through ODA funding and technical support, considering that ODA projects are funded by developed countries for developing countries;
 - c. Co-creating EWS strategies with local women's organizations, community leaders, and civil society groups from the planning stage to ensure relevance, safety, and accessibility;
6. *Encourages* Member States to promote women's contribution to DRR by:

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- a. Supporting developing countries through Information and Communication Technology assistance and knowledge-sharing initiatives to enhance women's participation and leadership in DRR efforts and promote community resilience;
 - b. Strengthening data collection systems through the use of Sex, Age, and Disability-Disaggregated Data (SADDD) to address limited access for women in DRR policymaking, setting education programs, and capacity-building initiatives to actively contribute to DRR strategies;
 - c. Requiring UNDRR to collect information from people living in disaster-struck areas to achieve a better understanding of what they need for inclusive and sustainable resilience;
 7. *Emphasizes* to all Member States the necessity of upgrading technical skills to access risk information, especially where access is limited by:
 - a. Strengthening communication channels such as CBEWS to ensure timely and accessible dissemination of hazard information to all members of the community, including women, persons with disabilities, and rural populations;
 - b. Recommending Member States equip the local authorities to provide emergency responses, such as hazard maps for rural areas to have less damage during disasters, like climate change;
 8. Requests Member States improve the communication systems through which women receive important information, as well as facilitating the distribution of resources such as shelter, food, and aid through ODA by:
 - a. Suggesting Member States establish a system of technical training by people from developed countries for women to understand how to use digital devices by 2035, to achieve more women's contribution towards the DRR sector to prevent and mitigate droughts and floods;
 - b. Recommending Member States to expand the places where people can use the network smoothly and every single person has access to the internet, such as Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) by 2040;
 9. *Requests* all Member States to take these actions to achieve more sustainable peace and resilience under the disaster situation by:
 - a. Suggesting Member States strengthen cooperation with international organizations such as UN Women, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the World Bank for disaster-prone areas and for Women-led disaster prevention organizations, and expresses its hope that this cooperation leads to inclusive support, such as economic stability and sustainable recovery, by these international organizations;

- b. Recommending Member States to implement support systems and frameworks eliminating the gender gap; further reminds the importance of available support and opportunities, including economic preparedness for disaster risks and to recovery from disaster effects for all;
 - c. Calling upon Member States to strengthen disaster preparedness policies by increasing women's participation in DRR and ensuring equal access to resources for risk reduction and recovery;
10. *Encourages* Member States to support communities in cases where regular governmental distribution mechanisms are unable to deliver assistance effectively, to provide support directly to verified local women-led organizations and humanitarian NGOs, and to limit logistical barriers when transporting aid resources, which can be achieved by:
- a. Recommending that UN Women create a process to determine whether a country is willing and able to accept aid to be used during a disaster by:
 - i. Acknowledging that Member States should distribute disaster aid to vulnerable and attacked communities;
 - ii. Encouraging Member States to provide aid to vulnerable or persecuted communities;
 - b. Supporting Member States in developing gender-specific and community-based logistics programs to ensure the arrival and distribution of international aid, without being stopped by bureaucracy or corruption; this can be achieved by:
 - i. Encouraging Member States with large industrial capacities to fund and replenish these logistics programs; stockpiling and distributing necessary resources in a disaster, such as menstrual health and hygiene products, maternal health kits, and other emergency materials recommended by UNDRR;
 - ii. Calling upon States who have the ability to facilitate unproven pilot programs targeted towards women; supporting one community allows them to serve as a distribution hub that can be used to scale this policy to surrounding communities if it successfully benefits women;
 - iii. Recommending that the governments of industrialized countries, as well as private entities and organizations such as the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) who already provide menstrual health kits distributed during disasters, provide international aid to vulnerable populations and regions;
 - c. Reminding developed States that it is possible to provide disaster readiness resources and EWS without needing to allocate complex and expensive

technology and resources to every citizen, also, establishing community hubs such as health, information, and resource centers would allow for an efficient response during times of disaster, made possible by:

- i. Implementing earthquake preparedness systems and sensors from earthquake-prone industrialized nations;
- ii. Streamlining telehealth access for doctors and specifically female healthcare professionals for patients to utilize if local doctors are unknowledgeable or inaccessible;
- iii. Distributing supplies such as emergency generators or solar panels that can continue working even if the regional and national power grid and other utilities are damaged or unavailable;

11. *Supports* the integration of Gender-Inclusive economic Development and DRR into financial sectors so as to collect funding

- a. Encouraging developed countries, alongside recipient countries to jointly fund these initiatives by developing their inclusive economies and allocating an appropriate portion of their national budgets and regional economic revenues directly to enhancing overall disaster risk resilience;
- b. Suggesting the UN to assist Member States in enacting robust commercial and property legislation that judicially protects women's private property and income, thereby ensuring their financial independence, gender-based discrimination, and strengthening their institutional voice, to increase women's resilience to disasters by strengthening their economic capacity;

12. *Encourages* developed nations to assist other Member States in a position to build inclusive economies that empower women leaders, in particular by developing women-led micro and small enterprises in remote areas and by promoting secondary income-generating activities in the rural sector to increase women's individual sources of income;

13. *Encourages* Member States to increase women's participation in disaster management through leadership training and equal representation in decision-making by:

- a. Focusing on leadership training and capacity-building programmes for women, implemented by national governments in cooperation with UN Women and relevant NGOs;
- b. Promoting equal representation of women in national and local disaster management committees, including leadership and policy-making processes, through measures adopted by national governments and local authorities;
- c. Promoting mentorship programmes and equal access to decision-making positions in DRR, while encouraging cooperation between governments, civil society and international organisations;

14. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen women's independent decision-making through education and leadership programmes related to DRR by:
- a. Focusing on Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) in leadership programmes which is expected to realize disaster-resilient agriculture and steady food security after the crises;
 - b. Creating a safe environment for girls and women to facilitate their access to education that not only helps their futures, but also helps their communities to improve disaster issues;
 - c. Establishing a national mentoring network that connects young women with established female leaders in politics and civil society through cooperation between government ministries and women's rights NGOs.