



## **Beijing Platform for Action Remains Unfulfilled**

*Despite 15 years of national policies and international agreement to advance women's rights, the goals of the Platform and the MDGs remain unfulfilled.*

*Implementation has failed to recognize the full diversity of women's situations and conditions and the particular ways different women are disadvantaged.*

**Ecumenical Women, an international coalition of church denominations and ecumenical organizations at the UN, urges the UN and Member States to:**

### **End the Culture and Practice of Impunity: Violence Against Women**

- 1. End cultural practices and close legal loopholes that grant perpetrators of violence, including states, impunity.** Key to achieving this would be to (a) train and reform police, military, legal and judicial sectors that are often complicit in impunity; (b) include women in the training of the aforementioned sectors; and (c) enact and support sustainable programs for men and boys to take responsibility for ending impunity and violence against women through positive masculinities training, gender awareness and human rights education.
- 2. Conduct national and international audits** on the culture and practice of impunity regarding violence against women, especially in situations of war and conflict, racial and ethnic conflict, and extrajudicial killings; and towards migrant workers, indigenous peoples, trafficked women and women in poverty.
- 3. Enact and implement victim-centered national laws and international mechanisms** to eradicate violence against women and girls and to provide support and protection for victims of such violence. Perpetrators should be held accountable for their behavior, face the consequences of appropriate legal charges and receive professional and spiritual help in moving towards transformation.
- 4. Ensure women's participation in peace-building and peace-keeping initiatives and fulfill international commitments** and requirements to end sexual violence against women, particularly in conflict areas, as emphasized by Security Council Resolutions 1325, 1820, 1888 and 1889.
- 5. Include impunity as a future theme for CSW** in light of the persistent impunity reflected in the statements above.

## **Transform Leadership: Gender, Power, and Decision-Making**

1. **Engender leadership, institutions and decision-making processes** a) through gender-equity quotas and b) by reforming structures, policies and activities to reflect experiences, priorities, leadership styles and ways of working of both women and men.
2. **Eliminate legal barriers and create laws that ensure women's rights as decision-makers** within their communities and regarding their own lives and bodies as enshrined in the International Bill of Rights, CEDAW and the Beijing Platform.
3. **Incorporate women, in all their economic, social and racial diversity, in all levels of decision-making** to end violence against women, build peace, confront the economic crisis and achieve MDG Targets by 2015.
4. **Ensure women's voices are heard at the UN** by setting an agenda to advance women's rights in consultation with civil society and NGOs, particularly those from the Global South.

## **Establish Economic Justice: Women and the Economic and Financial Crisis**

1. **Enact global financial and economic measures that address income disparities and inequality in wealth generation and distribution** and that respond to unjust economic structures that disadvantage women in disproportionate ways.
2. **Implement policies that protect the human rights of women and girls in response to the current global financial and economic crisis**, particularly migrant workers, forced laborers, factory workers, and trafficked persons, including through effective legal and social protection mechanisms.
3. **Strengthen gender-sensitive global financial regulatory frameworks and encourage fair trade** by ensuring the accountability of international institutions, governments and corporations to adhere to human rights, labor standards and environmental agreements
4. **Ensure women's full participation in the economic sector** by removing legal, educational, employment, ownership and social service barriers, and enabling women's decision-making in micro- and macro-economic policies.
5. **Recognize unremunerated labor as work** and include it in calculations of GDP, quality of life, international economic indices, and pension and social security systems.
6. **Utilize independent reviewers, in particular grassroots women's organizations, to assess progress on women and the economy** as member states agreed to in the 23<sup>rd</sup> UN General Assembly Special Session on "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century" and the CSW's 52<sup>nd</sup> session on "Financing for gender equality and empowerment of women" and 53<sup>rd</sup> session on "The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS."