

1 Commission on the Status of Women, 55th Session, 22 Feb – 3 Mar 2011

2 Oral Statement by the Young Women's Caucus on priority theme 2011:

3 Access and participation for women and girls in education, training, science and technology, including
4 promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work

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6 *The young women's caucus at the UN CSW convenorship held in the name of the United Nations
7 Nations to bring together the voices of girls and young women around the world. The caucus
8 supports young NGO representatives and reports to the Commission on the Status of Women
9 on girls' and young women's concerns, advocacy issues and policy statements.*

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11 *We, as members of the young women's caucus, call on governments and the international
12 community to ensure equal access and participation of girls and young women in
13 training, science and technology, including young women's equal access to full employment and
14 decent work by:*

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16 *1. Creating a safe, inclusive and non-discriminatory environment for girls and young women
17 reliable and inclusive educational approaches that will empower young women and create equal
18 learning opportunities;*

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20 *Facilitating access to technical training, mentoring programmes and job market information and
21 technology;*

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23 *2. Promoting girls' and young women's education, training and skills development, including
24 women, especially comprehensive sexuality education, as key to addressing poverty and gender
25 inequality and promoting the social, political, cultural and economic empowerment of women;*

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27 *3. Maximizing and utilizing budget NGO and civil society resources and other funding to support
28 programmes for girls and young women, especially in the development of education and
29 economic policies at the local and national levels.*

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31 *4. Including a rights-based approach to education policies to address the gender and socio-
32 economic inequality in a learning environment.*

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34 *5. Creating a safe environment for girls and young women:*

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36 *Demanding the right to full and productive employment and decent work for
37 young women and recognizing this right in labour, economic growth policies, occupational legislation
38 and poverty reduction strategies at local, national, regional and global levels;*

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40 *Promoting vocational and non-formal education programmes that reach out-of-school girls in a
41 safe and inclusive environment and include their right to comprehensive sexuality education and
42 information on HIV;*

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44 *And reaffirming educational rights from birth to adulthood for girls and young women. We claim the
45 full enjoyment of all Human Rights.*

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47 *Many thanks for your attention.*