

Human Rights for Women ↔ Human Rights for All: UDHR60

3. Strengthen Gender Equality Structures in the UN

Demand: Guarantee the creation of a stronger UN women’s organization that can advance women’s human rights and gender equality, implement global policies, and deliver results on the ground for women.

Within the UN system, women’s units are fragmented, underfunded and understaffed, and their leaders do not have enough status to participate in high level decision-making. Further, gender perspectives and women’s rights are not adequately woven into UN organizational priorities at centralized or country levels. A strong new entity with higher status, additional resources, and greater staff capacity is needed to advance work on women’s empowerment and to ensure that gender equality is truly integrated within the UN system.

- Ensure that the new women’s organization has a country presence and a strong “operational” mandate.
- Create a new Under Secretary General position to head the new entity, which would enable high-level representation for women in UN decision-making and policy-development at both global and field levels.
- Ensure the new women’s organization is initially funded at a minimum level of \$500 million to \$1 billion USD, and that its budget continues to grow substantially.
- Promote the integration of gender equality and women’s human rights throughout the UN system, including in all UN reform processes such as the One UN Country Pilots.
- Promote accountability within the new women’s organization including meaningful involvement of non-governmental organizations, particularly women’s organizations, in its ongoing processes at national and global levels.

Resources

- 52nd Commission on the Status of Women, GEAR Written Submission ([Spanish](#), [French](#), [English](#))
- [Gender Equality Architecture and UN Reforms: Submission by Women’s Groups to the UN Secretary-General’s High Level Panel on System-wide Coherence \(submitted by CWGL and WEDO\)](#)
- Regional Statements on UN Gender Equality Architecture Reform ([International](#), [CEE](#), [Europe](#), [South Asia](#), and [Africa](#))