

Draft resolution

**Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recognizing* the significance of the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in September 1995,

*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>1</sup> adopted in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome documents of its twenty-third special session,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 73/294 of 22 May 2019, entitled “Twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women”, in which it decided to convene a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly in the margins of the general debate at its seventy-fifth session in order to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

*Recognizing* that through the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> and its Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, Heads of State and Government confirmed that realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets,

*Reiterating* that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session is essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

1. *Decides* that the one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women shall be held in New York on Wednesday, 23 September 2020, in the margins of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, from 9.00 am to 7.00 p.m., and consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion and a closing segment;

2. *Also decides* that the theme of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly will be “Accelerating the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” and that this meeting will highlight achievements, best practices, gaps and challenges, and recalls that the theme of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations “The Future We

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<sup>1</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution [S-23/2](#), annex, and resolution [S-23/3](#), annex.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 70/1

Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming Our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism” shall guide all activities, meetings and conferences organized by the United Nations in 2020;

3. *Further decides that:*

(a) The opening segment, to be held from 9.00 to 10.00 a.m., will feature statements by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, the Secretary-General, a representative of China as the host country of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Chair of the Working Group of the Human Rights Council on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on violence against women, its causes and consequences; as well as an eminent high-level champion of gender equality, a representative from civil society and a young woman leader, to be selected, in consultation with Member States, by the President of the Assembly;

(b) The plenary segment, to be held from 10.00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m., will comprise statements by Member States and observers of the General Assembly; a list of speakers will be established in accordance with established practices of the Assembly, and the time limits for these statements will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States;

(c) The closing segment, to be held from 6.30 to 7.00 p.m., will comprise concluding remarks by the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women and the President of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, with the support of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to organize and preside over an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing following the high-level political forum on sustainable development in July 2020, with the active participation of representatives of Member States, observers of the General Assembly, and parliamentarians, representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, national human rights institutions where they exist, academic institutions and the private sector, ensuring the participation and voices of women and girls as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to take stock of the outcomes and recommendations of other processes, including the 64<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women and relevant initiatives such as the Generation Equality Forum scheduled to take place in May and July 2020, and also requests the President to prepare a summary of the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing prior to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

5. *Invites* non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council with relevant expertise to register with the Secretariat to attend the high-level meeting of the General Assembly and the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing;

6. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of other relevant representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, including women's and community-based organizations, feminist groups, women human rights defenders, girls' and youth-led organizations, trade unions, national human rights institutions where they exist, academic institutions and the private sector who may attend the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to be held on 23 September 2020 and participate in the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, taking into account the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the full, and meaningful participation of women and young people, and to submit the list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis;<sup>4</sup>

7. *Invites* members of civil society, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, academia, development partners and other relevant initiatives to make a fundamental contribution to the process in terms of raising awareness of gaps and challenges, and identifying concrete actions to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and its contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

8. *Encourages* all Member States to participate in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, at the highest possible level, preferably at the level of Heads of State and Government, and invites all observers of the General Assembly to be represented at the highest possible level; and encourages governments to present concrete actions and commitments to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by 2030, including in support of the key role of civil society organizations and youth;

9. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union to contribute to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly;

10. *Invites* the United Nations system, including funds, programmes and specialized agencies, regional commissions and relevant envoys of the Secretary-General, to participate in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, as appropriate, and urges them to consider initiatives in support of the preparatory process and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, particularly with regard to sharing good practices, challenges, lessons learned, and urgent actions that need to be taken for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

11. *Encourages* Member States to consider including in their national delegations heads of national mechanisms for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as appropriate, as well as representatives such as parliamentarians, representatives of civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

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<sup>4</sup> The list of proposed as well as final names will be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. Where a name is objected to, the objecting Member State will, on a voluntary basis, make known to the Office of the President of the General Assembly the general basis of its objections and the Office will share any information received with any Member State upon its request.

12. *Decides* that the proceedings of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly shall be webcast; and encourages the Secretary-General and UN-Women to give highest visibility to this meeting and its summary, as well as to the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing, through all relevant media platforms and information and communications technologies;

13. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to prepare a summary of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly and to bring the summary to the attention of Member States, relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders;

14. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session to finalize the organizational arrangements for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly, in close consultation with Member States.