

Resolution 14/xx.

Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women:  
ensuring due diligence in prevention

The *Human Rights Council*,

pp1. *Reaffirming and building upon* its resolution 11/2 of 17 June 2009,

pp2. *Reaffirming further* Council resolution 7/24 of 28 March 2008 on the elimination of violence against women, all resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the elimination of violence against women, General Assembly resolution 64/139 of 18 December 2009 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women and all other resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women relevant to the **AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS BODIES** elimination of all forms of violence against women, and Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, 1888 of 30 September 2009, and 1889 of 5 October, 2009 on women, peace and security, [HRC 11/3 pp3]

pp3. *Underscoring* that the duty of States to exercise due diligence to prevent violence against women and girls includes **USING** all these **APPROPRIATE** means of a legal, political, administrative and cultural nature that promote the protection of human rights and ensuring that acts of violence are considered and treated as illegal acts, which may lead to the punishment of those responsible and the obligation **OF REMEDY AND REPARATION FOR THE HARM SUFFERED** ~~to indemnify the victims for damages,~~ [p.31, E/CN.4/2006/61] *GA A/RES/60/147*,

pp4. *Recognizing* that violence against women is rooted in power imbalances and structural inequality between men and women, and that effective prevention of violence against women and girls requires interventions at all levels of government, the engagement of civil society **INCLUDING MEN AND BOYS, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY**, and the adoption and implementation of multifaceted and comprehensive approaches which promote gender equality and empowerment of women, and integrate awareness, education, training, political will, legislation, accountability, targeted policies and programs, **SPECIFIC** ~~social~~ measures to reduce vulnerability, data collection and analysis, monitoring and evaluation, and protection, support and redress for women who have experienced violence, [builds on A/63/214, p.6]

**PP4(TER). ALSO RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS RELATED TO PREVENTION,**

pp5. *Recognizing also* that **WORKING TO ELIMINATE** ~~eliminating the~~ harmful attitudes, [beliefs], customs, and gender stereotypes which underlie and perpetuate violence against women is fundamental to **ENSURING** effective prevention, [based on SR reports]

DELETED PP6

**PP6bis. Recognizing** that women's inequality before the law has resulted in the lack of equal opportunities for women in education, access to health, economic participation, access to

labour and disparities in salaries and compensation, public and political participation, access to decision-making processes, inheritance, ownership of land, financial services, including loans, and nationality and legal capacity, among others, as well as increased vulnerability to discrimination and violence, and that all countries face challenges in these areas (res 12/17 OP6)

pp7. *Deeply concerned* that all forms of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination and disadvantage, can lead to the particular targeting or vulnerability to violence of some groups of women and girls, ~~such as~~ **INCLUDING** women belonging to minority groups, indigenous women, refugee and internally displaced women, migrant women, women living in rural or remote communities, women living in slums and informal settlements, **WOMEN AND GIRLS PURSUING AN EDUCATION**, women in poverty, women in institutions or in detention, women with disabilities, elderly women, widows and women in situations of armed conflict, **AND** women who are otherwise discriminated against, including on the basis of HIV/AIDS status, and ~~victims of eommereial~~ **THOSE WHO FACE** sexual **OR LABOUR** exploitation, [HRC 11/2]

pp8. *Alarmed* at the acute prevalence of violence against women and girls in situations of **ARMED** conflict and ~~insecurity~~, **OTHER VIOLENT AND INSECURE ENVIRONMENTS**, including systematic sexual violence and rape as a weapon of war, and recognizing the need to step-up efforts to prevent such abhorrent violence,

pp9. *Reaffirming* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, [UNSCR 1325, PP5]

*OP1. Stresses* that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and provide protection to women and girls who have experienced violence, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms; [HRC 11/2]

*OP2. Calls upon* States to enact and, where necessary, reinforce or amend domestic legislation and take measures to enhance the protection of women and girls **who have experienced violence** ~~and to criminalize such violence~~, to investigate, prosecute, punish and redress the wrongs done to women and girls subjected to any form of violence anywhere, whether in the home, the workplace, the community or society, in custody or in situations of armed conflict; to ensure that such legislation conforms with relevant international human rights instruments and international humanitarian law; to abolish existing laws, regulations, customs and practices which constitute discrimination against women; to remove gender bias in the administration of justice; and to take action to investigate, **prosecute** and punish persons who perpetrate acts of violence against women and girls; [HRC 11/2]

*OP2bis. Calling upon* States to fulfil their international obligations and commitments to revoke any remaining laws that discriminate on the basis of sex and remove gender bias in the administration of justice, taking into account that those laws violate their human right to be protected against discrimination (*res 12/17 OP5*)

OP3. *Calls upon* States to adopt and implement **PLACE A HIGH PRIORITY ON STRENGTHENING AND IMPLEMENTING** legal and policy measures which promote **THE FULL ENJOYMENT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS BY WOMEN AND GIRLS** ~~women's human rights,~~ **PARTICULARLY THOSE AIMED AT ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY,** empower women and **PROMOTE THEIR FULL AUTONOMY** ~~eliminate their dependency on, or subordination to, men,~~ including legal measures with regard to land, property, marriage and divorce, child custody and inheritance, and policy measures to promote equal access to literacy, education, skills training and employment opportunities, land, credit, agricultural extension, adequate housing, just and favourable conditions of work, and business and leadership skills training, recognizing their important role in the prevention of violence against women and girls; [based on A/63/214 and E/CN.4/2005/72]

OP3bis. *Urges* States to make particular efforts to fully sensitize all relevant officials to all forms of violence against women and existing laws, policies and regulations, and monitor their compliance with this framework. [A/63/214 p.19]

OP4. *Urges* States to also adopt and implement social support policies and programs that enable women to escape situations of violence and prevent its recurrence which provide, inter alia, financial support, **AND** affordable access to safe housing or shelters, childcare and other social supports, legal assistance, skills training and productive resources;

OP5. *Also urges* **STATES** Governments at all levels to promote environments and communities that are safe for women and girls, and to support the efforts of civil society and other stakeholders toward this end, including by adopting measures designed to enhance personal security and reduce the risk of violence in the community and in the workplace, in particular by ~~reducing~~ **THOSE THAT REDUCE** barriers to safe access to schools and other educational settings, drinking water sources and sanitation facilities, workplaces and livelihoods, and participation in the life of the community;

OP6. *Calls upon* **STATES** Governments to publicly condemn violence against women and provide visible and sustained leadership at the highest levels to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, and in particular in efforts to challenge and **ELIMINATE** ~~dismantle~~ the [beliefs], customs, attitudes, and gender stereotypes that lie at the core of discriminatory and harmful practices that are violent towards women, such as female genital mutilation, forced and early marriages, and honour killings, by, inter alia, ~~including by recognizing the role of and providing support to women's organizations, and grassroots social movements, the private sector and the media, and by efforts to engage the media.~~ [based on SRVAW reports]

OP6bis. *Encourages* States to conduct gender-sensitivity campaigns to address violence against women as a product of larger power imbalances between the genders, and dispel male and female stereotypes that encourage violent behaviours; [E/CN.4/2005/72, para 84 A]

OP8. *Also calls upon* States to support initiatives undertaken by women's groups, and **INTERNATIONAL AND** non-governmental organizations, the private sector, **MEDIA**, faith and community groups and other **RELEVANT** civil society actors ~~organizations,~~ aimed at promoting ~~women's human rights~~ **THE FULL ENJOYMENT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS BY WOMEN AND GIRLS** and gender equality, **AND RAISING AWARENESS OF** and preventing violence against women and girls; [builds on SRVAW reports]

OP7. *Urges* States to devote the necessary resources to ensure effective and ongoing outreach, awareness raising, education, training, and engagement with key groups who have an important role in

prevention and responding to early warning signs of violence against women and girls including community and religious leaders, health, education, justice, **PRISON** and law enforcement personnel; [based on SRVAW reports]

OP9. *Encourages* States to **INTEGRATE** adopt a gender analysis in overall-policy-making to better understand the potential impacts of policies on women and their contribution to eliminating violence against women and girls; [E/CN.4/2005/72, para 84A]

OP10. *Urges* Governments to identify and address the effects of all forms of discrimination that combine to heighten the vulnerability of women and girls to violence and includes targeted discrimination directed towards groups of women, compounded discrimination where gender and belonging to a minority or marginalized group prevents women and girls from accessing opportunities that would otherwise be available to them, and structural discrimination whereby State policies that are intended to be gender neutral adversely impact women and girls thus increasing their degree of marginalization; [A/HRC/11/ p.42]

OP11. *Also urges* States to enhance efforts to involve men and boys in efforts to prevent violence against women and in highlighting the unacceptability of violence against women ~~as a violation of women's human rights~~, including by means of campaigns and organizations targeting men and boys, awareness-raising programmes for groups of men **AND BOYS**, open dialogues on women and men working together to identify and overcome obstacles to gender equality and eliminating violence against women, and the establishment of men's groups and centres opposed to violence against women; [A/63/214, p.78]

OP12. *Stresses* that women should be empowered to protect themselves against violence and, in this regard, that women have the right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, [CHR Res. 2005/41, OP8,], and calls upon States to take all necessary legislative and policy steps to fully ~~give effect to this right~~ **EMPOWER WOMEN TO THIS END**, and in particular:

(a) to ensure that marital rape is not excluded from general criminal provisions, and to investigate these acts and to prosecute and punish the perpetrators; [CHR res. 2005/41, OP17h]

(b) to effectively promote and protect women's and girls' human rights, including reproductive rights and sexual health, in the context of HIV/AIDS to lessen their vulnerability to HIV infection and to the impact of AIDS, [as included in the summary of the Guidelines on HIV/AIDS and Human Rights] and to cooperate with United Nations bodies, programmes and specialized agencies, and international and non-governmental organizations in this regard; [CHR Res. 2005/41, OP11]

*COMMENT: A small group will be convened to develop consensus language.*

(c) to provide comprehensive, **AGE APPROPRIATE** sex education **ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH** and life skills courses, including factual information about HIV/AIDS and how it is transmitted, to ensure protection and prevent stigma and discrimination, while making efforts to reach out to population groups with less access to mainstream programmes because of poverty, a language barrier or other constraints; [E/CN.4/2005/72, para 84 B]

OP13. *Calls upon* States to intensify their efforts to systematically collect, analyse and disseminate data, including data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant information, to fully integrate data on the extent, nature and consequences of violence against women in national data collection systems, and to monitor and evaluate, on an ongoing basis, the impact of all initiatives aimed at preventing violence

against women, including legislation, policies and their implementation, programmes, and the provision of services, to better understand the effectiveness of specific measures, enable corrective action and contribute to the development of good practice, **AND TO ENSURE THAT SUCH DATA ARE PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE**; [A/63/214, p. 20]

OP14. *Expresses* support for all efforts to enhance understanding of the causes and consequences of violence against women, and encourages relevant United Nations entities to pursue their work on indicators for violence against women and invites States to use, as appropriate, the tools currently available in this regard in their research and data collection and analysis efforts;

OP15. *Encourages* States to implement Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008), **1888 (2009) and 1889 (2009)** to contribute to their efforts to prevent and respond to all conflict related sexual and gender based violence, including by ensuring increased representation of women in all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict, [UNSCR 1325, OP1 + OP10] and by supporting local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution; [UNSCR1325, OP8]

OP16. *Also encourages* States to create gender-sensitized training, ~~and~~ education programmes **AND OTHER APPROPRIATE MEASURES**, for their armed forces, ~~and~~ civilian police, ~~and~~ peacekeeping units, **AND HUMANITARIAN PERSONNEL**, that include instructions on their responsibilities towards the civilian population, particularly women and children **AS WELL AS MECHANISMS TO ENSURE ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND FULL ACCOUNTABILITY IN CASES OF MISCONDUCT INVOLVING THEIR PERSONNEL**; and in this regard, ~~elaborate and enforce a code of conduct for their military and civilian personnel based abroad and should hold those who violate the code accountable~~; [E/CN.4/2001/73, para 128]

*Encourages* troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to consider steps they could take to heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in United Nations peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police [UNSCR 1820, OP8]

OP17. *Urges* States to establish or strengthen action plans to eliminate violence against women and girls that clearly delineate government accountabilities for prevention and are supported by the necessary human, financial and technical resources, including, where appropriate, time-bound measurable targets, to promote the protection of women against any form of violence, and accelerate the implementation of existing action plans that are regularly monitored and updated by Governments, taking into account inputs by civil society, in particular women's organizations, networks and other stakeholders; [GA res. 61/143 OP 8p]

OP18. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences, as well as the ongoing contribution to prevention efforts, including her latest report on reparations for women subjected to violence;

OP20. *Decides* to devote a portion of the annual full day discussion on women's human rights at its seventeenth session to the prevention of violence against women and girls, with a view to sharing good practices and identifying remaining gaps in the area of prevention, and requests the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare and disseminate a summary of the proceedings;

OP19. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a compilation of good practices in the prevention of violence against women, in consultation with the Special Rapporteur, States, civil society and other relevant stakeholders **AND TO PRESENT THE REPORT DURING THE 2011 ANNUAL DAY DISCUSSION ON WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS;**

OP21. *Encourages* the General Assembly to ensure that the new United Nations **COMPOSITE ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT** ~~gender architecture~~ **IS ESTABLISHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND IS** given a strong mandate to address violence against women, including prevention, and to promote collaboration and coordination with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms with a view to maximizing the impact of interventions to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls;

OP22. *Decides* to continue consideration of the issue of the elimination of all forms of violence against women, its causes and consequences, as a matter of high priority, in conformity with its annual programme of work.