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THE IMPORTANCE OF STATISTICS DISAGGREGATED BY SEX AND INDICATORS FOR GENDER EQUALITY

**Paper submitted by the
United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women¹**

Introduction

The collection of data disaggregated by sex and the establishment of indicators to monitor progress and achievements on international commitments is a backbone for analyzing the status of women in different societies. International conferences and human rights treaty bodies have over and over again highlighted the importance of accurate, reliable and timely data and indicators for policy analysis and monitoring.

Progress has been made in the compilation of gender statistics and in setting up indicators for international comparisons. However, basic data are still not provided in some vital areas due to the complexity of the task or lack of definition of what is required for national and in particular international monitoring.

This presentation introduces the main recommendations related to statistics and indicators as agreed at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Platform for Action, Beijing 1995) and the Special Session of the General Assembly on Beijing +5 (June 2000). It reflects on the actions that have taken place at national and international level in the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and identifies gaps which need further attention. It also introduces the work of the Committee on the Elimination of

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Discrimination against Women and its requests for presentation of more data in the reports by States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women.

I. Recommendations on gender statistics and indicators for gender equality

The Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995) adopted a number of recommendations related to gender statistics and indicators for gender equality in its Platform for Action.² The Special Session of the General Assembly on Beijing +5, organized 5 years after the Conference to monitor progress achieved and remaining obstacles in the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (June 2000) added further recommendations which in some cases extended beyond the Platform.³

Recommendations can be grouped into the following areas:

- Collection of data: The Platform suggests to collect, compile, analyze and present on a regular basis data disaggregated by age, sex, socio-economic and other relevant indicators (PfA, para. 206 (b)) and to promote the further development of statistical methods to improve data that relate to women in economic, social, cultural and political development (PfA, para. 208 (b)). Reference is also made to short- and long-term time-bound targets and measurable goals, and follow-up mechanisms to assess progress. (Beijing+5, para. 64)
- Support to statistical offices: It is suggested to encourage and support the development of national capacity in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition by providing resources and technical assistance (PfA, para. 209); international cooperation should support regional and national efforts in the development and use of gender-related analysis and statistics by, inter alia, providing national statistical offices with institutional and financial support (Beijing +5, para. 92 (a))
- Gender mainstreaming: Frameworks, guidelines and other practical tools and indicators should be used to accelerate gender mainstreaming (Beijing +5, para. 80)
- Women and economy/poverty: The Platform recommends to collect gender and age-disaggregated data on poverty and all aspects of economic activity and develop qualitative and quantitative statistical indicators to facilitate the assessment of economic performance from a gender perspective is highlighted (Pfa, para. 62 (a)). Of particular importance is the data collection on the full contribution of women and men to the economy, including their participation in the informal sector (PfA, para. 206 (e)).
- Violence against women: The Platform recommended the development of improved gender-disaggregated and age-specific data on the victims and perpetrators of all forms of violence against women (PfA, para. 206 (j)). The special session on Beijing+5 made more specific recommendations on violence against women, including the compilation and publication of crime statistics, and to monitor trends in law enforcement concerning violations of the rights of women and girls (Beijing +5, para. 77 (b)). It also suggested the development of an international consensus on indicators and ways to measure violence against women, and consider establishing a readily accessible database on statistics (Beijing +5, para 92 (b)).

² Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995, A/Conf. 177/20

³ Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, A/S-23/10/Rev.1

- Women and health: The Platform recommended the strengthening of vital statistical systems and data collection and analysis in order to improve data on morbidity; and improve data collection on access to health services (PfA, para. 206 (i)).
- Education: While under this critical areas of concern, several clear benchmarks are established, it is also recommended to make use of educational indicators generated by national, regional and international bodies to evaluate progress achieved ((PfA, para. 87 (a))
- Vulnerable groups of women: Reference is made in particular to data collection on women with disabilities (PfA, para. 206 (k)) and indigenous women (Beijing +5, para. 93 (d)).

II. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women at the national level

The Beijing Platform for Action suggested the preparation of implementation strategies or plans of action as one way to encourage and ensure follow-up, implementation and monitoring at the national level. As stated in the Platform and repeatedly underlined by intergovernmental bodies, ‘the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action rests primarily at the national level’ (PfA, para. 286) The importance of action and accountability at national level derives from there.

In follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women, 118 Member States prepared national action plans on the implementation of the Platform for Action starting in 1996. Many are limited to some critical areas of concern, reflecting regional differences and preferences. Many identified specific actions related to statistics and indicators. Although all critical areas of concern are covered, action plans tend to reflect national priorities. Reference to gender statistics and indicators for gender equality is made under the critical area “Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women”.⁴

An analysis of national action plans shows that that the momentum created by the Fourth World Conference on Women has been sustained at the national level in many countries. The preparatory process of action plans was an important event, and represented a milestone towards greater cooperation between various government ministries and civil society. Many national action plans contain information on the preparation process, and drew upon persons at the highest level of authority in Government and relevant actors in civil society. The drafting of a national plan was a process that mobilized efforts and commitments at many levels. National action plans were often elaborated in a nation wide dialogue and reflect the national context.

With regard to data and indicators, most national action plans refer to monitoring and evaluation. Only a few countries mention the availability of specific indicators, while several refer to the need to develop tools, methodologies and indicators. The national action plan of Zimbabwe, for instance, indicates that it has developed indicators for monitoring in all 12 critical areas of concern in order to monitor and evaluate progress achieved, identify bottlenecks and take appropriate corrective action.

Plans from all regions refer to actions concerning the collection and dissemination of statistics, information and research. Many plans focus on specific actions, including the establishment of information centres to collect, analyse and disseminate all types of information related to gender, conduct gender-based research, gather sex-disaggregated statistics and create data banks.

⁴ Report of the Secretary-General, Synthesized report on national action plans and strategies for implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, E/CN.6/1998/6

Examples:

- Australia's plan includes a comprehensive section on how to strengthen the collection and use of statistics. It indicates that technical advice is available on how to measure remunerated and unremunerated work in national and satellite accounts utilizing criteria developed by the Australian Agency for International Development.
- Mongolia plans to develop a national database on gender issues, including data on the employment of women and men in the formal and informal sectors, wages, time allocation between productive and household work, access to loans and poverty, which are to be reflected in national statistics.
- In Belarus, the establishment of a database on women in the public sector to be initiated by the Ministries of Defence and Statistics and other central administrative bodies during 1996-1997.
- China refers to the establishment of a national women's data bank and a classified women's statistical index in the state statistical system.
- Angola considers the collection and utilization of gender-disaggregated data as a strategic objective and wants to reinforce the capacity of the National Institute of Statistics to collect such data.⁵

III. Implementation at the national level

Completion and monitoring of national action plans constituted the basis for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action in the year 2000. National action plans served as a reference point for preparing reports on the implementation of the Platform at the national level. Ideally, action plans should have been the starting point for the assessment of policies and projects that have been successfully implemented or not, for policy declarations converted into concrete policies followed by actions or benchmarks met. However, due to the short time lap between the preparation of the national action plans (1996-1998) and the first review and appraisal (1999), in most cases the plans could not serve that purpose.

In preparation for the five-year-review and appraisal of the Platform for Action, Governments were asked to submit national reports on implementation and in response to a questionnaire. A total of 153 Member States National provided reports on implementation for the Special Session of the General Assembly in which they identified progress and remaining obstacles in these areas.⁶

As the responses from Governments indicate, progress in terms of reaching set benchmarks of women's status, including fertility rates, rates of infant and maternal mortality, immunization rates, women's literacy and school enrolment, has been uneven. Although these benchmarks showed improvements in many cases, there was also stagnation and even decline in some countries, particularly in those experiencing conflicts or political or economic transition. Even where women were most adversely impacted by such factors, there was growing recognition among Member States that the promotion of gender equality was essential to finding solutions to development challenges.

With regard to improvements in data collection, indicators and gender-related research, reports are uneven. Many Member States report efforts to fulfil the commitment to generate and disseminate sex-disaggregated data and information for planning and evaluation.

⁵ Report of the Secretary-General, Follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, E/CN.6/1999/2/Add.1

⁶ Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action on the basis of national reports, E/CN.6/2000/PC/2

Examples included:

- The national machinery of Kenya, in collaboration with the Central Bureau of Statistics, has established a sex-disaggregated database, with data on women's groups and statistical indicators on the status of women. Future plans include refinement of gender monitoring indicators and an evaluation framework.
- In Belarus, the Ministry of Statistics and Analysis and the Gender Information and Policy Centre are carrying out joint work on improving gender statistics, including training statisticians, broadening indicators, disaggregating data by sex and publishing a statistical collection entitled "Women and Men of Belarus".
- In the Republic of Moldova, the first statistical yearbook on "Women and Men of Moldova" has recently been published.
- In Belgium, efforts have been made since the Beijing Conference to improve data collection, including the disaggregation of data by sex. Various statistical compendia have been published, or are forthcoming.
- In Hungary, the national machinery collaborates with the Central Office of Statistics to incorporate a gender perspective in the collection and analysis of data.
- In Yemen, a "men and women statistics directorate" has been established within the Central Organization of Statistics to address gaps in the availability of sex-disaggregated data.

Several areas are identified where the lack of data is a serious obstacle to monitoring.

- Poverty: There is an almost complete absence of sex-disaggregated statistics on poverty. The importance and urgency of that problem are reflected in the future plans of many countries that are planning to conduct surveys and research projects and establish databases in order to receive more accurate information in that area so as to inform the policy makers.
- Violence: The dearth of data and statistics on the various forms of gender-based violence against women is also an obstacle to full implementation of the Platform for Action. Many States, including Botswana and Burkina Faso, indicate that violence against women is an under-reported area. Several States point to the lack of sex-disaggregated statistics, or indicate that the disaggregation of statistics by sex has been a recent phenomenon. Reasons for continued lack of evidence is given. Women fail to report incidents of abuse, because of shame or because of a mistaken view that such treatment is acceptable or is a private matter that should not be discussed publicly. Domestic violence is still considered to be a family matter in many States, and in a majority of countries sexual activity forced by a husband on his wife is not considered a criminal offence. In many countries, also, victims of sexual assault are stigmatized and frequently fail to report this violence. In others, victims may report violence but may then withdraw their allegations as a result of embarrassment or sometimes because of the threats of the perpetrators or of their families.
- Women in decision-making: The Beijing Platform for Action committed Governments to "review the differential impact of electoral systems on the political representation of women in elected bodies and consider, where appropriate, the adjustment or reform of those systems (para. 190 (d))". Although very few countries provided information in that respect, some attempted to introduce changes within the existing systems. El Salvador, for example, established the Central Consultative Gender Board in the Municipality of San Salvador. In Albania, a number of laws and amendments were enacted to guarantee a gender balance in electoral lists. Yemen amended its election law in 1998 to enhance women's participation in elections and created a women and statistics unit.

IV. Monitoring under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, is often described as an international bill of rights for women. Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles, it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. As of today, there are 165 States parties to the Convention. Countries that have ratified or acceded to the Convention are legally bound to put its provisions into practice. They are also committed to submit national reports, at least every four years, on measures they have taken to comply with their treaty obligations.

By accepting the Convention, States commit themselves to undertake a series of measures to end discrimination against women in all forms, including: to incorporate the principle of equality of men and women in their legal system, abolish all discriminatory laws and adopt appropriate ones prohibiting discrimination against women; to establish tribunals and other public institutions to ensure the effective protection of women against discrimination; and to ensure elimination of all acts of discrimination against women by persons, organizations or enterprises.

The United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), an expert body composed of 23 experts on women's issues from around the world, monitors the implementation of national measures to fulfil this obligation. The Committee's mandate is very specific: it watches over the progress for women made in those countries that are the States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and bases its recommendations on the periodic reports submitted for its consideration.

The Committee has adopted guidelines to help states prepare these reports. According to these guidelines, the initial report is intended to be a detailed and comprehensive description of the position of women in that country at the time of submission; it is meant to provide a benchmark against which subsequent progress can be measured. Second and subsequent national reports are intended to update the previous report, detailing significant developments that have occurred over the last four years, noting key trends, and identifying obstacles to the full achievement of the Convention. The Committee urges States parties to support its statements with data and indicator: "As far as possible, States parties should make efforts to provide all data disaggregated by sex in all areas covered by the Convention and the general recommendations of the Committee."⁷

The task to prepare periodic reports to the Committee is taunting for many States parties. It is a challenge for many to present the activities related to gender equality of a variety of ministries (interior, health, education, cooperation etc) into the report and integrate newest data.

The Committee also makes recommendations on any issue affecting women to which it believes the States parties should devote more attention. For example, at the 1989 session, the Committee discussed the high incidence of violence against women, requesting information on this problem from all countries. In 1992, the Committee adopted on general recommendation 19, which requires national reports to the Committee to include statistical data on the incidence of violence against women, information on the provision of services for victims, and legislative and other measures taken to protect women against violence in their everyday lives such as harassment at the workplace, abuse in the family and sexual violence.

⁷ Guidelines for preparation of reports by States Parties, CEDAW/C/7/Rev.3 of 26 July 1996

One more instrument was added recently. The Optional Protocol to the Convention, on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in October 1999, grants individuals and groups of women who have exhausted domestic remedies the right to submit petitions alleging violations of the Convention to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It also allows the Committee to conduct inquiries into abuses of women's human rights, including violations related to their right to health. Forty-three States parties to the Convention have signed the Optional Protocol. Italy ratified the Optional Protocol on 22 September, bringing the total number of ratification to the Optional Protocol to 10. With this recent ratification, the Optional Protocol will enter into force on 22 December 2000.

V. Integrated conference follow-up

The Fourth World Conference on Women cannot be seen in isolation from other major United Nations conferences and summits. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to these global conferences and summits is of particular concern to the international community and has been repeatedly highlighted by the Economic and Social Council. The need to establish basic indicators for integrated and coordinated implementation has resulted in the common country assessment (CCA) indicator framework, developed by the United Nations Development Group (UNDG).

Accurate, timely and unbiased information is crucial to sound public policy decisions. In particular, in the context of conference follow-up, statistical indicators are indispensable. It is possible to conduct an objective assessment of the extent to which goals have been achieved only if benchmark data and reliable indicators are available. The major problems, however, are the serious gaps in the international databases. These are, in most instances, a direct consequence of the lack of basic statistical data at the country level. There is an enormous mismatch between the demand for information which has increased as a result of the global conferences and the ability of most countries to supply the required information.

Indicators are also essential prerequisites of worldwide review of progress towards the implementation of United Nations conference recommendations. The conferences and summits of the past decade have resulted in the formulation of concrete policy goals. In many cases, these were general in nature, but in some specific cases they took the form of quantified targets..

Recently, initiatives have been undertaken to take a more integrated approach by considering several conferences. This work generally involves inter-agency collaboration and aims to define a common set of indicators for goals from four or more conferences. The most recent of these initiatives are the common country assessment indicators of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF-CCA), the Minimum National Social Data Set (MNSDS), adopted by the Statistical Commission, the indicators for basic social services for all (BSSA) of the Task Force on Basic Social Services for All of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development-Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) indicators, developed in collaboration with the United Nations and the World Bank.⁸

⁸ Report of the Secretary-General, Progress report on basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels, E/2000/60

Conclusion

Successful monitoring of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, its follow-up and compliance of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women with articles of the Convention depends on reliable data in all areas.

A number of conclusions can be drawn:

- While the national level is the pivotal point for data compilation, there is a need for more guidance and support to ensure that data can be collected and will be useful for international comparison.
- To respond to numerous requirements for reporting at the national level, a greater effort needs to be made not to overload the national level with too many, often almost identical demands for information which take up too many resources and time.
- There is a need to establish clear priorities so as to address the problem of data gaps which continue to persist, even for such traditional basic indicators as gross domestic product/gross national product (GDP/GNP) and literacy, but particularly for the newer areas identified by world conferences.
- The absence of adequate gender-disaggregated data and statistics, in particular on women in the informal sector, the incidence of violence against women and on women in decision-making makes the elaboration of programmes and monitoring of changes difficult. Clear guidelines are needed for data collection in these new areas. Disparities in legislation and application of the penal code or in electoral systems may make international comparison difficult and need to be resolved.

Annex

Selected recommendations on data, statistics and indicators in the Platform for Action (1995) and Outcome document GA Special Session (2000)

A. Collection of data

*Platform for Action*⁹

206. By national, regional and international statistical services and relevant governmental and United Nations agencies, in cooperation with research and documentation organizations, in their respective areas of responsibility:

- (a) Ensure that statistics related to individuals are collected, compiled, analysed and presented by sex and age and reflect problems, issues and questions related to women and men in society;
- (b) Collect, compile, analyse and present on a regular basis data disaggregated by age, sex, socio-economic and other relevant indicators, including number of dependants, for utilization in policy and programme planning and implementation;
- (c) Involve centres for women's studies and research organizations in developing and testing appropriate indicators and research methodologies to strengthen gender analysis, as well as in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the goals of the Platform for Action;
- (d) Designate or appoint staff to strengthen gender-statistics programmes and ensure coordination, monitoring and linkage to all fields of statistical work, and prepare output that integrates statistics from the various subject areas;

207. By Governments:

- (a) Ensure the regular production of a statistical publication on gender that presents and interprets topical data on women and men in a form suitable for a wide range of non-technical users;
- (b) Ensure that producers and users of statistics in each country regularly review the adequacy of the official statistical system and its coverage of gender issues, and prepare a plan for needed improvements, where necessary;
- (c) Develop and encourage the development of quantitative and qualitative studies by research organizations, trade unions, employers, the private sector and non-governmental organizations on the sharing of power and influence in society, including the number of women and men in senior decision-making positions in both the public and private sectors;
- (d) Use more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects.

208. By the United Nations:

- (a) Promote the development of methods to find better ways to collect, collate and analyse data that may relate to the human rights of women, including violence against women, for use by all relevant United Nations bodies;

⁹ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995, A/Conf. 177/20

- (b) Promote the further development of statistical methods to improve data that relate to women in economic, social, cultural and political development;
- (c) Prepare a new issue of The World's Women at regular five-year intervals and distribute it widely;
- (d) Assist countries, upon request, in the development of gender policies and programmes;
- (e) Ensure that the relevant reports, data and publications of the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on progress at the national and international levels are transmitted to the Commission on the Status of Women in a regular and coordinated fashion.

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5):¹⁰

64. Effective and coordinated plans and programmes for the full implementation of the Platform for Action require a clear knowledge of the situation of women and girls, clear research-based knowledge and data disaggregated by sex, short- and long-term time-bound targets and measurable goals, and follow-up mechanisms to assess progress. Efforts are needed to ensure capacity-building for all actors involved in the achievement of these goals. Efforts are also needed at the national level to increase transparency and accountability.

B. Support to statistical offices

Platform for Action (Beijing):

209. By multilateral development institutions and bilateral donors:

Encourage and support the development of national capacity in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition by providing resources and technical assistance so that countries can fully measure the work done by women and men, including both remunerated and unremunerated work, and, where appropriate, use satellite or other official accounts for unremunerated work.

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5):

77. (a) Provide national statistical offices with institutional and financial support in order to collect, compile and disseminate data disaggregated by sex, age and other factors, as appropriate, in formats that are accessible to the public and to policy makers for, inter alia, gender-based analysis, monitoring and impact assessment, and support new work to develop statistics and indicators, especially in areas where information is particularly lacking;

92.(a) Promote international cooperation to support regional and national efforts in the development and use of gender-related analysis and statistics by, inter alia, providing national statistical offices, upon their request, with institutional and financial support in order to enable them to respond to requests for data disaggregated by sex and age for use by national Governments in the formulation of gender-sensitive statistical indicators for monitoring and policy and programme impact assessments, as well as to undertake regular strategic surveys;

¹⁰ Report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, A/S-23/10/Rev.1

C. Gender mainstreaming

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5):

80. Develop and use frameworks, guidelines and other practical tools and indicators to accelerate gender mainstreaming, including gender-based research, analytical tools and methodologies, training, case studies, statistics and information.

D. Women and economy/poverty

Platform for Action

68. By national and international statistical organizations:

(a) Collect gender and age-disaggregated data on poverty and all aspects of economic activity and develop qualitative and quantitative statistical indicators to facilitate the assessment of economic performance from a gender perspective;

(b) Devise suitable statistical means to recognize and make visible the full extent of the work of women and all their contributions to the national economy, including their contribution in the unremunerated and domestic sectors, and examine the relationship of women's unremunerated work to the incidence of and their vulnerability to poverty.

206. By national, regional and international statistical services and relevant governmental and United Nations agencies, in cooperation with research and documentation organizations, in their respective areas of responsibility:

(e) Improve data collection on the full contribution of women and men to the economy, including their participation in the informal sector(s);

(f) Develop a more comprehensive knowledge of all forms of work and employment by:

(i) Improving data collection on the unremunerated work which is already included in the United Nations System of National Accounts, such as in agriculture, particularly subsistence agriculture, and other types of non-market production activities;

(ii) Improving measurements that at present underestimate women's unemployment and underemployment in the labour market;

(iii) Developing methods, in the appropriate forums, for assessing the value, in quantitative terms, of unremunerated work that is outside national accounts, such as caring for dependants and preparing food, for possible reflection in satellite or other official accounts that may be produced separately from but are consistent with core national accounts, with a view to recognizing the economic contribution of women and making visible the unequal distribution of remunerated and unremunerated work between women and men;

(g) Develop an international classification of activities for time-use statistics that is sensitive to the differences between women and men in remunerated and unremunerated work, and collect data disaggregated by sex. At the national level, subject to national constraints:

(i) Conduct regular time-use studies to measure, in quantitative terms, unremunerated work, including recording those activities that are performed simultaneously with remunerated or other unremunerated activities;

(ii) Measure, in quantitative terms, unremunerated work that is outside national accounts and work to improve methods to assess and accurately reflect its value in satellite or other official accounts that are separate from but consistent with core national accounts;

(h) Improve concepts and methods of data collection on the measurement of poverty among women and men, including their access to resources;

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5):

85 (b) Assist countries, upon their request, in developing methods for and compiling statistics on the contributions of women and men to society and the economy, and the socio-economic situation of women and men, in particular in relation to poverty and paid and unpaid work in all sectors;

E. Violence against women

Platform for Action

206. By national, regional and international statistical services and relevant governmental and United Nations agencies, in cooperation with research and documentation organizations, in their respective areas of responsibility:

(j) Develop improved gender-disaggregated and age-specific data on the victims and perpetrators of all forms of violence against women, such as domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, incest and sexual abuse, and trafficking in women and girls, as well as on violence by agents of the State;

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5)

70 (d) Consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in violence against women, in particular trafficking;

77 (b) Regularly compile and publish crime statistics, and monitor trends in law enforcement concerning violations of the rights of women and girls to increase awareness in order to develop more effective policies;

92 (b) Develop with the full participation of all countries an international consensus on indicators and ways to measure violence against women, and consider establishing a readily accessible database on statistics, legislation, training models, good practices, lessons learned and other resources with regard to all forms of violence against women, including women migrant workers;

F. Women and health

Platform for Action

109 (a) Train researchers and introduce systems that allow for the use of data collected, analysed and disaggregated by, among other factors, sex and age, other established demographic criteria and socio-economic variables, in policy-making, as appropriate, planning, monitoring and evaluation;

110 (d) Develop goals and time-frames, where appropriate, for improving women's health and for planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating programmes, based on gender-impact assessments using qualitative and quantitative data disaggregated by sex, age, other established demographic criteria and socio-economic variables;

206. (i) Strengthen vital statistical systems and incorporate gender analysis into publications and research; give priority to gender differences in research design and in data collection and analysis in order to improve data on morbidity; and improve data collection on access to health services, including access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services, maternal care and family planning, with special priority for adolescent mothers and for elder care;

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5)

92 (c) In partnership, as appropriate, with relevant institutions, promote, improve, systemize and fund the collection of data disaggregated by sex, age and other appropriate factors, on health and access to health services, including comprehensive information on the impact of HIV/AIDS on women, throughout the life-cycle;

G. Education

Platform for Action

87 (a) Contribute to the evaluation of progress achieved, using educational indicators generated by national, regional and international bodies, and urge Governments, in implementing measures, to eliminate differences between women and men and boys and girls with regard to opportunities in education and training and the levels achieved in all fields, particularly in primary and literacy programmes;

H. Vulnerable groups of women

Platform for Action

(k) Improve concepts and methods of data collection on the participation of women and men with disabilities, including their access to resources.

Outcome document Special Session (Beijing +5)

93 (d) Undertake appropriate data collection and research on indigenous women, with their full participation, in order to foster accessible, culturally and linguistically appropriate policies, programmes and services;