



Review Theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls
(Agreed Conclusions of the sixty-third session)

**Friday, 15 March 2024, 10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. and 3.00 – 6.00 p.m.,
United Nations Headquarters**

Overview

In accordance with its working methods, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) each year will evaluate progress in the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that includes:

- (a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identify means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;
- (b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data in regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global level.

The outcome of the discussion on the review theme will be in the form of a summary by the Chair of the Commission, prepared in consultation with the regional groups, through the members of the Bureau.

The review will be supported by a report of the Secretary-General on progress made on the review theme at the national level ([E/CN.6/2024/4](#)).

Review theme at CSW68

The review theme of the Commission at its sixty-eighth session in 2024 will be the Agreed Conclusions on “*Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls*”, adopted by the Commission at its sixty-third session, in March of 2019 ([E/CN.6/2019/L.3](#)).

The Agreed Conclusions emphasized action in seven key policy areas, with the full and effective participation and leadership of women and girls:

1. Strengthen normative, legal and policy frameworks to ensure gender equality in social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure.
2. Improve women’s and girls’ access to social protection.
3. Improve women’s and girls’ access to public services, including care services.

4. Make infrastructure sustainable and benefit women and girls, including by reducing and redistributing unpaid care and domestic work.
5. Significantly increase investment in social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure.
6. Strengthen women's participation and leadership in decision-making related to social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure.
7. Improve gender statistics and disaggregated data on social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure.

Member States making voluntary presentations should specifically address some or all of these key areas of focus of the Agreed Conclusions since adoption in March 2019. Member States should provide concrete examples of measures taken in response to the Agreed Conclusions from CSW63 and their impacts or results; identify good practice examples, as well as key lessons, gaps and challenges; and highlight successful inclusive collaboration with stakeholders and comprehensive approaches to the implementation of the Agreed Conclusions. Member States are encouraged to make reference to specific measures on social protection, public services and sustainable infrastructure taken to address the impacts of crises, e.g., climate and environment, COVID-19, cost of living (food and energy) and debt, on women and girls.

Proposed format for the review

In order to enable an interactive dialogue, up to 12 Member States will make voluntary presentations. Each voluntary presentation will be no more than 25 minutes, including comments and questions by '**partner countries**', and brief responses by the presenting Member State. It is proposed that each presenting country identifies in advance 2 to 3 '**partner countries**' to comment on its presentation, including posing questions. The '**partner countries**', could be invited based on ongoing cooperation with the presenting country, on similar experiences, or because they would seek to benefit from the lessons of the presenting country. Presenting Member States may also wish to consider inviting a United Nations entity and civil society organizations to contribute to the discussion from the floor.

Timetable

The following Member States have been designated to make voluntary presentations: **Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico** (Latin American and Caribbean States Group); **Iran and Jordan** (Asia and Pacific States Group); **Australia** (Western European and other States Group); **Mali, Morocco, and Rwanda** (African States Group); **Poland and Ukraine** (Eastern European States Group).

Each presenting country should make available, **at least one week prior to its presentation, a short synopsis** so as to facilitate the contribution of '**partners**', and to share information with all participants in the Commission.

CSW68 will allocate **two meetings** for the review, totaling 6 hours. Approximately 25 minutes will be allotted to each presentation (voluntary presentation, comments from partners and responses from partner countries) and there will be additional time allotted for questions at the end of each session.

Technical briefing by UN-Women

UN-Women will hold a technical briefing for the Member States making voluntary presentations at CSW68, on **23 January 2024** and **5 March 2024**.

UN-Women country offices, as applicable, stand ready to support national consultations and preparations for the voluntary presentations.

Format of voluntary presentations

Voluntary presentations should:

- At national level, be prepared through a multi-stakeholder consultation;
- Focus on actions taken since March 2019 in response to the CSW63 Agreed Conclusions;
- Focus on lessons learned, challenges and best practices, covering one or more areas of the Agreed Conclusions; and
- Be presented, if possible, by a team of up to 3 speakers, led by a senior Government official, and including a civil society/media representative.