

Voluntary Presentations on the Review Theme

Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls (Agreed Conclusions of the sixty-second session)

Friday, 10 March 2023, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 3.00 – 6.00 pm

Overview

In accordance with its working methods, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) each year will evaluate progress in the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that includes:

- (a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identify means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;
- (b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data in regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global level.

The outcome of the discussion on the review theme will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau.

The review will be supported by a report of the Secretary-General on progress made on the review theme at the national level (E/CN.6/2023/4).

Review theme at CSW67

At the sixty-seventh session, the Commission's review theme will be "Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls", contained in its Agreed Conclusions of its sixty-second session of 2018.

The Agreed Conclusions emphasized action in three key policy areas:

1. **Strengthening normative, legal and policy frameworks** to promote and protect the full enjoyment of human rights, eliminate discrimination and violence, and promote access to natural, economic and productive resources for all rural women and girls.
2. **Implementing economic and social policies for the empowerment** of rural women and girls, including through gender mainstreaming, fiscal policies, food security and nutrition, decent work and entrepreneurship, care work, education, health and gender statistics.

3. **Strengthening the collective voice, leadership and decision-making** of all rural women and girls.

Member States making voluntary presentations should specifically address some or all of these three key areas of focus of the Agreed Conclusions. Member States should provide concrete examples of measures taken in response to the Agreed Conclusions from CSW62 and their impacts or results; identify good practice examples, as well as key lessons, gaps and challenges; and highlight successful inclusive collaboration with stakeholders and comprehensive approaches to the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions.

Proposed format for the review

In order to enable an interactive dialogue, up to **9 Member States** will make voluntary presentations. Each voluntary presentation will be no more than **30 minutes**, including comments and questions by ‘partner countries’, and brief responses by the presenting Member State. It is proposed that each presenting country identifies in advance **2 to 3 ‘partner countries’** to comment on its presentation in a constructive manner, including posing questions. The ‘partner countries’, could be invited based on ongoing cooperation with the presenting country, on similar experiences, or because they would seek to benefit from the lessons of the presenting country. Presenting Member States may also wish to consider inviting a United Nations entity and/or civil society organizations to contribute to the discussion from the floor.

Timetable

Presenting Member States were **identified through their regional groups** to allow sufficient time for consultations at the national level and preparation of the presentations. The following Member States have been designated to make voluntary presentations: Jordan, Mongolia and Saudi Arabia (Asia-Pacific States Group), Albania and Ukraine (Eastern European States Group); Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo and Mauritius (African States Group); Brazil and Chile (Latin American and Caribbean States Group).

Each presenting country should make available, **at least one week prior to its presentation, a short synopsis** so as to facilitate the contribution of ‘partner countries’, and to share information with all participants in the Commission.

CSW67 has allocated **two meetings** on 10 March, 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 – 6.00 p.m. in **Conference Room 4** for the review, totaling 6 hours. Approximately **30 minutes** will be allocated to each presentation (voluntary presentation, comments from ‘partners’, and responses from presenting country).

Format of voluntary presentations

Voluntary presentations should:

- At national level, be prepared through a multi-stakeholder consultation.
- Focus on actions taken since March 2018 in response to the CSW62 Agreed Conclusions.
- Focus on lessons learned, challenges and best practices, covering one or more areas of the Agreed Conclusions.

- Be presented through in-person voluntary presentations with participation from capital-based speakers, combined with Q&A. The inclusion of visuals, such as a short video, pictures, or a power point presentation, is encouraged.
- Be presented, if possible, by a team of up to 3 speakers, led by a senior Government official, and including a civil society representative.