

A/2:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_2Kh75iARPLMoRUo_ey1EHLOIkkIWNoDBi6vy1AXEc/edit?usp=drivesdk

A/3:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KQ0PPx5835ul3LNTckj27W96SpGeRvohLjFFfiGXj5Y/edit?usp=drivesdk>

Committee: UN Women

Sponsors: Canada, Libya, Cambodia, Algeria, and Chile

Topic: Addressing the Role of Women in the Informal Economy

Signatories: *Mexico, Kenya, Ukraine, Sudan, Ecuador, Venezuela, South Africa, USA, France, UK,*

Czech Republic, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Greece, Turkey, Panama

Speakers: Canada and Cambodia

ADDRESSING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY

To the General Assembly,

Acknowledges the importance of women's contributions to the global economy

Promoting education and vocational training for women in need to develop skills

Providing microfinance and financial assistance for women working informally and helping them achieve financial independence

Bearing in mind the struggle for mothers balancing careers and childcare

Expanding women's participation in the formal economy by helping them start their own businesses

Encouraging the use and development of technology to simplify and equalize the economy

I. Education

a. Vocational Training

- i. Expand SIHA (Strategic Initiative for Women in Africa)'s model internationally.
 1. Local training hubs in rural areas to reach women globally
 2. Teaches vocational training and legal-rights education
 3. Funded through institutional grants, public donations, and government aid
 4. In Uganda, 75% reported increased income
- ii. Women for Women's International Empowerment program
 1. Vocational training to teach marketable job skills that make women more valuable for higher-quality work
 2. Graduates from the WFW program increased average monthly earnings by up to 40% after completing skills training and business mentoring.

b. Increased education opportunity for women

- i. Model after Teachers Without Borders to create internships for aspiring teachers
 1. Free opportunity for women to learn more about business strategies and gain experience
 2. Prioritize sending teachers to rural areas with a focus on girls who lack education

II. Financial Assistance

- a. Modeling off of SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association) to support women

- i. Regular banks will not loan money to women without any security, such as property or collateral
- b. Creating new banks under SEWA for women
 - i. Partner with UN Women to provide women in need with loans and protected accounts.
 - ii. With financial security, these women can finally handle emergencies. Over 3.7 million women in the program now have this support.
- c. Cash transfers
 - i. Partner with the UNDP to provide women in need with targeted cash transfers.
 - ii. Cash transfers are direct payments to vulnerable individuals or households, often requiring economic and background checks to ensure the money goes toward productive uses.

III. Child & Maternal Care

- a. Expand child care and recognize unpaid care work.
 - i. Collaborate with the Network for Early Childhood Care and Development (NECCD) to establish affordable daycares for all mothers.
 - ii. Allow mothers to have more time to work, attend training, run their businesses, learn new skills, and look for better job opportunities.
- b. Expand Jhpiego's (Jay Pie Go) maternal-health programs, training local health workers and women in prenatal, delivery, and postpartum care.
 - i. Provides both accessible maternal care and economic opportunities
 - ii. Ex: Over 1,000 healthcare providers trained in Tanzania through Jhpiego

- iii. Self-sustaining training systems where an initial group of people is trained. These trainees become educators themselves and pass knowledge down to other healthcare providers.

IV. Entrepreneurship

Self-sustaining banks and community groups for women with small businesses

- a. Financial program, modeled off of WE-FI (Women Entrepreneurs Finance Initiative)
 - i. An international program that focuses on access to finance, technology, and networks, partnering with the World Bank. Creates and changes laws to help women start businesses
 - ii. Gives women easy access to loans and financial aid to get their business up and running
 - iii. Women are interviewed on their business idea, and then receive personal support through the process of starting their business
 - iv. Offers volunteers as employees to begin, until women can hire
- b. Banks guided towards supporting women
 - i. Offers easier loans for women who might not have otherwise had access
 - ii. Grace period of 1-2 years, especially for new businesses
 - 1. Helps women feel less pressure so they can focus on their business

V. Technology

- a. Simplifying Business Formalization
 - i. Will allow for business registration, tax filing, and municipal services in a single online app or online form

- ii. Creates a slow, manageable registration for small enterprises that allows the transition to formal business to be uncomplicated
- b. Leveraging digital inclusion for economic empowerment.
 - i. Build tech centers in communities by partnering with Women in Tech and provide women with safe environments, computers, Wi-Fi, and e-commerce/digital marketing skills
 - ii. Allow women to advertise, communicate with customers, use electronic payments, and access markets.