

Division for the Advancement of Women
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
United Nations

**Achievements, gaps and challenges
in linking the implementation of the
Beijing Platform for Action
and the
Millennium Declaration and
Millennium Development Goals**

Report of the Expert Group Meeting

**Baku, Azerbaijan
7 - 10 February 2005**

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A. Mandates of the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW, the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs

VI. The Millennium Declaration, the MDGs, gender equality and human rights

A. Why a human rights framework

C. Re-affirming the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW as roadmaps for achieving the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs

4. Make the MDG-based poverty reduction strategies gender-sensitive. This should be done by drawing on the Beijing Platform for Action and CEDAW, safeguarding women's and girl's rights and promoting their health, including reproductive and sexual health and rights; education; access to and control over economic and political opportunities and resources; and freedom from violence.

5. Apply a human rights-based framework for assessing the gender impact of trade and macro-economic policies and agreements before and after their implementation, and the impact of global public/private partnerships. Assessments should focus on (i) the differential distribution among women and men of the benefits and adjustment costs resulting from trade agreements and macro-economic policies in terms of livelihood systems, income, employment opportunities and quality of employment; and (ii) the capacity of governments to fulfil their obligations for women's economic and social rights, and to implement the required legal, regulatory and support measures (such as taxation and subsidies).

VIII. Making resources work for women

Recommendations

6. Systematically scale up investments in women and girl's development (starting with those whose needs are most urgent), prioritizing areas that have been overlooked, such as sexual and reproductive health and where there has been persistent gender bias, by:

- a) Developing new financing mechanisms to increase the resources available for the reduction of poverty and the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment;
- b) Including explicit gender equality objectives in all key strategic areas of the poverty reduction strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs), particularly the economy and governance, infrastructure and labour policies, and allocate the necessary financial and human resources to the associated budgetary expenditure and monitoring;
- c) Supporting gender-sensitive budgeting initiatives, at local, national and international levels (including the UN system), and developing and applying gender-sensitive methodology to accurately measure, assess, and track the impact and effectiveness of investments in women and girls and the effectiveness of those investments for reducing gender inequality;
- d) Ensuring the achievement of gender equality in the MDGs through targeted funding by governments and donors for gender equality as an

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ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

EXPERTS

CONSULTANT

OBSERVERS

1. International Organizations

2. United Nations System

UN Country Team

Others:

3. Governments

4. Host Country Government

5. Civil Society Organizations

ORGANIZERS

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D. WORKING PAPER

EGM/BPFA-MD-MDG/2005/WP.1 (draft)

**Achievements, gaps and challenges
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Transforming health systems to strengthen implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the Millennium Development Goals (EP.10)

Sexual and reproductive health: A foundation for achieving the MDGs (EP.9)

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Indigenous women, the Millennium Development Goals and the Beijing Platform for Action (EP.3)

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Challenges in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals in urban poor areas (EP.5)

Practices of promoting gender equality using the Beijing Platform for Action and the MDGs processes and building partnership between government, private sector and civil society in the Komi Republic of the Russian Federation (EP.6)

4:15 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 9 February 2005