

Interactive multi-stakeholder hearing on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

Thursday, 24 July 2025

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters

CONCEPT NOTE

Mandate

The President of the General Assembly, with the support of UN-Women, will organize and preside over an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, pursuant to General Assembly resolution <u>79/288</u>, entitled "Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women", as part of the preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly.

Background

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a pivotal milestone for global gender equality efforts. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPfA) is considered the most progressive global framework for advancing the rights of women and girls. This anniversary comes at a critical juncture, with less than five years to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. Yet, the world is facing deepening inequalities, interconnected crises and growing pushback against women's and girls' rights.

Despite notable progress in areas such as girls' education and maternal health, significant challenges persist. For example, 90% of countries have laws to eliminate violence against women and girls, and 79% have national action plans, yet most do not allocate sufficient funding or enforcement mechanisms. Although 70% of countries are promoting science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and digital skills for women and girls, education gains are not translating into equitable employment outcomes. Social protection systems have expanded in 79% of countries, but marginalized women, especially those in informal work, remain underserved.

As these trends underscore the need for renewed investment and accountability, the Beijing+30 Action Agenda serves as a strategic roadmap to reinvigorate and accelerate the implementation of

commitments made. It outlines concrete priorities for investment, governance and accountability that are needed to close persistent gaps. By aligning with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Beijing+30 Action Agenda provides a forward-looking platform to re-energize global efforts and build political momentum grounded in evidence, inclusion and partnerships.

Recognizing both the urgency and opportunity of this moment, the General Assembly adopted in December 2023 resolution 78/182, which decided to convene a one-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly at its eightieth session to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, so as to accelerate the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The high-level meeting will take place on 22 September 2025 during the eightieth session of the General Assembly.

Objectives

The hearing will bring Member States, UN entities, civil society, youth, the private sector, philanthropy and academia, to further invigorate collective actions and drive political momentum for the Beijing+30 Action Agenda ahead of the September high-level meeting. It will also draw on the experience of Generation Equality as a model of multi-stakeholder partnerships and a way of working, having demonstrated the value of shared leadership, joint accountability and intergenerational and whole-of-society engagement in advancing gender equality.

The discussions will draw linkages with the Pact for the Future, SDG 5 on gender equality and other goals under review at HLPF 2025, notably SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 8 on descent work and economic growth, and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals. Additionally, discussions will be guided by the outcomes and recommendations of other United Nations intergovernmental processes, including the sixty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and relevant initiatives, notably the regional Beijing +30 reviews and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) presented at the HLPF.

The multi-stakeholder hearing will take stock of progress, transformative changes achieved, gaps, lessons learned and emerging priorities on gender equality in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will spotlight gender equality as a systemic driver of sustainable development and reaffirm its centrality to achieving the full ambition of the 2030 Agenda. Leveraging UN Women's triple mandate, particularly the coordination mandate, it will emphasize system-wide coherence, accountability and ambition, key elements in support of the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Format

The multi-stakeholder hearing will consist of an opening segment and a panel discussion followed by an interactive discussion

There will be no pre-established list of speakers for the interactive panel discussion. Participants are invited to indicate their interest to intervene by pressing the microphone button. To allow a maximum number of participants, the time limit for all interventions will be three minutes and will be strictly enforced by means of automatic microphone cut-off.

The United Nations Webcast services will provide live streaming coverage of the meeting as well as on-demand coverage (recorded video) in all six UN official languages plus floor language, through the UN Web TV website at: <u>http://webtv.un.org</u>.

Participation

Participation will be open to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies that have observer status with the General Assembly, intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly, and parliamentarians, representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, national human rights institutions where they exist, academic institutions and the private sector.

Programme Outline

Time	Session
10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Opening segment
10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Interactive panel discussion

Guiding questions

- What is one concrete way your work is helping to deliver gender equality outcomes and contribute to broader SDG goals in your community, country or sector? What gaps do you see?
- How are partnerships and collective action enabling you to scale your impact?
- What is one action that can be taken to accelerate your efforts towards 2030?

Outcome

As mandated by the General Assembly resolution <u>79/288</u>, the President of the General Assembly will prepare a summary of the interactive multi-stakeholder hearing prior to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly.

Accessibility Arrangements

Delegations are requested to inform the Secretariat of the accessibility requirements of their delegates in order to facilitate participation in meetings. Upon request, adjustments can be made to seating arrangements with a view to enabling the participation of persons with disabilities. For individual requests, please contact the Meetings Support Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (e-mail: accessibilitycentre@un.org; phone: 212-963-7348/9) no later than three working days prior to the meeting.