## Commission on the Status of Women Sixty-seventh session 6-17 March 2023

# Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls

1. The Commission on the Status of Women reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declarations adopted by the Commission on the occasion of the tenth, fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and stresses the need to further strengthen their implementation. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 1); and based on CSW65 (para 1), CSW63 (para 1), CSW62 (para 1), CSW61 (para 1), CSW60 (para 1))

2. The Commission reiterates that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocols thereto, as well as other relevant conventions and treaties, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families provide an international legal framework and a comprehensive set of measures for realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all women and girls, throughout their life course. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 2); and based on CSW65 (para 2), CSW63 (para 2), CSW62 (para 2), CSW61 (para 2), CSW60 (para 2))

3. The Commission reaffirms that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of its reviews, and the outcomes of relevant major United Nations conferences and summits and the follow-up to those conferences and summits, have laid a solid foundation for sustainable development and that the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action will make a crucial contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 3), CSW65 (para 3), CSW63 (para 3); and based on CSW62 (para 3), CSW61 (para 4), CSW60 (para 5))

4. The Commission emphasizes the mutually reinforcing relationship among achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It acknowledges that achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and women's full, equal effective and meaningful participation and decision-making in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age is essential for achieving sustainable development, promoting

peaceful, just and inclusive societies, enhancing inclusive and sustainable economic growth and productivity, ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions everywhere and ensuring the well-being of all. It recognizes that women and girls play a vital role as agents of change for sustainable development. (Based on CSW66 (para 4), CSW65 (para 9), CSW63 (para 10), CSW62 (para 8), CSW61 (para 6); adjusted to the priority theme)

5. The Commission acknowledges the important role played by regional conventions, instruments and initiatives in their respective regions and countries, and their follow-up mechanisms, in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls including in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. (Based on CSW66 (para 5), CSW65 (para 10), CSW63 (para 7), CSW62 (para 7), CSW61 (para 8), CSW60 (para 6); adjusted to the priority theme)

6. The Commission reaffirms the commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls made at relevant United Nations summits and conferences, including the International Conference on Population and Development and its Programme of Action and the outcome documents of its reviews. It recognizes that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the New Urban Agenda, the World Summit for Social Development and the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage contribute, inter alia, to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. The Commission recalls the Paris Agreement, adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. (Based on CSW66 (para 6), CSW65 (para 5), CSW63 (para 4), CSW62 (para 4), CSW61 (para 5), CSW60 (para 4); adjusted to the priority theme)

7. The Commission reiterates that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development needs to be implemented in a comprehensive manner, reflecting its universal, integrated and indivisible nature, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting each country's policy space and leadership while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, including by developing cohesive sustainable development strategies to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The Commission affirms that Governments have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda at the national, regional and global levels with regard to progress made. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 7) and CSW62 (para 11); and based on CSW65 (para 12), CSW63 (para 9), CSW61 (para 7))

8. The Commission further recalls the Declaration on the Right to Development, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 16); and based on CSW65 (para 7), CSW63 (para 5), CSW62 (para 5))

9. The Commission reaffirms that the promotion and protection of, and respect for, the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women and girls, including the right to development, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, are crucial for the full and equal participation of women and girls in society and for women's economic empowerment and should be mainstreamed into all policies and programmes. It also reaffirms the need to take measures to ensure that every person is entitled to participate in, contribute to and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development and that equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the promotion, protection and full realization of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. (Based on CSW66 (para 17), CSW65 (para 11), CSW63 (para 8), CSW62 (para 9), CSW61 (para 10), CSW60 (para 3); adjusted to the priority theme)

10. The Commission recognizes the importance of relevant International Labour Organization standards related to the realization of women's right to work and rights at work. It recalls the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization and the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and notes the importance of their effective implementation. (Based on CSW66 (para 20), CSW65 (para 6), CSW63 (para 6), CSW62 (para 6), CSW61 (para 3))

11. The Commission also recalls the establishment of the women and peace and security agenda and reaffirms that the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of women in all stages of peace processes, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding is one of the essential factors for the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security. (Based on CSW66 (para 15), CSW65 (para 57), CSW62 (para 34))

12. The Commission recalls that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action recognized that it is essential that women not only benefit from technology, but also participate in the process from design to application, monitoring and evaluation. It also recalls that in the Political Declaration on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Governments pledged to harness the potential of technology and innovation to improve women's and girls' lives and to close the development divide and the digital divide, including the gender digital divide, as well as address the risks and challenges emerging from the use of technologies. (**Based on CSW64 Political Declaration para 12(g**))

13. The Commission expresses concern about the unequal pace of digital transformation and the structural and systemic barriers preventing women and girls from being equipped with the knowledge, awareness and skills to leverage connectivity for their economic and social empowerment and to be connected at a level that allows a safe and productive online experience at an affordable cost. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 2, 12-14)

14. The Commission remains deeply concerned that all women and girls, especially in developing countries, including small island developing States, and particularly those in vulnerable situations, are often disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, biodiversity loss, extreme weather events and natural disasters and other environmental issues, such as land degradation, desertification, deforestation, sand and dust storms, persistent drought, floods, sea level rise, coastal erosion

and ocean acidification, including disproportionate exposure to risk and increased loss of life and livelihoods, and reiterates its deep concern over the challenges posed by climate change to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication. It recalls that the parties to the Paris Agreement acknowledged that they should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and intergenerational equity and, in this context, also recalls the adoption of the second gender action plan by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-fifth session. (Verbatim CSW65 (para 13); and based on CSW63 (para 20), CSW62 (para 33), CSW61 (para 22), CSW60 (para 14))

15. The Commission expresses concern that converging crises of climate change, costs of living, conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic have pushed people further behind and into extreme poverty, have compounded the disproportionate and distinct effects of digital transformation on women and girls, reinforcing negative social norms and gender stereotypes. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 2 and 16)

16. The Commission emphasizes the critical role that women play in disaster response and COVID-19 recovery efforts. It recalls that women represent the vast majority of front-line health and social workers and that they are significantly engaged in the delivery of essential and public services. It recognizes that the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation. It further recognizes that sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies are needed to reduce risks of future shocks, including through strengthening health systems and achieving universal health coverage, and that all responses are implemented with full respect for human rights. It expresses deep concern that, despite international agreements, initiatives and general declarations, there is a lack of equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines worldwide, especially for developing countries. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 29); and based on CSW65 (para 32))

17. The Commission acknowledges that multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and marginalization are obstacles to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. It respects and values the diversity of situations and conditions of women and girls and recognizes that some women face particular barriers to their empowerment. It stresses that, while all women and girls have the same human rights, women and girls in different contexts have particular needs and priorities, requiring appropriate responses. (Based on CSW66 (para 19), CSW65 (para 35), CSW63 (para 37), CSW62 (para 13); adjusted to the priority theme)

18. The Commission strongly condemns all forms of violence against women and girls, which are rooted in historical and structural inequalities and unequal power relations between men and women. It reiterates that violence against women and girls in all its forms and manifestations, online and offline, in public and private spheres, including sexual and gender-based violence, such as sexual harassment, domestic violence, gender-related killings, including femicide, harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, as well as child and forced labour, trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation and abuse are pervasive, underrecognized and underreported, particularly at the

community level. It expresses deep concern that women and girls may be particularly vulnerable to violence because of multidimensional poverty, disability, limited or lack of access to justice, effective legal remedies and psychosocial services, including protection, rehabilitation, reintegration, and to health-care services. It re-emphasizes that violence against women and girls is a major impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that it violates and impairs or nullifies their full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. (Based on CSW66 (para 39), CSW65 (para 23), CSW63 (para 13), CSW62 (para 25), CSW61 (para 14), CSW60 (para 15))

19. The Commission further condemns technology-facilitated gender-based violence and the emergence of new harmful forms of societal narratives which undermine women's online expression, forcing women and girls to self-censor, de-platform or reduce their interaction in online spaces, limiting their participation in public life and the enjoyment of human rights. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 35-38)

20. The Commission recognizes the magnitude of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, and the significant physical, sexual, psychological, social, political or economic harm it causes to women and girls, infringing on their rights and freedoms, in particular for those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and those in public life. It also recognizes the need to improve coherence of policy actions and amend legal frameworks, around principles focusing on human-rights and survivor-informed approaches, transparency, accountability and proportionality. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 35-36, 39-42)

21. The Commission also recognizes that violence against women and girls, including sexual harassment in private and public spaces, including in educational institutions and the world of work, as well as in digital contexts, impedes participation and decision-making in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age and leads to a hostile environment. (Based on CSW66 (para 41), CSW65 (para 26), CSW63 (para 14), CSW62 (para 26); adjusted to the priority theme)

22. The Commission acknowledges the need to address the effects of armed conflict and postconflict situations on women and girls, including victims and survivors of sexual violence. (Verbatim CSW65 (para 28); and based on CSW63 (para 39), CSW62 (para 34))

23. The Commission expresses concern that the current innovation ecosystems do not achieve gender equality and are characterized by an uneven distribution of power and financial resources, resulting in women being significantly underrepresented in all aspects of decision-making affecting their rights and opportunities in the digital age and being unable to benefit from the millions of decent and quality jobs created by the digital transitions. (**Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 19-23, 27-30**)

24. The Commission emphasizes that efforts to close the gender digital divide and ensure that no one is left behind in the digital economy and society must be expanded and grounded in digital equity. It recognizes that overlaying digital services onto the existing gender gaps compounds risks, making them less accessible to the most marginalized, unless their introduction is accompanied by incentives and targeted support. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, para 14)

25. The Commission emphasizes that national strategies on technology and innovation should provide a cohesive basis for gender-responsive policies and programming that fulfils the human rights and needs of women and girls. It recognizes the need to take a whole-of-society and multistakeholder approach so that each actor contributes to putting in place the conditions that will shape infrastructure, regulations, business, investments and education systems and provide a more inclusive digital environment. It takes note of the work of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality and other multi-stakeholder efforts and dialogues. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 20-23, 46)

26. The Commission recognizes that negative social norms and gender stereotypes are causing persistent gender gaps in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, preventing women's equal participation in the technology workforce, especially as content creators and entrepreneurs, and keeping them from attaining and retaining jobs in those fields. It notes that the outcomes of the Transforming Education Summit highlighted how digital literacy is negatively impacted by the lack of investments in ICT infrastructure and equipment, school connectivity, lack of public digital learning content and teachers' capacity. It emphasises the need to leverage digital technologies to improve and supplement teaching, rather than replace in-person education, for women and girls. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 14-17)

27. The Commission recognizes that, despite gains in providing access to education, girls are still more likely than boys to remain excluded from education. It also recognizes that among the gender-specific barriers to girls' equal enjoyment of their right to education are the feminization of poverty, child labour undertaken by girls, child, early and forced marriage, female genital mutilation, early and repeat pregnancies, all forms of gender-based violence, including sexual violence and harassment on the way to and from and at school, in their technology-mediated environment, the lack of safe and adequate sanitation facilities, including for menstrual hygiene management, the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work performed by girls and gender stereotypes and negative social norms that lead families and communities to place less value on the education of girls than that of boys and may influence the decision of parents to allow girls to attend school. (Verbatim CSW63 (para 29); and based on CSW65 (para 42), CSW62 (para 21))

28. The Commission recognizes that women and girls undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, which-limits women's ability to participate in decision-making processes and occupy leadership positions, and poses significant constraints on women's and girls' education and training, and on women's economic opportunities and entrepreneurial activities including in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. It stresses the need to recognize and adopt measures to reduce, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work by promoting the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men within the household and by prioritizing, inter alia, sustainable infrastructure, social protection policies and accessible, affordable and quality social services, including care services, childcare and maternity, paternity or parental leave. (Based on CSW66 (para 47), CSW65 (para 46), CSW63 (para 23), CSW62 (para 9), CSW61 (para 30); adjusted to the priority theme)

29. The Commission acknowledges women's and girls' critical contributions to their families and communities. It recognizes the importance of implementing family-friendly and family-oriented policies aimed at, inter alia, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and their enjoyment of all human rights in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age, and also recognizes the need to ensure that all digital policies and programmes are responsive to the changing needs and expectations of families in fulfilling their numerous functions and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected. (Based on CSW66 (para 48), CSW65 (para 48), CSW63 (para 34), CSW62 (para 28), CSW61 (para 16); adjusted to the priority theme)

30. The Commission reaffirms that the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is foundational to building the resilience of all women and girls. It underlines the need for strengthening access to gender-responsive, safe, available, affordable, accessible, quality and inclusive health-care services, including those related to mental health, maternal and neonatal health, menstrual health and hygiene management, and ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education. (Based on CSW66 (para 46), CSW65 (para 45), CSW63 (para 26), CSW62 (para 22), CSW61 (para 31))

31. The Commission underlines that the integration of a gender perspective in technology and innovation is essential to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It notes how it could benefit multiple goals, including strengthening access to gender-responsive, safe, available, affordable, accessible, quality and inclusive health-care services for women and girls, creating new channels to access information and education on agriculture and food production, sexual and reproductive health or climate resilience and access basic needs in humanitarian emergencies. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, para 13)

32. The Commission recognizes that the benefits of digital technologies must be equally distributed, and their development and use anchored in human rights-based approaches and participatory design. It emphasizes that serious harm and discrimination against women and girls triggered by new digital technologies call for regulations to improve accountability requirements for any human rights violations and enhance transparency on how public and private sector entities use and protect data and address the harm caused by the use of their products and services. (Based on E/CN.6/2023/3, paras 31-34)

33. The Commission acknowledges the important role of national machineries for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the relevant contribution of national human rights institutions where they exist, and the important role of civil society and the media in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. (Based on CSW66 (para 31), CSW63 (para 36), CSW62 (para 41), CSW61 (para 13); adjusted to the priority theme)

34. The Commission reaffirms the importance of significantly increasing investments to close resource gaps for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls through, inter alia, the mobilization of adequate financial resources from all sources, including

domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation, the full implementation of official development assistance commitments and combating illicit financial flows, so as to build on progress achieved and strengthen international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 55), CSW65 (para 54); and based on CSW63 (para 43), CSW62 (para 43), CSW61 (para 27), CSW60 (para 18))

35. The Commission welcomes the major contributions of civil society organizations, especially women's, young women's, girls', youth-led, grass-roots and community-based organizations, rural, indigenous and feminist groups, women human rights defenders, women journalists and media professionals and trade unions in promoting and protecting the human rights of all women and girls, placing their interests, needs and visions on local, national, regional and international agendas and in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of measures to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. It expresses concern that such civil society organizations face many challenges and barriers to full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership, including diminishing funding, as well as violence, harassment, reprisals directed at, and threats to the physical security of, their members; (Based on CSW66 (para 35), CSW65 (para 58), CSW63 (para 42), CSW62 (para 42), CSW61 (para 39), CSW60 (para 21); adjusted to the priority theme)

36. The Commission recognizes the importance of the full engagement of men and boys as agents and beneficiaries of change, and as strategic partners and allies in the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age in order to combat and eliminate the gender stereotypes, sexism and negative social norms that fuel discrimination and all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, and undermine gender equality, while noting the ongoing need to educate children from a young age regarding the importance of gender equality, human rights, treating all people with dignity and respect and promoting a culture of peace, non-violent behaviour and respectful relationships. (Based on CSW66 (para 61), CSW65 (para 60), CSW63 (para 46), CSW62 (para 45), CSW61 (para 12), CSW60 (para 22); adjusted to the priority theme)

37. The Commission urges governments at all levels and as appropriate, with the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates and bearing in mind national priorities, and invites civil society, inter alia, women's organizations, youth-led organizations, feminist groups, faith-based organizations, the private sector and national human rights institutions, where they exist, and other relevant stakeholders, as applicable, to take the following actions: (Verbatim CSW66 (para 62), CSW65 (para 61); and based on CSW63 (para 47), CSW62 (para 46), CSW61 (para 40), CSW60 (para 23))

# Prioritizing digital equity to close the gender digital divide

(a) Take action to fully implement existing commitments and obligations with respect to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full and equal enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination of any kind, including in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age; (Based on CSW66 (para (a)), CSW65 (para (a)), CSW63 (para (a)), CSW62 (para (a)); adjusted to the priority theme)

(b) Consider ratifying or acceding to, as a matter of particular priority, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocols thereto, limit the extent of any reservations, formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Conventions, review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them, withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the relevant Convention and implement the Conventions fully by, inter alia, putting in place effective national legislation and policies; (Verbatim CSW66 (para (b)), CSW65 (para (b)), CSW63 (para (b)), CSW62 (para (b)), CSW61 (para (a)), CSW60 (para (a))

(c) Mainstream gender perspectives in national digital policies, to include time-bound gender-specific targets, allocate resources, increase coherence to remove the multidimensional and discriminatory barriers faced by women and girls, especially costs of devices and data, lack of skills and safety and restrictive social norms, and coordinate actions, subsidies and incentives to provide universal meaningful connectivity and public access facilities for women and girls, especially for underserved areas; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(a))

(d) Put in place the conditions supporting the creation and expansion of safe, affordable, accessible, relevant and inclusive public and private digital tools and services addressing the most pressing needs of women and girls across sectors and geographies; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(b))

(e) Implement programmes to increase the digital literacy and skills of women and girls, focusing on their needs and building confidence and trust for meaningful use, including support for registering for identification papers, community engagement to challenge stereotypes, public awareness campaigns and the development of online content for women and girls with limited literacy or accessibility, including older women, women with disabilities or women living in remote areas; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(c))

(f) Promote whole-of-society and multi-stakeholder approaches to foster collaborations across different societal sectors and combine knowledge, skills and resources towards concrete actions to bridge the gender digital divide; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(d))

Leveraging financing for inclusive digital transformation and gender-transformative innovation

(g) Significantly increase public and private sector investments in evidence-based initiatives aimed at bridging the gender digital divide, build more inclusive and diverse innovation ecosystems and promote safe and gender-transformative innovation, including by using innovative finance mechanisms; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(e))

(h) Ensure that funding for all national and international digital policies and programmes, research grants and procurement systematically integrates gender analysis, targets and disaggregated data collection; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(f))

(i) Incentivize financial institutions and venture capital firms to support women-owned enterprises in entering the digital economy, including through minimum quotas and tying investments to gender-transformative innovation; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(g))

(j) Refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries; (Verbatim CSW66 (para (n)), CSW65 (para (d)), CSW63 (para (e)), CSW62 (para (q)), CSW61 (para (j)), CSW60 (para (n))

(k) Urge developed countries to fully implement their respective official development assistance commitments, including the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and encourage developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help meet development goals and targets and help them, inter alia, to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age; (Based on CSW66 (para (v)), CSW65 (para (ii)), CSW63 (para (mmm)), CSW62 (para (hhh)), CSW61 (para (ll)), CSW60 (para (cc); adjusted to the priority theme)

(1) Strengthen international and regional cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, bearing in mind that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, North-South cooperation, and invite all States to enhance South-South and triangular cooperation focusing on shared development priorities, with the involvement of all relevant multiple stakeholders in government, civil society and the private sector, while noting that national ownership and leadership in this regard are indispensable for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and for improving their lives and well-being; (Verbatim CSW66 (para (w)), CSW65 (para (jj)); and based on CSW63 (para (nnn)), CSW62 (para (iii)), CSW61 (para (mm)), CSW60 (para (dd))

Fostering gender-responsive digital and science and technology education in the digital age

(m) Promote and respect the right to education for women and girls throughout the life course and at all levels, especially for those who have been left furthest behind, and address gender disparities, including by investing in public education systems and infrastructure, eliminating discriminatory laws and practices, providing universal access to inclusive, equal and non-discriminatory quality education, including free and compulsory primary and secondary education, promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, eliminating female illiteracy and promoting financial and digital literacy, ensuring that women and girls have equal access to leadership training, career development, scholarships and fellowships; strive to ensure the completion of early childhood, primary and secondary education and expand vocational and technical education for all women and girls, and foster, as appropriate, intercultural and multilingual education for all; and address negative social norms and gender stereotypes in education systems; (Verbatim CSW65 (para (ccc)); and based on CSW63 (para (ww)), CSW62 (para (jj)), CSW61 (para (k)), CSW60 (para (p))

(n) Create conditions for gender-responsive digital learning environments for girls and women who have missed out on education, including by investing in school infrastructure, the development of free, safe and accessible digital public learning resources, with good-quality, multilingual and context-relevant educational content, and the training of teachers to use gender-responsive blended and hybrid learning methods and deliver digital skills training; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(h))

(o) Transform digital literacy teaching to combine technical and transferable skills allowing women and girls to be both safe and empowered in their use of digital technology, and to eliminate gender stereotypes and bias from curricula and educators' behaviours and attitudes; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(i))

(p) Promote evidence-based programmes and the exchange of best practices to improve the participation of women and girls in science and technology, including teaching of computational thinking and interdisciplinarity approaches combining the teaching of social sciences and scientific fields; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(j))

(q) Include digital citizenship teaching in schools curricula to sensitize young people, especially young men and boys, caregivers and educators to ethical and responsible online behaviour; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(k))

Promoting the participation, employment and leadership of women in technology and innovation

(r) Forecast and anticipate future job and skill needs to minimize the adverse impacts of digitalization and automation, and adapt educational and vocational curricula, reskilling and upskilling programmes to facilitate women's transition to new occupations and jobs, in particular for those at risk of being replaced by automation; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(l))

(s) Prioritize gender-responsive labour and employment policies that facilitate the recruitment, promotion and retention of women in technology, including temporary special measures, policies on care work, equal pay, sexual harassment and elimination of discriminatory practices in career advancement; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(m))

(t) Establish labour regulations and protections for women workers in the platform economy, including a minimum wage and universal and gender-responsive social protection; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(n))

(u) Provide targeted support for women-owned businesses and women entrepreneurs, including training programmes to use digital tools and services, and access to incubators and accelerators for start-ups; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(0))

(v) Ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership of women in digital cooperation and ICT and data governance, with particular attention given to young women; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(p))

(w) Strengthen the capacity of national machineries for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, by providing sufficient allocation of financial, technical and human resources, to enable them to effectively carry out their mandates; (Verbatim CSW65 (para (z)); and based on CSW63 (para (q)))

(x) Support the important role of civil society actors in promoting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all women; take steps to protect such actors, including women human rights defenders; integrate a gender perspective into the creation of a safe and enabling environment for the defence of human rights and to prevent discrimination, violations and abuses against them, such as threats, harassment, violence and reprisals; and combat impunity by taking steps to ensure that violations or abuses are promptly and impartially investigated and that those responsible are held accountable; (Based on CSW66 (para (qq)), CSW65 (para (ss)), CSW63 (para (ooo)), CSW62 (para (rrr)))

(y) Take concrete measures to realize the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standards of physical and mental health for all women and girls, and ensure the availability, accessibility and acceptability of quality health-care services to address all communicable and non-communicable diseases, including through universally accessible primary health care and support services and social protection mechanisms; (Verbatim CSW65 (para (aaa)), CSW63 (para (qq)); and based on CSW66 (para (gg)), CSW62 (para (qq)), CSW61 (para (w)))

(z) Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes, and recognizing that the human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on all matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion,

discrimination and violence, as a contribution to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and the realization of their human rights, including in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age; (Based on CSW66 (para (ii)), CSW65 (para (bbb)), CSW63 (para (uu)), CSW62 (para (uu)), CSW61 (para (x)), CSW60 (para (o)); adjusted to the priority theme)

Develop policies and programmes with the support, where appropriate, of international (aa) organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, giving priority to formal, informal and non-formal education programmes, including scientifically accurate and ageappropriate comprehensive education that is relevant to cultural contexts and that provides adolescent girls and boys and young women and men in and out of school, consistent with their evolving capacities, and with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians and with the best interests of the child as their basic concern, with information on sexual and reproductive health and HIV prevention, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, physical, psychological and pubertal development and power in relationships between women and men, to enable them to build self-esteem and foster informed decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills and to develop respectful relationships, in full partnership with young persons, parents, legal guardians, caregivers, educators and health-care providers, in order to, inter alia, enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection and other risks; (Verbatim CSW66 (para (ff)), CSW65 (para (fff)); and based on CSW63 (para (zz)), CSW62 (para (oo)))

Take all appropriate measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute women's and girls' (bb)disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work by promoting work-life balance, the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men within households and men's and boys' equitable sharing of responsibilities with respect to care and household work, including men's responsibilities as fathers and caregivers, through flexibility in working arrangements, without reductions in labour and social protections, support for breastfeeding mothers, the provision of infrastructure, technology and public services, such as water and sanitation, renewable energy, transport and information and communications technology, and the implementation and promotion of legislation and policies, such as maternity, paternity, parental and other leave schemes, as well as accessible, affordable and quality social services, including childcare and care facilities for children and other dependants, take steps to measure the value of this work in order to determine its contribution to the national economy, and challenge gender stereotypes and negative social norms in order to create an enabling environment for women's and girls' empowerment in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age; (Based on CSW66 (para (jj)), CSW65 (para (yy)), CSW63 (para (k)), CSW62 (para (g)), CSW61 (para (z)), CSW60 (para (g)); adjusted to the priority theme)

#### Adopting gender-responsive technology design, development and deployment

(cc) Encourage and assemble gender-balanced cross-functional innovation teams, integrate intersectional and social analysis into core engineering and computer science training and include gender-responsive technology design as a criterion within relevant professional standards bodies; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(q))

(dd) Promote participatory approaches for technology design, development and deployment, including community-based approaches involving women's rights organizations, to create products and services based on the principles of accessibility, inclusivity, affordability and availability and catering to the needs of all women and girls; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(r))

(ee) Adopt a human rights-based approach as standard in the financing, design, development, deployment, monitoring and evaluation of emerging technologies to prevent, identify and mitigate potential risks for women and girls; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(s))

## Strengthening fairness, transparency and accountability in the digital age

(ff) Establish mandatory requirements for impact assessments and due diligence mechanisms to identify, prevent and mitigate societal risks and the negative impacts of digital technology on women and girls, especially by including affected groups, women's rights organizations and human rights experts; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(t))

(gg) Adopt regulations mandating evaluation and audit requirements for the development and use of artificial intelligence to provide a secure and high-quality data infrastructure and systems that are either continually improved or terminated if human rights violation or gendered bias are identified; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(u))

(hh) Take concrete measures to harness digital technologies for the common good and promote norms and mechanisms facilitating accessibility and the fair distribution of the benefits of digital technologies for sustainable development and gender equality, such as global data commons; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(v))

(ii) Apply international human rights law and internationally agreed standards or principles and ensure that the Global Digital Compact advances women's rights and builds a human-centred approach to digital transformation; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(w))

#### Enhancing data science to advance gender equality

(jj) Strengthen the capacity of national statistics offices and foster collaboration among stakeholders to assess data needs and address gaps, including by financing qualitative research on women's and girls' barriers to digital inclusion, the prevalence of technology-facilitated gender-based violence and the lack of disaggregated data by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographical location and other characteristics, to ensure targeted policies and interventions; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(x))

(kk) Apply gender-responsive and human rights-based standards for data collection, use, sharing, archiving and deletion, especially to ensure the privacy of women's sensitive personal data and to strengthen the capacity of women and girls to create, curate and control their personal data; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(y))

Preventing and eliminating technology-facilitated gender-based violence and protecting the rights of women and girls online

(II) Eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spaces, online and offline, such as sexual and gender-based violence, including domestic violence, gender-related killings, including femicides, all harmful practices, including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation, sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment, as well as trafficking in persons and modern slavery and other forms of exploitation, through multisectoral and coordinated approaches to investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence and end impunity, and take appropriate measures to create a safe, enabling and violence-free working environment for women, including by ratifying key international treaties that provide protection against gender-based violence and sexual harassment; (Based on CSW66 (para (mm)), CSW65 (para (p)), CSW63 (para (h)), CSW62 (para (g)))

(mm) Adopt a comprehensive definition of technology-facilitated violence against women, as well as international methodological guidance, to understand and track patterns of harm and rights violations to guide evidence-based policymaking and programming; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(z))

(nn) Develop, amend and expand legislation and policies and strengthen their implementation to prevent and eliminate acts of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, with the meaningful participation of survivors of violence, young women and women's organizations, including survivor-informed responses and fast-track processes to facilitate the swift removal of illegal, harmful or non-consensual content; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(aa))

(oo) Provide support to survivors of technology-facilitated gender-based violence through the provision of civil and administrative alternatives for victims who have difficulty in gaining access to legal avenues owing to financial barriers or systemic discrimination, and through the provision of helplines and social and legal services; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(bb))

(pp) Strengthen the capacity of government actors, including policymakers, law enforcement officials, the judiciary, health and social workers and educators, and of civil society organizations to develop knowledge and skills to prevent and eliminate technology-facilitated violence against women and provide survivor-centred support; (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(cc))

(qq) Ensure that public and private sector entities prioritize the prevention and elimination of technology-facilitated violence against women and girls by implementing human rightsbased design approaches and safeguards that address multiple risk and protective factors that underline violence, including improved content moderation and curation; interoperability and effectiveness of reporting systems; immediate removal of illegal content and necessary, proportionate and non-discriminatory removal of other content; and adequate investments for the provision of responsive and responsible user services. (E/CN.6/2023/3, para 45(dd)) (rr) Ensure that the perspectives of women, and girls as appropriate, are taken into account in armed conflict and post-conflict situations and in humanitarian emergencies and that they effectively and meaningfully participate, on equal terms with men, in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of policies and activities related to conflict prevention, peace mediation, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction, as well as take into account the perspective of women and girls who are internally displaced and who are refugees; and ensure that the human rights of all women and girls are fully respected and protected in all response, recovery and reconstruction strategies and that appropriate measures are taken to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls in this regard; (Verbatim CSW65 (para (n)); and based on CSW62 (para (mmm)))

38. The Commission recognizes its primary role for the follow-up to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in which its work is grounded, and stresses that it is critical to address and integrate gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls throughout national, regional and global reviews of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to ensure synergies between the follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action and the gender-responsive follow-up to the 2030 Agenda. (Verbatim CSW66 (para 63), CSW65 (para 62), CSW62 (para 47); and based on CSW63 (para 48), CSW61 (para 41), CSW60 (para 27))

39. The Commission calls upon the United Nations system entities, within their respective mandates, and other relevant international financial institutions and multi-stakeholder platforms to support Member States, upon their request, in their efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. (Based on CSW66 (para 64), CSW65 (para 63), CSW63 (para 49), CSW62 (para 48), CSW61 (para 44), CSW60 (para 26); adjusted to the priority theme)

40. The Commission calls upon the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) to continue to play a central role in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and in supporting Governments and national gender equality mechanisms, upon their request, in coordinating the United Nations system and in mobilizing civil society, the private sector, employers' organizations and trade unions, and other relevant stakeholders, at all levels, in support of the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age. (Based on CSW66 (para 65), CSW65 (para 64), CSW63 (para 51), CSW62 (para 52), CSW61 (para 45), CSW60 (para 28); adjusted to the priority theme)