



## Celebrating 25 years of championing women's rights

The <u>Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action of 1995</u> (Beijing Platform for Action) is the most visionary agenda for the empowerment of women and girls, everywhere. Developed at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China — known as the largest-ever gathering of gender equality advocates — the Beijing Platform for Action was adopted by 189 governments committed to taking strategic, bold action in 12 critical areas of concern: poverty, education and training, health, violence, armed conflict, economy, power and decision-making, institutional mechanisms, human rights, media, environment and the girl child.

In 2020, it will be 25 years since the Beijing Platform for Action set out how to remove the systemic barriers that hold women back from equal participation in all areas of life, whether in public or in private. Despite some progress, real change has been agonizingly slow for the majority of women and girls in the world. Today, not a single country can claim to have achieved gender equality. Multiple obstacles remain unchanged in law and in culture. As a result, women remain undervalued, they continue to work more, earn less, have fewer choices and experience multiple forms of violence at home and in public spaces. UN Women stands at the centre of mobilizing governments and civil societies to keep the promises of the Beijing Platform for Action to all of society. In everything it does, it is committed to making gender equality a lived reality for all women and girls who have historically been marginalized and who have waited long enough. This is a vision of a more prosperous, peaceful and fair world that is ultimately better for both women and men alike.



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## **Generation Equality begins now**

In today's world, both women and men—and girls and boys—all over the world are speaking up for themselves and for those who have been silenced, stigmatized and shamed for far too long. Many are from a new generation. They are seizing the moment to reimagine economies, societies and political systems so that they uphold human rights and achieve gender equality, leaving no one behind.

UN Women is bringing together the next generations of women's rights activists with the gender equality advocates and visionaries who were instrumental in creating the Beijing Platform for Action more than two decades ago. Collectively, these change makers of all ages and genders can tackle the unfinished business of empowering women through a new groundbreaking, multigenerational campaign: **"Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights for an Equal Future."** 

The **Generation Equality** campaign demands equal pay, equal sharing of unpaid care and domestic work, an end to sexual harassment and all forms of violence against women and girls, health-care services that respond to their needs and their equal participation in political life and decision-making in all areas of life.

## A series of galvanizing moments

The Beijing Platform for Action 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration in 2020 is a rallying point to insist on finally achieving the human rights of all women and girls and will be organized as a global mobilization.



Throughout the year, UN Women will

build on other galvanizing moments in the 21<sup>st</sup> century women's rights movement:

- 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of <u>UN Security Council resolution 1325</u> on women, peace and security;
- 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN Women's establishment as the global champion for the empowerment of women and girls;
- 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the global <u>Sustainable</u> <u>Development Goals</u>.



## A Roadmap to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration While on the road to commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the following are a few key moments for UN Women to engage with gender equality advocates from governments and civil society:

11 – 22 MARCH 2019 UN Commission on the Status of Women UN Headquarters, New York	MAY 2019 National reviews of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action	NOV/DEC 2019 Regional meetings and reviews of implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action	7-8 MAY & 7-10 JULY 2020 Generation Equality Forum Mexico City, Mexico & Paris, France	25 SEPTEMBER 2020 High-Level Meeting of the UN General Assembly UN Headquarters, New York
APRIL 2019 Equal Pay International Coalition Conference Reykjavík, Iceland	24 – 26 APRIL 2019 The Tunis Forum on Gender Equality Tunis, Tunisia	• 3 – 6 JUNE 2019 Women Deliver Conference Vancouver, Canada	9 – 20 MARCH 2020 The 64 <sup>th</sup> session c Commission on tl UN Headquarters, No	he Status of Women

Photos (from top, left to right): UN Women/Dragana B. Stevanovic, UN Women/Joe Saad, World Bank/Maria Fleischmann, UN Women/Emad Karim, UN Women/Joe Saad, UN Photo/Marco Dormino, UN Women/Janarbek Amankulov, UN Women/Pornvit Visitoran.