

7. Noting the participation of civil society organizations in the preparations for the Asia Pacific Review of Regional Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;
8. Commending the Executive Secretary of ESCAP for re-establishing the Regional Coordination Mechanism's Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women which has contributed to enhanced coordination and coherence among regional UN partners in the advancement of women and gender equality as a means to promote sustainable and inclusive development in the region;

18. There has been an alarming rise in new HIV infections among women from spouses and intimate partners in the region, and that the regional coverage of anti-retroviral drugs (ART) and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) treatment for both men and women remain below the global average;

19. Despite strong progress of some countries in the region to combat trafficking in persons, particularly women and girls, trafficking continues to be prevalent in the region;

20. Not all countries in the region are parties to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);

21. Discriminatory practices, violations of women's and girl's rights and impunity – especially with regard to violence – persist in countries of the region, and enactment and implementation of domestic laws to address discrimination and violence against women should remain a priority;

22. While information and communication technologies (ICTs) have brought considerable benefits to women in the region, women still lack equal access and these technologies have also aided the proliferation of pornography and sexualized, disparaging and violent imagery of women on the internet, and are creating new forms of exploitation of women, including its use in facilitating and organizing the trafficking of women and children;

23. While women are largely responsible for natural resource management in the household, they have been excluded from developing, planning and implementing environmental policies when women are in fact, together with children and the elderly, among the most vulnerable to the consequences of climate change;

24. While women living in countries in conflict or post-conflict situations have special needs and play an important role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, they are still underrepresented in decision-making in conflict and post-conflict situations;

25. We, the Representatives of ESCAP Member and Associate Member States reaffirm our commitment to the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty third special session of the General Assembly.

26. In making this reaffirmation, we commit to the following concerted actions:

27. To intensify efforts toward the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty third special session of the General Assembly and to overcome obstacles encountered in their implementation;

28. To promote active mainstreaming of a gender perspective, inter alia, in the design, implementation and evaluation of regional, national and local policies and programmes, including the development of gender analysis tools for the effective monitoring and assessment of gender gains and gaps;

29. To strengthen the role of national machineries and other institutional mechanisms that work toward the advancement of women and gender equality, including through definite commitment of financial and other appropriate assistance, and ensuring adequate and appropriate staff and resources;

30. To take effective action toward the creation of an enabling environment at the

41. To intensify efforts to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, provide protection to the survivors, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls, and engage men and boys, as well as community and faith-based organizations, in eliminating violence against women;
42. To elaborate and ensure that capacities and resources are available to implement multi-sectoral national strategies to eliminate violence against women, including measures to combat all forms of trafficking in women and girls;
43. To address and develop measures to combat ICT-related violence and exploitation of women;
44. To include a gender perspective and harness the active participation of women in the development of ICTs;
45. To ensure the protection of women and girls, in particular against sexual violence, during and after armed conflicts, in accordance with the obligation of States under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;
46. To ensure the equal participation and full involvement of women in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution;
47. To mainstream a gender perspective in environmental, disaster management and climate change adaptation programmes;
48. To ensure that women's needs and knowledge of natural systems be used in the development, planning and implementation of environmental policies, including adaptation strategies;
49. To strengthen agricultural policies and mechanisms to incorporate a gender perspective, and in cooperation with civil society, support farmers, particularly rural women, with education and training programmes, as well as to strengthen information dissemination to them that would enable their access to services and resources for improving productivity;
50. To consider ratifying or acceding to, as a particular matter of priority, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol, limit the extent of any reservations, and withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise incompatible with the relevant treaty;
51. To promote, protect, and respect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women, including through the full implementation of obligations under all human rights instruments, especially the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
52. To continue efforts to repeal laws and eradicate policies and practices that discriminate against women and girls, and to adopt laws and promote practices that protect their rights and promote gender equality;

