STRATEGY FOR IMPACT:
ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIP

6-17 MARCH 2023
CSW67
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE
EDUCATION IN THE DIGITAL AGE
Progress toward gender equality

Prepared by Carolyn Handschin
President

1973 -2023
NGO
CSW
Geneva
50 years of advocacy for women and girls

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW)

STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIPS

"The ultimate success of these Agreed Conclusions lies beyond their finalization today, in how we will collectively take them forward. They bring us a vision of a more equal world. Let us translate them into reality for all women and girls."

Ms. Sima Sami Bahous
Executive Director
UN Women

CSW GENEVA MEMBERS IN NY
ON THE EVE OF THE OPENING OF CSW67
AND AT THE OPENING CEREMONY

THE CSW67 THEMES

Priority theme: "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls".

Review theme: "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls"

(Agreed Conclusions of the 62nd CSW)

NGO CSW GENEVA :**Breakfast Briefing** with Ambassadors, UN Women, CEDAW (Feb 8)

PRE CSW67 MEETING
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Some excerpts

- Girls are to be **given special support** in digital technologies at **school** to close the digital Gender Gap.

- **Access to tech** It was noted that in rural areas globally, school enrollment fluctuates in boys' 46% and girls' 38%, but girls may drop out due to expectations at home and issues of feminine hygiene.

- Participants highlighted the issues of online sexual harassment and abuse, virtual stalking, and gender-based violence and called for **international recommendations on online gender-based violence.**

Breakfast Briefing with Ambassadors (con't)

- **Access to digital technology** is available to a large majority for women and girls in developed countries. However, access is more difficult in developing countries due to a lack of infrastructure, such as electricity.

- All participants found it problematic that the **STEM field** is dominated by men and that there are too few women...and in social professions, too few men.

- **Stereotypes** make it difficult for women and girls to access digital technologies.

- **Female role models** are scarce and should be encouraged so that more girls enter STEM professions.

Breakfast Briefing on CSW67 theme:
Vieux Bois Restaurant: 14 Ambassadors, UN Women,
CEDAW and 6 NGO leaders

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR "ZERO DRAFT"
NGO CSW GLOBAL "ADVOCACY RESEARCH GROUP"*

- Provide digital fluency skills

- Develop international guidelines to address risks to dignity of women and girls

- Ensure access to infrastructure, electricity, rural, design that respects all Enhance development assistance, improve finance and partnership

- Engage with girls and young women in development of policies and programs for STEM education, addressing unequal gender norms

* 2 NGO CSW Geneva members

- Girls are the world's future leading force in technology and innovation, intersectoral collaboration to prevent the digital revolution from leaving them behind, needing:

- Promote policies to influence from within, educate, encourage youth to become developers, designers, coders. Importance of mentoring

- Deep investment in communities and families so that learning and IT does not involve risks to women and girls' safety. Counter negative social norms. Awareness campaign, Involve men and boys.

- Channeling flexible resources to CSOs as they advocate for change, esp in humanitarian crises

- Promote policies in STEM and IT fields, allowing more women / girls access. advocacy for distance learning.

- Public/ private collaboration for zero tolerance to Violence ag Women and Girls, esp as it is multiplied through internet

- Young women's ensured access to digital platforms as tools for expression and political participation, leadership

- Support for government/ UN developed apps for early childhood education and discovering new learning styles, trainings, esp in rural areas

- 90 % new jobs require digital skills, government and private sector deliver services digitally. Reduce gender gap in internet access.

CSW 67 CONSULTATION DAY

"Geneva- Heart of Human Rights & Service to Humanity"

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

4:00- 6:30 pm CET

10:00- 12:30 EST

Interactive Sessions & Panels on:
Technology and Education,
Rural Women and Girls,
Women 's Empowerment during Multiple
Intersecting Crises.
Prominent speakers from NGO's and youth,
UN Women, ITU, WHO, UNICEF,
Governments.
Outcome "Actions for CSW67"
http://bit.ly/NGOCSWGConsultationDay

FEBRUARY
28
2023

**NGO COMMITTEE ON
THE STATUS OF WOMEN-GENEVA**

SPEAKERS AND FACILITATORS: (partial)
Ambassador Samoa, ITU, UNICEF. UNWOMEN,
CERN, Youth NGO (2), Experts & CSO leaders

The GUIDE: AGREED CONCLUSIONS CSW67

Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls

CSW67 Agreed Conclusions

1. The Commission on the Status of Women reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declarations adopted by the Commission on the occasion of the tenth, fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and stresses the need to further strengthen their implementation.

2. The Commission reiterates that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocols thereto, as well as other relevant conventions and treaties, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families provide an international legal framework and a comprehensive set of measures for realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all women and girls, throughout their life course.

3. The Commission reaffirms that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of its reviews, and the outcomes of relevant major United Nations conferences and summits and the follow-up to those conferences and summits, have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action will make a crucial contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

86. The Commission urges governments at all levels and as appropriate, with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and bearing in mind national priorities, and invites civil society, inter alia, women's organizations, youth-led organizations, feminist groups, faith-based organizations, the private sector and national human rights institutions, where they exist, and other relevant stakeholders, as applicable, **to take the following actions**:

"THE GUIDE: AGREED CONCLUSIONS CSW67

1. *Prioritizing digital equity to close the gender digital divide*

2. *Leveraging financing for inclusive digital transformation and innovation towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls*

3. *Fostering gender-responsive digital and science and technology education in the digital age*

4. *Promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership as well as full employment of women in technology and innovation*

"THE GUIDE: AGREED CONCLUSIONS CSW67

5. *Adopting gender-responsive technology design, development and deployment*

6. *Strengthening fairness, transparency and accountability in the digital age*

7. *Preventing and eliminating all forms of violence, including gender-based violence that occurs through or is amplified by the use of technologies*

8. *Enhancing data science to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls*

PREPARING FOR CSW68 (2024) WITH YOUR GOVERNMENTS

Priority theme:

Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by <u>addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing</u> with a gender perspective;

Review theme:

Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions of the 63rd session)