

FORUM: UN Women

QUESTION: Preventing violence against girls

SUBMITTED BY: People's Republic of China

UN Women,

*Recalling* the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the elimination of violence against women and girls,

*Noting with concern* that approximately 370 million girls and women alive today, or 1 in 8 girls, have experienced rape or sexual assault before the age of 18, and that 650 million, or 1 in 5, have suffered sexual violence with or without physical contact,

*Commending* the efforts already undertaken by the United Nations, Member States and civil society to prevent these forms of violence through legal frameworks, awareness-raising campaigns and support services for victims,

*Thanking* Member States, particularly those that have adopted strict laws against sexual violence and shared their best practices, as well as WHO and UNICEF for their data enabling better-targeted prevention efforts,

*Deeply concerned* that 12.5 million adolescent girls aged 15 to 19, or 16%, have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from a partner over the past 12 months, particularly in conflict and humanitarian crisis contexts where girls are most vulnerable,

1. *Decides* to strengthen legal frameworks and protection mechanisms by encouraging States to adopt laws providing for dissuasive sanctions against perpetrators of physical, psychological and sexual violence against girls, to establish confidential reporting mechanisms in schools and health services, and to systematically train law enforcement and judicial authorities;
2. *Encourages* prevention through education and awareness-raising by recommending school programs on children's rights, gender equality and consent, supporting national zero-tolerance campaigns mobilizing families and communities, and combating child marriage and gender stereotypes;
3. *Invites* strengthening international cooperation and digital protection by promoting the exchange of best practices between States, developing integrated psychological and legal support services for survivors, and cooperating with digital companies against cyberbullying and sextortion.

*Decides* to remain actively seized of the question.

