

Women

In 2015, United Nations efforts to advance the status of women worldwide continued to be guided by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth (1995) World Conference on Women, and the outcome of the General Assembly's twenty-third (2000) special session (Beijing+5), which reviewed progress in their implementation.

During the year, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) advocated for gender equality and women's empowerment at all stages leading to the adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, resulting in a stand-alone Sustainable Development Goal () on achieving gender equality.

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The General Assembly adopted resolutions on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference and the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of Beijing+5; women in development; improvement of the situation of women and girls in rural areas; violence against women migrant workers; sexual violence and armed conflict; and the girl child. In September, the Secretary-General submitted a report on his find-

ings and recommendations from a global study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325(2000).

Recognizing that women and girls played a critical role in science and technology communities and that their participation should be strengthened, in December, the General Assembly proclaimed 11 February of each year the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.

Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference and Beijing+5

During 2015, the Commission on the Status of Women [YUN 1946-47, p. 529], the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly considered follow-up to the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, particularly the implementation of the Bei-

work, investing in infrastructure and services, and redistributing care work.

The Secretary-General encouraged Member States to incorporate gender in macroeconomic analysis and the design of policy responses, and to expand the goals of macroeconomic policy to promote sustainable development, gender equality and human rights. Furthermore, he encouraged the UN system and other international organizations to incorporate gender perspectives into macroeconomic policy analysis; develop and implement policies and programmes to promote women's access to decent employment opportunities; and to develop and implement policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 22 December [meeting 81], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee [A/70/476/Add.2], adopted **resolution 70/219 (Women in development)** without vote [agenda item 24 (b)].

Women in science

In December [A/70/PV.81], during its consideration of the report [A/70/474/Add.2] of the Second Committee on the item of "Science and technology for development", the General Assembly adopted resolution 70/219 (Women in science). The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue to encourage and assist Member States and international organizations to cooperate in the field of science and technology for development.

On 22 December [meeting 81], the General As-

Council and the Commission on the Status of Women a December report [A/HRC/32/3-E/CN.6/2016/8] of UN-Women on the 2015 activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women. As at December 2015, the Trust Fund supported 111 initiatives involving civil society organizations, governments and United Nations country teams in 76 countries and territories, with grants totalling \$57 million. In 2015, the Trust Fund almost doubled its grant-giving portfolio, to \$14 million.

In 2015, the Trust Fund received 1,715 applications, from 119 countries and territories. The total funding requested was more than \$662 million. The Fund awarded \$12.86 million in new grants to 33 initiatives in 29 countries and territories. In terms of grant value, 28 per cent of the funds allocated went to programmes in Africa; 22 per cent to Asia and the Pacific; 20 per cent to Europe and Central Asia; 12 per cent to Latin America and the Caribbean; 10 per cent to the Arab States and North Africa; and 8 per cent to cross-regional programmes. Grants amounting to some 8 per cent of the total (\$1.1 million) were awarded in the form of small grants, predominantly to smaller women's organizations.

Violence against women migrant workers

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/137 [YUN 2013, p. 1102], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/70/205] on measures taken by 21 Member States and three UN entities, over the two-year period from July 2013 to June 2015, to address violence against ((3.753.4 Al 39 1Tcs) (s)33(1)0Tc

invited the Secretary-General to commission a global study on the implementation of resolution 1325(2000) [YUN 2000, p. 1113], the Secretary-General submitted a September report [S/2015/716] on women and peace and security. The report contained findings and rec-

countries. A major campaign had been launched to promote ratification of the 2014 Protocol to the



session [dec.60/XI]; decided to update its General Recommendation No. 19 (1992) on violence against women and to establish an open-ended working group for that purpose [dec.60/XII]; expanded the working group on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations [dec.60/XIII], working methods [dec.60/XIV], rural women [dec.60/XV], gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction and climate change [dec.60/XVI], and the right to education [dec.60/XVII]; expanded the /UN-Women and / Inter-Parliamentary Union working groups [dec.60/XVIII & dec.60/XIX]; confirmed the co-focal points on sexual and (1)141.8.0037315(0)4.72-(k)52 0 Tidn.87il6211

Executive Director of UN-Women on the strategic plan, 2014–2017 (see p. 000); on the report of the Entity’s evaluation function, 2014 (see p. 000); and on the report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2014 (see p. 000). The session included a special briefing on the operational response of UN-Women at the country level. The Board also considered a report on the field visit of the Bureau of the Board to Viet Nam in December 2014.

Second regular session. At its second regular session (New York, 15–16 September) [UNW/2015/12], the Executive Board adopted the provisional agenda and workplan for the second regular session; approved the report on its annual session (see above); approved the proposed provisional agenda and workplan for the first regular session of 2016; and discussed the draft annual workplan for 2016. The Board adopted two decisions: on the structured dialogue on financing (see p. 000); and on the integrated budget for the biennium 2016–2017, as contained in the compilation

responsive measures to promote women's leadership and participation in politics. UN-Women also worked

On 2 July [UNW/2015/7 (dec. 2015/4)], the Executive Board took note of the two reports.

Biennial budget 2016–2017

In a July report [UNW/2015/9], the Executive Board of UN-Women proposed an integrated budget with projected voluntary contributions of \$880 million for 2016–2017 and requested an appropriation of \$196.4 million (gross). The two-year integrated budget was aligned with the four-year strategic plan and completed

million for the institutional budget to support organizational effectiveness and efficiency.

Structured dialogue on financing

In July, UN-Women submitted a strategic brief on resource mobilization [UNW/2015/10] pursuant to decision 2014/6 [YUN 2014, p. 1302] of the Executive Board as part of its structured dialogue on the financing of the strategic plan, 2014–2017. It highlighted the need to fully implement the strategic plan and to achieve transformational results for women and girls worldwide. It also outlined some of the risks of not achieving an adequate level of funding and the steps that it had taken to progressively reach that level by mobilizing both regular and other resources.

On 16 September [UNW/2015/11 (dec. 2015/5)], the Executive Board took note of the strategic brief, and requested UN-Women to engage in informal dialogue with Member States to ensure ongoing discussion, exchange of information and analysis of funding issues and options; submit an analysis of the predictability, flexibility and alignment of resources provided for the implementation of the approved strategic plan; and continue to respond to the evolving development opportunities to expand its partnerships.