

## **Advisory Board on Gender Equality**

### **Terms of Reference**

#### **Introduction**

The Advisory Board on Gender Equality is an informal mechanism established by Presidents of the General Assembly to provide them with strategic guidance and high-level expertise in advancing gender equality and women's empowerment within the General Assembly's work and processes. In paragraph 41 of General Assembly resolution 77/335 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, Member States acknowledged the convening of the advisory board and encouraged its continuation at future sessions of the General Assembly.

His Excellency Philemon Yang, President of the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly has identified gender equality and women's empowerment as one of the priorities of his Presidency. In this regard, the President of the General Assembly will focus on the promotion of women's economic empowerment and participation as well as the implementation of gender equality related actions and commitments in the Pact for the Future.

The Advisory Board consists of representatives from Member States, the UN system, and other key stakeholders. It has been constituted with a view to ensure inclusivity, gender and geographical representation, and long-standing expertise on issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment in the multilateral system.

#### **Objectives**

- The Advisory Board will work towards achieving concrete outcomes that can have an impact on gender equality and women's empowerment, with a specific focus on women's economic empowerment.
- The Board will also support continuity of legacy initiatives from previous Boards.

#### **Role of Board members**

Members serve for the duration of the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly.

Their role will be to:

- Attend meetings of the Advisory Board and provide advice on integrating a gender perspective in the work of the General Assembly and across General Assembly processes with a focus on advancing women's economic empowerment through existing international mechanisms.
- Identify possible opportunities to promote gender equality, including in the context of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action.

- Support the advocacy efforts of the President of the General Assembly on the implementation of gender equality related actions and commitments in the Pact for the Future.
- Help to build on legacy projects such as the training on gender and prevention of sexual harassment which has been made accessible to diplomats in New York and Geneva.

### **Working modalities**

The Advisory Board will be convened in three meetings, as well as on an *ad hoc* basis, as required.

A formal summary after each meeting will be circulated to all Member States.