CSW62 YOUTH DIALOGUE
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
17 March 2018
Urgent policy recommendations to ensure inclusion of young women and girls from rural communities in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

**EDUCATION**
1. **Recognize and eliminate** discrimination, patriarchal norms, and social expectations that negatively shape girls’ educational attainment
2. **Guarantee** free compulsory primary and secondary education, with human rights and comprehensive sexuality education
3. **Invest** in location-specific, non-traditional education that is intercultural and multilingual (skills-based training, vocational training)
4. **Prevent** violence, sexual harassment, bullying in educational settings on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression

**HEALTH**
1. **Invest** in inclusive, accessible, youth-friendly healthcare in rural areas
2. **Ensure universal access** to mental, sexual and reproductive health-care services, information and education
3. **Eliminate** age and gender discriminatory policies that contribute to violations of girls’ and young women’s right to health

**VIOLENCE**
1. **Eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of violence** against young women and girls, including non-binary and trans youth by strengthening existing laws and conventions
2. **Ensure prevention and response services** are well-funded, accessible to young women and girls including non-binary and trans youth in rural areas
3. **Ensure policies and procedures** take into account the multiple and intersectional forms of violence and harmful practices
4. **Ensure gender-just support** for youth with disabilities, including education on how to avoid, recognize and report instances of exploitation, violence and abuse

**ECONOMIC JUSTICE**
1. **Create and implement legislation** addressing gender pay gap, youth access to leadership positions, and zero-tolerance for violence/sexual harassment
2. **Invest in financial literacy programs and training opportunities** that lead to decent and meaningful work and the ability to unionize and form cooperatives
3. **Provide young people with access to and control over** personal finances, bank accounts and credit through legislative reform and public private partnerships
4. **Enact legislation and macroeconomic policies** that pursue tax justice, address corporate abuses and stop illicit financial flows (IFFs)
CSW YOUTH DIALOGUE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS (cont.)

ENVIRONMENT

1. **Adopt and enforce legislation** giving girls and young women equal inheritance rights and rights to property and resources.
2. **Recognize the rights** of indigenous girls and young women to protect their land, cultural identity, and traditional knowledge.
3. **Ensure meaningful participation and leadership** of young women and girls in climate change decision-making processes.
4. **Ensure access** to water and sanitation facilities in rural areas and equal representation within related community leadership structures.
5. **Implement, strengthen, enforce laws** that protect against violations of human rights by business enterprises.
6. **Increase resources** for implementing Article 12 of the Paris Agreement (for enhancement of climate change education, awareness).

MEDIA, ICT, DATA

1. **Provide access** to affordable digital connections and ICT, specifically mobile technology in rural communities.
2. **Ensure media** is free from harmful gender stereotypes and an active promoter of gender equality.
3. **Develop mechanisms** of collecting data that reflect realities of young women, girls, non-binary and trans youth in rural areas.
4. **Implement strong, concrete policies and laws** that protect digital spaces from cyber-bullying, harassment, threats, and violence.

VOICE, AGENCY, PARTICIPATION

1. **Implement** gender-just and youth-accountable policy; **reduce the minimum age** to hold public office to include young adults.
2. **Establish an advisory council or permanent office** to the executive branch of government that promotes voices of young people, especially LGBTQ+ people.
3. **Provide support and resources** to grassroots women human rights defenders to participate fully and equally in international forums for advocacy and policy-making by ensuring that barriers to meaningful participation are removed, including visa refusals, lack of financial support, and lack of training.
4. **Formally initiate** meaningful annual youth delegation programs where delegates represent national youth interests at the

SOCIAL NORMS & CULTURE

1. **Implement programs** to engage boys and young men in challenging harmful, patriarchal masculinities and promoting gender equality.
2. **Implement public campaigns** that challenge gender stereotypes and promote equitable, non-violent masculinities.
3. **Engage a broad range** of societal influencers (educators, politicians, media and popular culture, faith communities) in challenging patriarchal norms.