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**Sixty-ninth session**  
**Third Committee**  
Agenda item 27 (a)  
**Advancement of women**

**France and Netherlands: draft resolution**

**Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006, 62/133 of 18 December 2007, 63/155 of 18 December 2008, 64/137 of 18 December 2009, 65/187 of 21 December 2010 and 67/144 of 20 December 2012, and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women,

*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>4</sup> and the Optional Protocols thereto, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>5</sup> and other international human rights instruments and that its elimination is a cross-cutting issue and an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

*Recalling* the rules of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949<sup>6</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,<sup>7</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>8</sup> the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,<sup>9</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>8</sup> [A/CONF.157/24](#) (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution 48/104.



for Action,<sup>10</sup> the outcome documents of its review conferences and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”,<sup>11</sup>

*Reaffirming also* the declarations adopted at the forty-ninth<sup>12</sup> and fifty-fourth<sup>13</sup> sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the adoption of the agreed conclusions on the priority theme “Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls” at the fifty-seventh session,<sup>14</sup> and welcoming the importance given to the elimination of violence against women and girls in the agreed conclusions of the fifty-eighth session,

*Reaffirming further* the international commitments in the field of social development regarding gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development and the key actions for its further implementation, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>15</sup> at the 2005 World Summit<sup>16</sup> and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,<sup>17</sup> and noting the attention paid to the elimination of all forms of violence against indigenous women in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007,

*Welcoming* the contributions made by the United Nations on the post-2015 development agenda, such as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,<sup>18</sup> taking note in particular of the report of the High-level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda<sup>19</sup> and the report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>20</sup> and other relevant contributions, which consider the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as a key factor for achieving their full and effective participation in sustainable development,

*Welcoming also* the statement by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the post-2015 development agenda and the

<sup>10</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>11</sup> Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>12</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

<sup>13</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2010/232.

<sup>14</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 7* (E/2013/27), chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>16</sup> See resolution 60/1.

<sup>17</sup> See resolution 65/1.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>19</sup> A/67/890, annex.

<sup>20</sup> A/68/970.

elimination of discrimination against women, including its call upon the international community to ensure a strong accountability framework,<sup>21</sup>

*Recalling* the inclusion of gender-related crimes and crimes of sexual violence in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>22</sup> as well as the recognition by the ad hoc international criminal tribunals that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide or torture, and welcoming the undertakings of the Chief Prosecutor of the Court to strengthen efforts to combat impunity for sexual and gender-based violence,

*Welcoming* Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009, 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009, 1960 (2010) of 16 December 2010, 2106 (2013) of 24 June 2013 and 2122 (2013) of 18 October 2013 on women and peace and security and all relevant Council resolutions on children and armed conflict, including resolutions 1882 (2009) of 4 August 2009, 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011, 2068 (2012) of 19 September 2012 and 2143 (2014) of 7 March 2014,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 17/11 of 17 June 2011, 20/12 of 5 July 2012, 23/25 of 14 June 2013 and 26/15 of 26 June 2014 on accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and 26/5 of 26 June 2014 on the elimination of discrimination against women,

*Recalling also* the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>23</sup> including the responsibility of business enterprises to respect human rights, bearing in mind the different risks that may be faced by women and men,

*Recognizing* the importance of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and its role in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and the high number of activities undertaken by the United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, including by the Working Group on the issue of discrimination against women in law and in practice, the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,

*Deeply concerned* about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, and reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls throughout the world and to re-emphasize that violence against women and girls is unacceptable,

<sup>21</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/69/38)*, annex I.

<sup>22</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

<sup>23</sup> [A/HRC/17/31](#), annex.

*Emphasizing* that States should continue to adopt and implement legislation, policies and other measures in accordance with their obligations under international law, in particular their international human rights obligations and commitments, while exercising, including in peacebuilding missions or operations, due diligence which addresses the issue of violence against women in a comprehensive manner by not only criminalizing violence against women and girls and providing for punishment of the perpetrators, but also including protection and preventive measures and provisions for redress and reparations for victims and survivors of violence against women and girls, with provisions for adequate funding for their implementation,

*Reaffirming* the importance of effective accountability with regard to violence against women and girls, including sexual violence, abuse and exploitation, and of undertaking adequate measures to combat such violence,

*Recognizing* that violence against women and girls is rooted in historical and structural inequality in power relations between men and women and that all forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment by women and girls of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitute a major impediment to women's full and active contribution to society,

*Recognizing also* that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social policies and from the benefits of education and sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women impedes the social, economic and therefore sustainable development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

*Acknowledging* the need to address violence against women and girls holistically, including through the recognition of linkages between violence against women and girls and other issues, such as HIV/AIDS, poverty eradication, food security, peace and security, humanitarian assistance, education, access to justice, health and crime prevention,

*Acknowledging also* that trafficking in persons is one of the forms of transnational organized crime which exposes women to violence and that concerted efforts are needed to combat it, and in this regard stressing that full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>24</sup> as well as the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons,<sup>25</sup> will contribute to the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts and the high number of activities undertaken by States to eliminate all forms of violence against women that have resulted in the strengthening of legislation and the criminal justice system, such as adopting national action plans, strategies and national coordination mechanisms, implementing preventive and protective measures, including awareness-raising and capacity-building, such as through training for criminal justice professionals and education, providing support and services for women facing or subjected to violence and improving data collection and analysis,

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<sup>24</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>25</sup> Resolution 64/293.

*Recognizing* that domestic violence and intimate partner violence remain widespread and affect women of all social strata across the world and the need to eliminate such violence,

*Recognizing also* the important role of the family and the community, in particular men and boys, as well as civil society, in particular women human rights defenders and women's and youth organizations, in the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls,

1. *Stresses* that "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women and girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life, and notes the economic and social consequences of such violence;

2. *Recognizes* that gender-based violence is a form of discrimination that seriously inhibits women's ability to enjoy rights and freedoms on a basis of equality with men;

3. *Also recognizes* that violence against women and girls persists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation of the enjoyment of human rights and a major impediment to achieving gender equality, development, peace, security and the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Further recognizes* that all human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and stresses that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

5. *Stresses* that it is important that States strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and refrain from invoking any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;<sup>9</sup>

6. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against women and girls, whether those acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors, including business enterprises, and calls for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community and where perpetrated or condoned by the State;

7. *Stresses* that States have the obligation, at all levels, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women and girls, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute, provide for redress and reparations for and hold to account the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and eliminate impunity and should ensure the protection and the empowerment of women and girls, including adequate enforcement by police and the judiciary of civil remedies, orders of protection and criminal sanctions, and the provision of shelters, psychosocial services, counselling, health and other types of support services, in order to avoid revictimization, and that to do so contributes to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women subjected to violence;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women,<sup>26</sup> as well as the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences;<sup>27</sup>

9. *Also welcomes* the efforts and contributions at the local, national, regional and international levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and encourages States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* for the progress achieved in the Secretary-General's 2008-2015 campaign "UNiTE to End Violence against Women" and the regional components of the campaign, and stresses the need to accelerate the implementation of concrete follow-up activities by the United Nations system to end all forms of violence against women;

11. *Welcomes* the contributions already made by States, the private sector and other donors to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to End Violence against Women, while stressing the importance of further funding for the Trust Fund in order to provide support for national and local organizations working to prevent and end violence against women and girls;

12. *Reaffirms* that the persistence of armed conflicts in various parts of the world is a major impediment to the elimination of all forms of violence against women, and, bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflicts and terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflicts are an ongoing reality, affecting women and men in nearly every region, calls upon all States and the international community to place particular focus on the plight, and give priority attention and increased assistance to relieving the suffering, of women and girls living in such situations and to ensure that, where violence is committed against them, all perpetrators of such violence are duly investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted and punished in order to end impunity, including within peacekeeping missions and operations, while stressing the need to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law, and calls upon all States to apply the definition of sexual and gender-based violence, as set out in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;<sup>22</sup>

13. *Stresses* the need for the exclusion of killing and maiming of women and girls, as prohibited under international law, and crimes of sexual violence from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes and to address such acts committed during all stages of the armed conflict and post-conflict resolution process, including through transitional justice, while ensuring the full and effective participation of women in such processes;

14. *Also stresses* that in armed conflict and post-conflict situations the prevention of and response to all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence, must be prioritized and effectively addressed, including, as appropriate, through the investigation, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators to end impunity, the removal of barriers to women's access to justice, the

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<sup>26</sup> [A/69/222](#).

<sup>27</sup> See [A/69/368](#).

establishment of complaint and reporting mechanisms, the provision of support to victims, affordable and accessible health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health, and reintegration measures, and that steps must be taken to increase women's participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding missions and processes and post-conflict decision-making;

15. *Further stresses* that, despite important steps taken by many countries around the world, States should continue to focus on the implementation of laws and policies for ending violence against women and girls, including the prevention of violence against women and girls, as well as their protection and the provision of services, and should therefore monitor and rigorously evaluate the implementation of available programmes, policies and laws and improve, where possible, their impact, accessibility and effectiveness;

16. *Stresses* that States should take measures to ensure that all officials responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women and girls, protecting and assisting the victims and investigating and punishing acts of violence receive ongoing and adequate training and access to information to sensitize them to the different and specific needs of women and girls, in particular those who have been subjected to violence, so that women and girls are not revictimized when seeking justice and redress, including in peacekeeping missions and processes;

17. *Also stresses* that States should take all possible measures to empower and protect women against all forms of violence, to inform them of their human rights, including by disseminating information on the assistance available to women and families who have experienced violence and ensuring that timely and appropriate information is available to all women who have been subjected to violence, including at all levels of the justice system, and to inform everyone of women's rights and of the existing penalties for violating those rights;

18. *Expresses grave concern* that impunity for violations and abuses against women human rights defenders persists owing to factors including a lack of reporting, documentation, investigation and access to justice, social barriers and constraints with regard to addressing gender-based violence, including sexual violence and the stigmatization that may result from such violations and abuses, and a lack of recognition of the legitimate role of women human rights defenders, all of which entrench or institutionalize gender discrimination;

19. *Calls upon* States, with the support of United Nations entities, to fully engage men and boys, as well as families and communities, as partners and agents of change in preventing and condemning violence against women and girls, as well as in achieving gender equality, and to develop appropriate policies to promote the responsibility and role of men and boys in eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls;

20. *Urges* States to continue to develop their national strategies, translating them into concrete programmes and actions and a more systematic, comprehensive, multisectoral and sustained approach, aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women, including by achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and keeping in view the State's responsibility to act with due diligence to prevent, protect against and investigate all acts of violence against

women, prosecute and punish perpetrators and provide for redress for victims of such violence, by, for example:

(a) Establishing, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders and at all relevant levels, a comprehensive integrated national plan dedicated to combating violence against women and girls in all its aspects, which includes data collection and analysis, and prevention and protection measures, as well as national information campaigns, using resources to eliminate in the media gender stereotypes that lead to violence against women and girls;

(b) Reviewing and, where appropriate, revising, amending or abolishing all laws, regulations, policies, practices and customs that discriminate against women or have a discriminatory impact on women, and ensuring that the provisions of multiple legal systems and alternative dispute resolution, where they exist, comply with international human rights obligations, commitments and principles, including the principle of non-discrimination;

(c) Evaluating and assessing the impact of current legislation, rules and procedures regarding violence against women which restrict access to justice and induce low reporting and a high attrition rate from reporting to conviction, reinforcing, where necessary, criminal law and procedure relating to all forms of violence against women, with a focus on prevention, the protection of women and easy access to redress for victims;

(d) Adopting, as appropriate, reviewing and ensuring the accelerated and effective implementation of laws and comprehensive measures that criminalize violence against women and girls and that provide for multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive preventive and protective measures, such as emergency orders and protection orders, the investigation, submission for prosecution and appropriate punishment of perpetrators to end impunity, and support services that empower victims and survivors, as well as access to appropriate civil remedies and redress;

(e) Addressing and eliminating, as a matter of priority, domestic violence through adopting, strengthening and implementing legislation that prohibits such violence, prescribes punitive measures and establishes adequate legal protection against such violence;

(f) Promoting awareness among all stakeholders of the need to combat violence against women, occurring in public or private life, and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women, inter alia, through regular and repeated use and funding of awareness-raising campaigns nationwide and other ways to promote the transformation of discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes, as part of an integrated prevention strategy;

(g) Encouraging the media to examine the impact of gender role stereotypes, including those perpetuated by commercial advertisements which foster gender-based violence and inequalities;

(h) Ensuring that there is sufficient knowledge, including expertise in effective legal approaches to eliminating violence against women and girls, awareness and coordination in the legal system and, to that end, where appropriate, appointing a focal point in the legal system for cases of violence against women and girls;

(i) Ensuring also the systematic collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by sex and age to monitor all forms of violence against women



and girls, including on the effectiveness of preventive and protective measures, with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors, in order to review and implement effectively laws, policies, strategies and preventive and protective measures, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the victims;

(j) Establishing appropriate national mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of national measures, including national action plans, taken to eliminate violence against women, including through the use of national indicators;

(k) Providing adequate financial support and human resources for the implementation of national strategies and action plans to promote the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality, to end violence against women and girls and to prevent and provide for the redress of all forms of violence against women and girls and other relevant activities;

(l) Adopting all appropriate measures, especially in the field of education, from the entry levels of the education system, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women of all ages, in order to promote the development of respectful relations and to eliminate prejudices, harmful customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women, and by raising awareness of the unacceptability of violence against women and girls at all levels, including through schools, educational programmes, teachers, parents, religious leaders, youth organizations and teaching materials sensitized on gender equality and human rights;

(m) Improving the safety and security of girls in all aspects of public and private life, including at and on the way to and from school, including by establishing a safe and violence-free environment by improving infrastructure such as transportation, providing separate and adequate sanitation facilities, improved lighting, playgrounds and safe environments and adopting national policies to prohibit, prevent and address violence against children, especially girls, including sexual harassment and bullying and other forms of violence, through measures such as conducting violence prevention activities in schools and communities and establishing and enforcing penalties for violence against girls;

(n) Developing gender-sensitive educational programmes at all levels and taking concrete measures to ensure that educational materials portray women and men, youth, girls and boys in positive and non-stereotypical roles;

(o) Promoting preventive measures at an early stage with families and children exposed to or at risk of violence, such as parenting education programmes, to reduce the risk of possible perpetration of violence or revictimization in later childhood and adulthood;

(p) Ensuring that the appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures are in place to protect children from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse;

(q) Ensuring also that the appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures are in place to eliminate the occurrence of child and forced

marriages and female genital mutilation and to provide information regarding the harm associated with these practices;

(r) Empowering women, in particular women living in poverty, by, inter alia, strengthening their economic autonomy and by ensuring their full participation in society and in decision-making processes, through, inter alia, social and economic policies that guarantee them full and equal access to all levels of quality education and training and to affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as equal access to financial resources and employment, and full and equal rights to own and have access to land and other property, and taking further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness of and inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to violence;

(s) Treating all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law, contributing, inter alia, to the prevention and non-recurrence of such crimes, and ensuring penalties commensurate with the severity of the crimes and sanctions in national legislation to punish, and redress, as appropriate, the wrongs caused to women and girls who are subjected to violence;

(t) Taking effective measures to prevent consent from becoming an impediment to bringing perpetrators of violence against women and girls to justice, while ensuring that criminal justice processes are gender-sensitive and that appropriate safeguards and measures to protect women facing or subjected to violence, such as restraining and expulsion orders against the perpetrators, testimonial aids and adequate and comprehensive measures for the rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of violence into society, are in place;

(u) Encouraging the removal of all barriers to women's access to justice and ensuring that they all have access to effective legal assistance so that they can make informed decisions regarding, inter alia, legal proceedings and issues relating to family law, and also ensuring that they have access to just and effective remedies for the harm that they have suffered, including through the adoption of national legislation where necessary;

(v) Ensuring effective cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders, including all relevant public officials and civil society, in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of all forms of violence against women and girls;

(w) Ensuring also the promotion and protection of the human rights of all women and their sexual and reproductive health and rights, including through the development and enforcement of policies and legal frameworks and the strengthening of health systems that make universally accessible and available quality comprehensive sexual and reproductive health-care services, commodities, information and education, including safe and effective methods of modern contraception, emergency contraception, prevention programmes for adolescent pregnancy, maternal health care such as skilled birth attendance and emergency obstetric care, which will reduce obstetric fistula and other complications of pregnancy and delivery, safe abortion where such services are permitted by national law, and prevention and treatment of reproductive tract infections, sexually transmitted infections, HIV and reproductive cancers, recognizing that human rights include the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters

related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free from coercion, discrimination and violence;

(x) Establishing comprehensive, coordinated, interdisciplinary, accessible and sustained multisectoral services, programmes and responses at all levels to provide immediate protection and support, available and accessible also in rural areas, through which shelter, legal, health, psychological, counselling and other services are available to all women facing or subjected to violence, as well as their children, and, where integrated centres are not feasible, promoting collaboration and coordination among agencies;

(y) Encouraging the establishment or support of national and local helplines that provide information, counselling, support and referral services to women facing or subjected to violence;

(z) Ensuring that the prison system and probation services provide appropriate rehabilitation programmes for perpetrators, as a preventive tool against recidivism as part of an integrated response to violence against women, and place the safety of women and girls as the highest priority;

(aa) Ending impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of sexual and gender-based crimes against women and girls under national and international law and stressing the need for the alleged perpetrators of those crimes to be held accountable under national justice or, where applicable, international justice;

21. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and girls and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices, taking into account national priorities;

22. *Stresses* the contribution of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals and the International Criminal Court to ending impunity, by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of violence against women, and urges States to consider ratifying or acceding as a matter of priority to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,<sup>22</sup> which entered into force on 1 July 2002;

23. *Calls upon* the inter-agency Programme Advisory Committee of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women, in consultation with the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, to continue to provide guidance on the implementation of the 2010-2015 strategy for the Trust Fund and to further enhance its effectiveness as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls and to give due consideration, inter alia, to the findings and recommendations of the external evaluation of the Trust Fund;

24. *Stresses* that, within the United Nations system, adequate resources should be assigned to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and other bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes responsible for the promotion of gender equality and women's rights and

to efforts throughout the United Nations system to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls, and calls upon the United Nations system to make the necessary support and resources available;

25. *Also stresses* the importance of the Secretary-General's database on violence against women, expresses its appreciation to all the States that have provided the database with information regarding, inter alia, their national policies and legal frameworks aimed at eliminating violence against women and supporting victims of such violence, strongly encourages all States to regularly provide updated information for the database, and calls upon all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to support States, at their request, in the compilation and regular updating of pertinent information and to raise awareness of the database among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

26. *Acknowledges* the work of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as requested by the Statistical Commission, on the development of guidelines to support the production by Member States of statistics on violence against women and girls;

27. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work with a view to increasing effective support for national efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

28. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences to present an annual report to the General Assembly at its seventieth and seventy-first sessions;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report containing:

(a) Information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement resolution 67/144 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

(b) Information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

30. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-ninth and sixtieth sessions including information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolutions 65/187 and 67/144 and the present resolution, including on the progress made in enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women as a system-wide United Nations mechanism and on the progress of the Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

31. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-first session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".