

UN Women
Prevent violence against girls
Republic of Panama

UN Women,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and reaffirming the obligations of Member States to respect, protect and fulfil human rights for all,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and reaffirming the obligation of States to implement their treaty commitments,

Reiterating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its pledge to leave no one behind, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 5.2 to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and Goal 16.2 to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children,

Aware that violence against girls in all its forms constitutes a grave violation of human rights that undermines child development, health, education and full participation in society, and noting that, according to the UN Women global database, one in three women has experienced physical and/or sexual violence in her lifetime,

Alarmed by the persistence of child marriage and its harmful consequences for girls' health, education, autonomy and protection from violence, and noting that globally some 650 million women were married before their eighteenth birthday,

Deeply concerned by specific forms of harm suffered by girls: an estimated 200 million women have undergone female genital mutilation, most of whom were operated on in childhood; at least 15 million teenage girls have experienced forced sex at some point in their lives; and around 140 women and girls are killed every day as a consequence of gender-based violence,

Recognizing that trafficking and sexual exploitation disproportionately affect girls — with approximately 72% of human trafficking victims being girls, and four out of five of those subjected to sexual exploitation — and that these harms are often hidden, transnational and underreported.

Recognizing the growing incidence and harmful impact of technology-facilitated violence, including online grooming, cyber-harassment, non-consensual sharing of intimate images and distribution of child sexual content,

Affirming that measures to prevent violence against girls should respect the rights, privacy, and dignity of victims and survivors, ensure survivor-centred approaches, and be implemented in accordance with due process and human rights standards,

1. *Encourages* Member States to continue efforts to ensure that the minimum legal age for marriage is set at 18 years, and to strengthen measures aimed at preventing and addressing child marriage, including by reviewing laws, policies, and practices where necessary;

2. *Urges* Member States to ensure that national administrative frameworks comprehensively criminalize all forms of sexual and gender-based violence against minors, including technology-facilitated offences such as online grooming, cyber-harassment, non-consensual sharing of intimate images, and distribution of sexual content involving minors;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through UN Women in coordination with UNICEF, WHO, and other relevant agencies, to develop non-binding global guidelines for digital platforms that include procedures for
 - (a) expedited removal of sexual content involving minors,
 - (b) preservation of metadata and evidence for lawful investigations, and
 - (c) accessible notification and redress mechanisms for victims;
4. *Encourages* Member States to integrate age-appropriate, evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education, consent education and online safety curricula into national education systems and to fund teacher training and safe-school measures (including confidential reporting channels and school-based counselling);
5. *Calls for* the creation of targeted protection measures for girls in humanitarian, displacement, and migration contexts — including safe spaces, confidential case management and child-friendly legal assistance — with priority attention to transit routes and border areas;
6. *Urges* Member States to adopt gender-responsive budgeting and to include explicit allocations for the prevention of violence against girls and for comprehensive survivor services in national budgets;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through UN Women, to prepare and submit to the Commission a consolidated report within 18 months detailing:
 - (a) progress in implementing the measures called for in this resolution;
 - (b) gaps in financing and capacity;
 - (c) lessons from pilot projects and regional cooperation; and
 - (d) recommended technical and funding priorities to accelerate implementation.