

**FBALMUN'24  
UN WOMEN  
STUDY GUIDE**

# Table of Contents

<b>Table of Contents.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Letter from the Secretary-General.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Letter from the Under-Secretary-General.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Introduction to the Agenda Item.....</b>	<b>5</b>
THE SNAPSHOT OF GENDER EQUALITY ACROSS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:.....	7
ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN:.....	8
POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT.....	11
SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN:.....	12
<b>Bibliography.....</b>	<b>14</b>

## Letter from the Secretary-General

Honourable delegates,

I am extremely delighted to welcome you all to the FBALMUN'24. I am Elif Erboz, the Secretary-General of FBALMUN'24. I have been attending MUN's since 2022 and now i am here. In MUN's you devalope your public speaking abilities in addition to improve your English. You become educated about world problems and solutions for them. Furthermore you widen your general knowledge in along with strengthening your diplomatic abilities. In the second annual session of FBALMUN, our academic team has decided to assign our delegates to seven unique committees: UNWOMEN, DISEC, ACEA, UNHABITAT, CONGRESS OF VIENNA, JCC: SECOND WEST RUSSIAN WAR, TURKCE KRIZ: KORE SAVASI. Within this study guide you are going find all the necessary information and guidelines which will help you about the committee. Since life is brief, the moments that will always bring us joy and that we will never forget are what truly make it special. I hope that for you, FBALMUN'24 will be one of those moments. As FBALMUN family, we are pleased to serve our attendees an unforgettable experience.

Let's #breakthecycle together.

## Letter from the Under-Secretary-General

Distinguished delegates,

Firstly, I would like to welcome you all to this meritorious conference. I am Rüzgar Avcı, and it is my distinct honor and privilege to serve as the Under Secretary-General with responsibility for the UN Women committee.

Adapting to the Model United Nations (MUN) world can be quite challenging, especially for first-timers. At first, everything might seem a bit complicated, but as you get used to it, you'll find it much easier to understand. To have effective debates, you need to be well-prepared for your committee and agenda item. The first step in your preparation is to read your study guide wordperfect, making sure you don't miss any details. After that, the rest is up to you. You can read the "Further Reading" section, do some online research about your topic, or look into books and encyclopedias. By doing this, you'll be well-prepared for your committee and agenda item.

Our committee has a comprehensive agenda item to address: "Discussing the previous and 2030 sustainable development goals that aim to realize the human rights of all and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls." This is a critical issue in today's world. To formulate effective solutions for our topic, it is imperative that you come prepared with strong arguments for discussion. Should you have any questions regarding the committee or the topic, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at any time.

Yours faithfully,

Under Secretary-General Rüzgar Avcı [avciruzgar@gmail.com](mailto:avciruzgar@gmail.com)

## **Introduction to the Agenda Item**

The empowerment and autonomy of women and the improvement of their political, social, economic and health status is a highly important end in itself. In addition, it is essential for the achievement of sustainable development. The full participation and partnership of both women and men is required in productive and reproductive life, including shared responsibilities for the care and nurturing of children and maintenance of the household. In all parts of the world, women are facing threats to their lives, health and well-being as a result of being overburdened with work and of their lack of power and influence. In most regions of the world, women receive less formal education than men, and at the same time, women's own knowledge, abilities and coping mechanisms often go unrecognized. The power relations that impede women's attainment of healthy and fulfilling lives operate at many levels of society, from the most personal to the highly public. Achieving change requires policy and programme actions that will improve women's access to secure livelihoods and economic resources, alleviate their extreme responsibilities with regard to housework, remove legal impediments to their participation in public life, and raise social awareness through effective programmes of education and mass communication. In addition, improving the status of women also enhances their decision-making capacity at all levels in all spheres of life, especially in the area of sexuality and reproduction. This, in turn, is essential for the long-term success of population programmes. Experience shows that population and development programmes are most effective when steps have simultaneously been taken to improve the status of women.

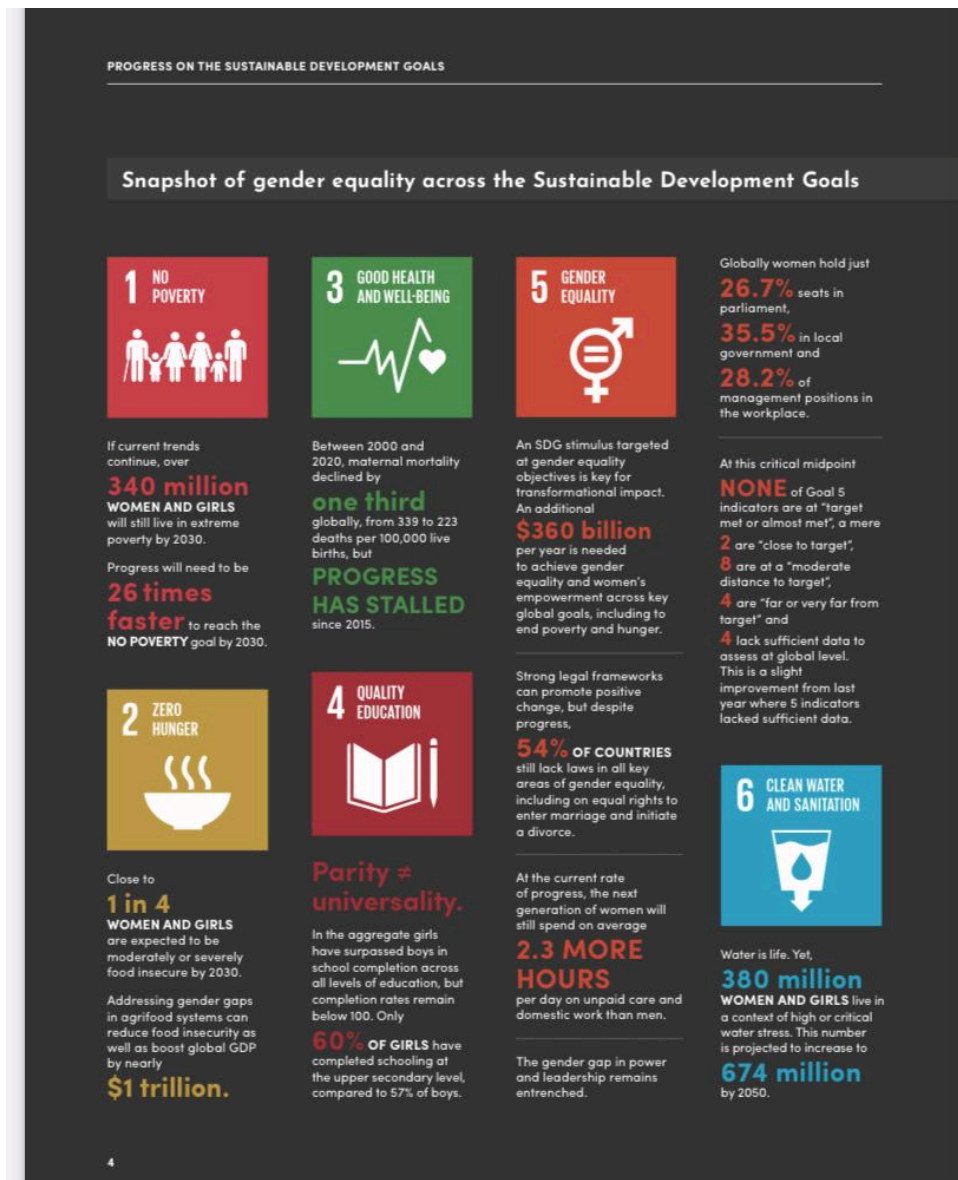
Halfway to the end point of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the world is failing to achieve gender equality, making it an increasingly distant goal. If current trends continue, more than 340 million women and girls will still



live in extreme poverty by 2030, and close to one in four will experience moderate or severe food insecurity. Growing vulnerability brought on by human-induced climate change is likely to worsen this outlook, as many as 236 million more women and girls will be food-insecure under a worst-case climate scenario.

The gender gap in power and leadership positions remains entrenched, and, at the current rate of progress, the next generation of women will still spend on average 2.3 more hours per day on unpaid care and domestic work than men. No country is within reach of eradicating intimate partner violence, and women's share of workplace management positions will remain below parity even by 2050. Fair progress has been made in girls' education, but completion rates remain below the universal mark.

# THE SNAPSHOT OF GENDER EQUALITY ACROSS THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS:





## ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT OF WOMEN:

- **One in every 10 women is living in extreme poverty (10.3 per cent).** If current trends continue, by 2030, an estimated 8 per cent of the world's female population – 342.4 million women and girls – will still be living on less than \$2.15 a day. Most (220.9 million) will reside in sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Women are less likely to have access to social protection.** Gender inequalities in employment and job quality result in gaps in access to



social protection acquired through employment, such as pensions, unemployment benefits, or maternity protection. Coverage of women lags behind men by 8 per cent (34.3 per cent and 26.5 per cent, respectively). Globally, an estimated 73.5 per cent of women in wage employment do not have access to social protection.

- **Women are more food insecure than men.** Gender gaps in food insecurity have grown from 1.7 per cent in 2019 to more than 4 per cent in 2021, with 31.9 per cent of women moderately or severely food insecure compared to 27.6 per cent of men. This is even more acute for older and indigenous women, women of African descent, gender-diverse persons, persons with disabilities, and those living in rural and remote areas [7].

**Women and girls suffer most from the dearth of safely managed water and sanitation.** Women and girls are responsible for water collection in 70 per cent of households without access to water on premises. Menstrual hygiene management is difficult in the absence of water, soap, and gender-responsive sanitation facilities, whether at home, school, or work. **5. Women are less likely than men to have access to financial institutions or have a bank account.** The gender gap in bank account ownership has dropped in 2021 after years of stagnation, although rates vary across economies. In developing economies, the gender gap stands at 6 per cent per cent while globally it sits at 4 per cent with 78 per cent of men reporting having an account at a formal financial institution compared to 74 per cent of women.

**The digital divide remains a gendered one** with 37 per cent of women globally not using the internet, meaning 259 million fewer women have access to the internet than men.

**Women's economic empowerment is essential to achieving women's rights and gender equality.** Women's economic empowerment means ensuring women can equally participate in and benefit from decent work and social protection; access markets and have control over resources, their own time, lives, and bodies; and increased voice, agency, and meaningful participation in economic decision-making at all levels from the household to international institutions.

- **Promoting women's economic justice and rights in the economy and closing gender gaps in the world of work are key to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **When more women work, economies grow.** Women's economic empowerment increases economic diversification and income equality for shared prosperity ]. It is estimated that closing the gender gap could give the global economy a USD 7 trillion boost.
- **Increasing women's and girls' educational attainment contributes to women's economic empowerment and more inclusive, environmentally sustainable economic growth.** Education, upskilling, and re-skilling—especially to keep pace with rapid technological transformations affecting jobs—are critical for women's and girls' health and wellbeing, as well as their income-generation opportunities and participation in the formal labour market.
- **Women's economic equality is good for business.** Companies greatly benefit from increasing employment and leadership opportunities for women, which is shown to increase organizational effectiveness and growth. It is estimated that companies with three or more women in senior management functions score higher in all dimensions of organizational performance

## **POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT**

Women's political empowerment and leadership is fundamental to achieving gender equality, but globally women are significantly under-represented in political and electoral processes.

As of 2015, there were more women politicians than in any point in history, representing 22 percent of the world's national parliamentarians; by comparison, in 1995 just 11 percent of national parliamentarians were women. Millions more women are elected at sub-national levels.

Despite this progress, however, women remain significantly under-represented as voters, candidates, elected representatives and electoral administrators worldwide, and are largely excluded from the most senior decision-making positions within the executive government.

Some electoral systems are not conducive to women participating in equal numbers. Political parties may not nominate women to winnable positions. Women candidates tend to have less access to financial resources for electoral campaigns, and face a number of practical barriers. Media organizations oftentimes perpetuate negative gender-based stereotypes.

A combination of institutional and structural constraints, as well as cultural and attitudinal barriers that suggest women should not have a role in public life, result in their leadership being challenged in the home, the community.

UN Women has identified four priority outcome areas, which will require actions from a coalition of partners to achieve transformative change:

1. Support development and implementation of robust legal frameworks and administrative arrangements, including relevant reforms to constitutions, laws, regulations or party statutes, and policy actions such as setting numerical targets for women in leadership positions with temporary special measures (TSMs) and reforming party statutes.
2. Expand and diversify the pool of qualified and capable women to run for election, including through initiating programmes that boost women's confidence and capacity to lead, enhancing their campaign strategies and techniques and promoting linkages with supportive civil society organizations.
3. Transform gender norms so that women are accepted as legitimate and effective leaders, including through developing campaigns that sensitize the media and electorate on the need for women in public life at all levels, and by working with men and male champions.
4. Support women leaders in gender-sensitive political institutions, including parliament, political parties and Election Management Bodies (EMBs), to create opportunities for women to work at different levels of government. Attracting, promoting and retaining women leaders, and highlighting the constructive contribution they make to decision-making, will help create role models.

## **SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN:**

Social empowerment refers to the ability of women and girls to act individually and collectively to change social relationships and the institutions and discourses that exclude them and keep them in poverty. At home, this for instance involves the ability of women to decide and discuss with their partner whether or not to use contraceptives. Outside their home, it means that women

and girls can build positive relationships, participate in social activities and decision making, without being restricted by gender norms.

An important aspect of social empowerment is to address prevailing gender norms and roles, in order to improve women's and girl's participation and position in civil, economic and social spheres. By engaging communities in dialogues, we create space to discuss and tackle limiting social and cultural norms.



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