

BRINGING BEIJING HOME

A simplified version of
The Beijing Platform for Action

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INTRODUCTION

The journey leading to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action began in 1945 when the United Nations was formed. In June of that year world leaders gathered in San Francisco, USA, for the first UN General Assembly. The Second World War had just ended. In that meeting there were also women delegates who demanded that special attention be given to women's concerns. This explains why the UN Charter says in its Introduction that it reaffirms "faith in fundamental human rights... in the equal rights of men and women." Since that time women have never looked back and have made great strides.

The first Women's World Conference was held in Mexico City in 1975 and came up with a Plan of Action. The UN then declared the period 1976-1985 as the Women's Decade. During this time in 1979 world leaders accepted the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Women met again in 1980 in Copenhagen and The Women's Decade (ten years after Mexico) was held in Nairobi where the Forward Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women were produced.

Other UN Conferences were also held in the interim period. In 1992 the Earth Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro; the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993; the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo in 1994; and the World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995.

All these conferences led to the women's conference in Beijing in August/September 1995, when 185 nations of the world including Kenya met to discuss and plan for long term objectives and goals of **equality, development and peace** that were going to be the basis for policy and planning efforts for the betterment of women's lives to the year 2000.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action is arranged as follows:

Part I has the Beijing Declaration where world governments including Kenya state their stand on women, their commitments to and concerns about the world's women.

Part II is the Platform for Action which is divided into six chapters. These include the Mission Statement ; the Global Framework; the Critical Areas of Concern with twelve points; Strategic Objectives and Actions; the Institutional and Financial Arrangements.

The ECWD has compiled this simplified version of the Beijing Document

for Kenyan women to have an understanding and easy access to the Platform of Action and to see how it will impact and improve Kenyan women's lives. The Centre plans to translate it into Kiswahili and other local languages. Share this booklet with others.

The Centre wishes to thank Danish Association for International Cooperation (MS Kenya) for its moral and material support in helping to produce this relevant document, and to bring it home to Kenyan women at different levels of society. We also wish to extend our gratitude and acknowledge the International Women's Tribune Centre for the use of their artwork.

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THE BEIJING DECLARATION

The Kenya government, along with other 185 world governments which participated in the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing have stated that they:

- Support Equality, Development and peace for ALL women everywhere in the interest of all humanity (both women and men).
- Recognise and are ready to listen to the voices of all women worldwide and take note of the different backgrounds of women, their roles and conditions. They honour the women who have taken the lead in society and are inspired by the hope they see in the World's youth.
- Are aware that although there has been some positive changes in the conditions of women in the 10 years since the Women's Decade Conference held in Nairobi Kenya in 1985 not all women have benefited and none of the strategies have been implemented. Inequalities between women and men continue to exist. There are other major obstacles which, together with the inequalities, have serious consequences for the well-being of women and all humanity - women, men and children.
- Are also aware that this unequal status between women and men is made worse by increasing poverty which is affecting the lives of the majority of the World's people particularly women and children. Poverty is a direct result of internal and external factors.
- Rededicate themselves to address the obstacles and hindrances so as to ensure greater progress and empowerment of women all over the world. They agree that this task requires urgent action.

The Commitment Of World Governments

In the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, Governments reaffirm their commitment to equal rights and human dignity (self-respect) of women and men as set out in the Charter of the United Nations. They are also committed to other international human rights agreements particularly:

- a) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- b) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
- c) Convention on the Rights of the Child,
- d) Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and
- e) Declaration on the Right to Development

THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN TO WOMEN

The Platform For Action contains twelve critical areas of concern which are obstacles to the advancement of women.

Each thematic area states the position of women and offers corresponding objectives to be taken. These are set out below.

- a) Women and Poverty
- b) Education and Training of Women
- c) Women and Health
- d) Violence Against Women
- e) Women and Armed Conflict
- f) Women and the Economy
- g) Women in Power and Decision-making
- h) Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women
- i) Human Rights of Women
- j) Women and the Media
- k) Women and the Environment
- l) The Girl Child



WOMEN AND POVERTY



The burden of poverty in the world is borne by women who constitute 70% of the world's 1.2 - 1.3 billion poor. Rural women live in abject poverty and their conditions are worsening. In Kenya the per capita income is far below the UN's definition of poor countries. 11 million Kenyans live below the poverty line. In Africa, poverty seem to bear the face of women. There are many factors for the increasing poverty:

1. Lack of economic opportunities for women to earn a living. They do not control the means of production or own the land they work on.
2. Large families as they cannot control their own sexuality.
3. SAPs and their consequences affect women most directly.

The Kenya government is yet to put into place policies that do away with causes of poverty. In 1974 poverty for Kenya's rural areas was 33%. In 1992 it had increased; the percentage of women among the rural poor went from 97% in 1982 to 53% in 1992.

Actions to be taken:

- Encourage small scale industries and businesses which women can do from their home.
- Establish support systems that give women greater accessibility to land to ensure food availability.
- Make access to loans easy and set up a "Grain Bank" type of institution in Kenya which gives loans to women without security; and training to utilise the loans when they are given.
- Softening the impact of SAPs, proper use of donor funds, and channeling more funds towards women's projects to bring about a more equitable distribution of resources.
- The Task Force on Laws Relating to Women to review laws affecting women and their access to monetary funds.

Women themselves have to break this cycle of poverty for all the other critical areas of concern to be successfully addressed.



EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WOMEN



The document states that there should be equal access to education and that by the year 2000 there should be universal access to primary education. Approximately 500 million children start primary school but more than 100 million children 2/3's drop out before standard 4. At University level in Africa, the average ratio of women to every 100 men is 32, In Asia and the Pacific 84, in Western Europe 94, in Eastern Europe 104, and Latin America 106. Africa is lagging behind.

In Kenya there is equal enrollment at Standard One level for both girls and boys however by Standard Four, girls begin to drop out. Only 34% of girls enrolled in Kenyan primary schools complete Standard Eight. Over 70% of women over the age of 45 are illiterate in Africa and Asia.

1. Two thirds of all illiterate people in the world are women, and the majority are rural women.
2. In Kenya the national illiteracy level of women is 55%.

Actions to be taken

- Provide, by the year 2000, universal access to basic education by at least 80 per cent of primary school-age children;
- Close the gender gap in primary and secondary education by the year 2005 and achieve universal primary education before the year 2015.
- Ensure increased enrollment and retention rates of girls into schools
- Reduce the female illiteracy rate, especially among rural, migrant, refugee, internally displaced and disabled women, to at least half the 1990 level;
- Develop non-discriminatory education and training, including vocational training, especially in science and technology.
- Maintain or increase funding levels for education in structural adjustment and economic recovery programmes.
- Provide support for child care and other services to mothers;
- Create flexible education, training and programmes for lifelong learning.



WOMEN AND HEALTH

The health of women suffers from many disadvantages. The suffering is made worse by poverty, violence, and the absence of food (poor nutrition). Although in some parts of the world, women live longer, in most developing countries including Kenya they don't live as long. In Africa, the chances of a woman dying from pregnancy complications are 1-23 compared to 1-4000 in North America. Women's health is affected by many factors, including biological differences and social conditions, discrimination and lack of access to and inadequate health care and other services. Lack of food, deficient housing and inadequate access to safe drinking-water pose a threat to rural and other women's health. Morbidity and mortality rates of women, are still high due to inadequate attention to reproductive health..

Kenyan women are still exposed to the following health problems:

Inadequate primary health services

Malnutrition and anaemia

Diarrhea diseases

Communicable diseases

Malaria

Other strange tropical diseases

Tuberculosis

HIV/AIDS

Health problems due to:

- 1) lack-of food and inequitable distribution of food.
- 2) inadequate access to safe water
- 3) sanitary facilities
- 4) lack of fuel supplies
- 5) preference for male children

In terms of figures and numbers (Statistics)

- Women now constitute 40 per cent of those infected by HIV worldwide of whom about four million may die.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa which includes Kenya, unlike any other region,

the percentage of women infected with HIV is as high if not higher than men. Recent figures from Kenya National AIDS Control Programme show that the number of women catching HIV/AIDS compared to men is on the increase. This is because, among other things, women receive and retain for long AIDS causing germs (HIV) when they sleep with men who have HIV/AIDS.

- Each year at least half a million women, throughout the world die from pregnancies which are not normal (as is expected) and another 100,000 die due to unsafe abortions.
- In many developing countries including Kenya, female life expectancy is lower than that of the male.
- A pregnant African woman is 180 times more likely to die than a pregnant woman in America and England.
- Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa, is about 6 children per woman. This is the highest in the world. The reason for this is that in most of Africa, women do not have a choice over pregnancy. Women do not have freedom to choose the number, spacing and timing of children.

Women face particular health risks such as in:

- pregnancy
- unsafe abortions
- HIV/AIDS - and other STD's
- sexual and gender based violence e.g. trafficking in women and girls
- mental disorders
- cancers of the breast/cervical
- old age
- insufficient statistical data.



Actions to be taken

- Family planning to be easily accessible and women should have sexuality control free of coercion, discrimination and violence.
- Design and implement gender-sensitive health programmes;
- Provide affordable primary health care;
- Give particular attention to the needs of girls;
- Involve women in decision-making on HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, facilitate the development of strategies to protect women from HIV and other STDs, and ensure the provision of affordable preventive services for STDs and HIV;
- Promote research on women's health, increase the number of women decision-makers in the health sector, develop and encourage dissemination of data and research findings on women's health;
- Increase funding for health care and social services.
- Promote higher standard of physical and mental health
- Provide health services in conjunction with community based organisations
- Provide affordable primary health and reproductive care
- Make health information, services and training for health workers available
- Deal with the health impact of unsafe abortions.
- Control and follow (monitor) drug procurement
- Provide safe drinking water
- Other organisations should help to implement government policies
- Involvement of both hospital and community care especially for those infected with HIV/AIDS

Special attention should be paid to female genital mutilation (FGM) - as female circumcision has not decreased in spite of laws prohibiting it in many areas of Kenya such as Meru, Kisii, Kikuyu, Maasai.

There is an urgent need on the part of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and the Government to carry out major education campaign to enlighten the affected communities on the dangers attached to this harmful practice.

D

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

In Kenya the incidence of violence against women has increased particularly with frustrations of living in a third world country on which SAPs have been enforced. In 1993, Kenya had 693 cases of rape reported to the police and 625 cases by June 1996. With regards to assault, there were 4646 cases in 1993 and 4889 cases in 1995.

Violence can take many forms including :

1. physical: This includes battering sexual abuse, marital rape, FGM.
2. sexual: rape, sexual harassment, prostitution, trafficking of hospital forced pregnancy.
3. Psychological harm: which include threats and deprivation of liberty.

Acts of violence also occur against women who are displaced within their own country. As a result of the clashes violence against women has increased.

Violence is used as a weapon of power and cases of domestic violence are rampant and are often unreported. Women are often in a subordinate position and are unequal in power balances. Hospitals cannot report on violence of the victims they treat.

Actions to be taken:

- Traditional and customary practices have to be looked at within the family, the workplace, the community and society at large.
- Laws have to be put into place for the protection of women to enable them report and act on cases of violence against them.
- Existing laws have to be updated e.g. laws regarding the inheritance of land by women.
- Awareness of the existing laws have to be encouraged so that women can put their grievances through the right channels.
- Training programmes should be aimed at the police and the judiciary
- Images of violence on the media be decreased, pornography and advert that exploit women's bodies be stopped.

- Women who get the HIV virus through violence need to be assisted.
- Stern measures with custodial sentences need to be imposed on those who encourage violence.
- Simplify CEDAW
- Allocate funds to see that violence against women is reduced by way of:
 - a) Shelters
 - b) relief support
 - c) Medical aid
 - d) psychological counseling
 - e) Low-cost legal aid as provided by FIDA, Kituo cha Sheria and the paupers' (poor's) fund in courts.



"I want my daughter to be able to go to secondary school without fear of being attacked."

E

WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICTS

Women, by reason of their being in the majority are the greatest victims of internal conflicts and ethnic clashes. They do not take part in decisions which lead to such situations, but it is the women who bear the most painful effects (brunt) of such conflicts either as direct victims themselves or are left to maintain families when a situation where the law is not observed (anarchy) erupts. At times women are used as weapons of war when they are systematically raped. There are also instances where women are tortured or made to disappear (killed and their bodies destroyed). Between 1991 to date Kenya has experienced what has come to be known as "Ethnic clashes", "Ethnic cleansing" or "Land clashes." Many people have been killed and many women have been turned into widows. Internal conflicts violate and break the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action which the Kenya government signed.

In the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action the Kenya Government agreed to do the following:

1. Strengthen the role of women in peace and security activities.
2. Convert military resources and related industries to human development.
3. Provide more funds for social and economic development by reducing military and security.
4. Consider ratifying international treaties on protection of women and children in armed conflicts.

Actions to be taken:

- Promote peaceful conflict resolution, peace, reconciliation and tolerance through education, training, community actions and youth exchange programs, in particular for young women.
- Encourage peace research involving women
- Take steps to involve women in planning assistance to refugees (including internally displaced).

- Ensure the safety of Kenyan women and physical safety of refugee women.
- Condemn the systematic practice of rape and other degrading treatment as a deliberate instrument of war and ethnic cleansing.

It is important to know that women are entitled to government protection with regards to their rights to peaceful existence. The Kenya Constitution, Chapter five states the rights every Kenyan is entitled to.



**Women will take hold of the peace
process and make things happen!**



WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

In Kenya women are the primary producers of food but they do not necessarily have access to and control over the means of production e.g. Land, Capital and Technology.

- The largest informal sector activity employing women in the country is subsistence agriculture. This accounts for 81.8% of female labour.
- In Kenya's EPZs, women provide the bulk of labour force and are known to experience the worst working conditions.
- Women do not own the land they till.
- Access to credit is very difficult for women because they do not have security

Actions to be taken:

- More resources to be earmarked for women. Schemes by banks like the Kenya Women's Finance Trust need to be increased.
- There is need for title deeds to be held by women.
- There is need for change of existing laws such as the inheritance laws.
- Women should be given the know how to start small scale entrepreneurial businesses.
- Women should be given practical training and funding.
- Rural women should have education in environmental schemes.
- Technology should be used to reduce slowness and improve on labour savings.
- Household work done by women has to be recognised by the government and be included in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- There is a need for passing laws in Parliament (legislation) to impose the rule of equal pay for women and men's access to economic opportunities needs to be equalised.
- Women have to have equal access to social services and information e.g.
 - a) local water supply.

- b) roads
 - c) markets
 - d) transport
 - e) family planning
 - f) healthcare services
 - g) Above all there has to be the creating of an enabling environment which will make the above possible.
- The government to make efforts to lessen the suffering caused by SAPs.
 - There has to be good national economic decisions (sound macro-economic policies).
 - Collection and storing of information in this area should not be ignored. (Data collection necessary)
 - Re-allocation of public expenditure which should be accountable and transparent.
 - Awareness of gender be promoted
 - International finance houses e.g. IMF, World Bank should undertake to pay special attention to the furtherance of economic advancement of women.
 - There has to be positive change (Increase transformation) and Participation of Hospital at all economic levels.





WOMEN IN POWER AND DECISION MAKING

Women in Kenya account for 50.4% of the total population and comprise about an estimated 60.2% of voters. Women must therefore have a greater say in the political structure of Kenya.

Since independence Kenya has had one minister and there are 7 women MPs, including one nominated member. The first woman Minister was appointed in 1995 just before the Beijing Conference.

Actions to taken:

- There is an immediate need for the government to re-address this imbalance with the use of the principle of affirmative action.
- There is a need for amendments of electoral systems to remove the obstacles facing women which among other things include:
 - a) lack of education
 - b) multiple tasks that women have to do at home and the work place.
 - c) low self esteem
 - d) lack of finances
 - e) oppression
 - f) lack of support from the household and active antagonism from husbands and lack of support from other women
 - g) corruption
 - h) intimidation
 - i) lack of political awareness
 - j) negative media
 - k) apathy
 - l) violence
 - m) lack of civic traditions
 - n) internal conflicts and wars.
- Political parties have to redraft their manifestos to remove discrimination

against women participation on an equal footing with men.

Women should be appointed to senior positions in government, boards of parastatals and other decision making bodies.





INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action cannot be put in practice to the benefit of Kenyan citizens (wananchi) particularly women without a clearly thought out and deliberate way of doing this (Institutional mechanism).

The Platform for Action therefore calls for the establishment of a national way (machinery) for the advancement of women. This should be the main organisation for deciding on what and how it should be done (Central policy coordinating unit in the country). The main task of the machinery is to promote gender equality in all policy areas. The necessary conditions for an effective functioning of such national machinery include:

- a) Location at the highest possible level in the government, falling under the responsibility of a Cabinet Minister.
- b) Institutional mechanisms or processes that facilitate, as appropriate, decentralised planning, implementation and monitoring with a view to involving non-governmental organisations and community organisations from the grassroots upwards.
- c) Sufficient resources in terms of budget and professional capacity.
- d) Opportunity to influence development and of all government policies.

In Kenya today, the Women's Bureau in the Ministry of Culture and Social Services is the one department working as the national machinery. It is however incapable of advancing the cause of women due to its limitations, both administrative and otherwise. There is still need for a specific national policy towards women as set out in the Beijing Document.



HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Human rights are those rights to which all human beings are entitled. We are born with them (they are our birthright). They are rights which God has given human beings freely without discrimination whatsoever and cannot be taken away by others. These rights are found in our daily lives as ordinary people (civil), cultural, economic, political and social spheres including the right to development.

In Kenya, as in other parts of the World, women have rights guaranteed by the constitution and the law yet in most cases they are unable to enjoy and exercise these rights fully. This is because there are no appropriate arrangements for the enforcement of women's rights. In addition, the very laws which provide for rights also allow for denial of women's human rights. The Kenya Constitution and other laws (as at the time of publication of this booklet in 1997) allow situations where, among other things:

- a) A husband's consent is still necessary for his wife to obtain a passport but not vice-versa.
- b) Women cannot leave the country without their spouse's permission (men do).
- c) Men can bring foreign-born wives and children into the country but women don't have the same right.
- d) Married women are under permanent guardianship of their husbands and have no right to manage property.
- e) Husbands can restrict wife's outside employment but wives have no such right.
- f) A father's presence is mandatory at his daughter's marriage but not at his son's.
- g) Under Muslim law, daughters inherit only 1/2 the sons' share.
- h) Under Hindu law, women have no right to inherit paternal property.
- i) Women have no right to abort in cases of rape or incest.
- j) Women married to foreigners cannot transfer citizenship to husbands though men can do so in a similar situation.
- k) Women in rural areas produce 80% of the country's food (meat as well as staple grains) - on subsistence plots to which the vast

majority hold no title. They receive only 2-13% of the technical assistance and training.

- l) Women wage-earners in poor households have only 1.3 meals a day as compared to 2.4 eaten by men.
- m) When poverty threatens or strikes, women's assets are often sold before those of men.
- n) Dowry related abuse is common.
- o) Rape reports and information (data) on other forms of violence against women, such as battering, harassment or verbal abuse, are sometimes omitted from police records and crime-index tables.

Actions to be taken:

- Ratify or accede to international human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
- Publicise information on existing ways of dealing with (mechanisms for redressing) human rights violations.
- Create or strengthen national institutions for protecting women's human rights.
- Ratify or accede to and implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Review national laws and revoke those including constitutional provisions currently in place and which discriminate against women.
- Provide gender-sensitive human rights education and training to public officials including members of the security forces.
- Ensure equal rights for women to serve in the courts and as police/prison officers.

WHEN WE SUCCEEDED!



In June 1993, at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, we succeeded in getting women onto the agenda, with an emphasis on violence against women.



WOMEN AND THE MEDIA

Throughout the world, Women are exploited by degrading images put on the news, magazines etc. Advertisements carry women as sex objects. In extreme cases women are shown as presents or prizes (trophies) to be won by successful men.

In Africa, Asia and Latin America the female average is 25%. In Europe 30% of women are in the media.

In Kenya more women are getting involved in the communications sector but have not attained positions at decision making level. This must improve for the better.

The Kenya government needs to promote equal participation of women in the media.

Actions to be taken

- A good image of women should be portrayed at all times.
- Women should be given an affirmative action clause for admission to journalism schools, and for training and employment. More women should be trained in information technology
- Have a gender balance in this field.
- Have a directory of women media experts
- Educate businesses and consumers alike to reject bad advertising.





WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

In Kenya women are responsible for obtaining water and fuel, and for managing the households. Hence their connection with the environment. Much of the soil conservation in East Africa over recent decades has been done by women. But the fruits of their labour go to their men to whom the land belongs.

Women are the poor section in society. Poverty and environmental degradation are inter-related. When there is environmental degradation, women suffer most. Women are absent from the decision making process, and do not own the land they cultivate. Hence they are unable to make decisions on their daily lives in relation to the environment.

Actions to be taken:

- Women must be able to take part in policy and decision making and in this regard to take a leadership role since they are custodians of clean water and a soil that is not depleted.
- Risks to women have also to be reduced from environmental hazards both at home and at work.
- Increase women's access to information and education, and make them equal participants with men in environmental information.
- Design projects that benefit women and use the know-how and traditional knowledge that rural women have and incorporate it into new technologies.
- Involve women in new methods of soil conservation, irrigation, water management, sanitation, main resource management, pest control, land use, forest conservation; and ensure that clean water is available and accessible to all by the year 2000.
- Educate women and young girls in these sciences.



THE GIRL-CHILD

In Kenya, a higher number of girls enroll into primary schools as compared to boys. But girls drop out rate is higher than that of boys. For example the National Development Plan 1989/1993 showed that of all the girls who enrolled in standard one, in 1989, only 34% completed standard eight, compared to 48% boys. The dropout rate for girls in secondary schools continues to be higher than that for boys. Reasons for this high dropout rate include:

- a) Teenage pregnancy
- b) Early marriages
- c) Lack of motivation and socio-cultural attitudes that undervalue girls education.
- d) Poverty

The girl child's educational performance is in addition adversely affected by the common acceptance of her role as a mother-helper and therefore the desperate need to drop out of school to sell her labour (as housemaid for instance) to earn a living.

Actions to be taken

- Eliminate all forms of discrimination against the girl child in the country
- Implement the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- Eliminate negative cultural attitudes and practices against girls
- Remove educational barriers and develop programmes that enable girls to develop self-esteem.
- Promote positive images of girls and boys in the media.
- Eliminate discrimination against girls in education, skills development and training.
- Ensure universal and equal access to primary, secondary and higher education by the year 2005.
- Eliminate discrimination in health and nutrition. Design quality health care programmes for girls and training programmes for health planners on girl's special needs.

- Eliminate the economic exploitation of Child Labour and protect young women at work.
- Define a minimum age for child employment and ensure adequate work conditions, social security, and continuous training and education
- Eradicate violence against girls. Pass laws to protect girls and young women against all forms of violence.
- Ensure girls' universal access to and completion of primary education;
- Pass and strictly enforce laws on minimum legal age at marriage in this regard, raise and maintain the minimum age where necessary;
- Develop and implement policies to protect the rights of girls and ensure equal opportunities for them;
- Encourage efforts to promote changes in negative attitudes and practices towards girls;
- Develop and adopt curricula to improve opportunities for girls in such areas as maths, science and technology;
- Promote an educational setting without barriers;
- Develop policies and programmes giving priority to formal and informal education for girl-children.
- Provide public information or remove discriminatory practices against girls in food allocation, nutrition and access to health services;
- Protect the safety and security of girls from all forms of violence, including in the work place.
- Take appropriate measures, including legislative and administrative, to protect the girl-child at home and outside.



GLOSSARY

1. Platform for Action — a document set out and signed by nation states of the United Nations. It outlines strategies and actions to be taken by its signatories to better the condition of women. Governments are legally bound by it.
2. Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) — made of registered organs which act as a voice for civil society and address directly the needs of the community.
3. FGM — Female Genital Mutilation: Female circumcision prevalent widely in Kenya.
4. Per Capita Income — what each persons earns per year.
6. Mortality — death.
7. GDP — Gross Domestic Product: the inclusion of all generated wealth - even unpaid household work.
8. EPZ — Export Processing Zones - where things are produced for export.
9. Macro/Micro Economic — Large/small.
10. IMF/World Bank — International lending bodies.

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