

Fòs Feminista

Previously International Planned Parenthood Federation, Western Hemisphere Region

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Overarching comments

Fòs Feminista has the honor to provide our input for the Preparation of the Zero Draft of the Pact for the Future. We are an intersectional feminist alliance, with 170+ partners around the Global South, centered around the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women, girls, and gender-diverse people, which we see as an essential component for the Pact for the Future and in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

First, we are disappointed that there is no standalone chapter dedicated to gender equality. Considering the Pact of the Future will build upon and strengthen previous commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals, the Commission on the Status of Women, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, we expected the Pact to equally reflect the standalone nature of gender in these existing agreed documents and processes. Nonetheless, since the co-facilitators have chosen to not keep gender as a standalone chapter, we expect to see gender as cross-cutting throughout all chapters. Likewise, we expect to see SRHR as a pillar of the gender equality agenda, integrated throughout all of the chapters.

We welcome that the co-facilitators have thought about civil society participation at different moments in the Summit of the Future, and we suggest the Pact uphold the importance of diverse civil society engagement in the multilateral system, especially those working at the community and national level and from structurally marginalized and excluded constituencies. These voices are key if we are to have any meaningful process of identifying gaps in global governance and providing recommendations for a reinvigorated multilateral system that truly works for all people, especially those most marginalized.

We there suggest the below language as considerations to include in the Pact:

Chapeau

Reaffirm and stress the need to further strengthen the implementation of the:

- Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the declarations adopted by the Commission on the tenth, fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Fourth World Conference on Women, and other relevant normative frameworks.
- Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the declaration on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and

Development and previous resolutions of the Commission on Population and Development, including the outcome documents of the regional review conferences.

- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocols thereto, and other relevant conventions and treaties.
- 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 5 and all commitments on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Chapter I. Sustainable development and financing for development

- Recognize that growing sovereign debt crises, fiscal constraints, and austerity measures have increased inequalities in the world, especially for women and girls, particularly those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination ([A/73/179](#), [E/FFDF/2023/L.1](#))
- Promote debt justice and sovereign debt relief, including through restructuring and cancellation. Prioritize social protection and public services over debt servicing, including SRHR services ([A/73/179](#), [E/FFDF/2023/L.1](#))
- Urge Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies that recognize, value, assess, reduce and redistribute women's disproportionate share of unpaid and domestic work and the work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, and provide support through the provision of public services; formalize, professionalize and protect the terms and conditions of employment in care work, in line with international labor rights ([A/C.3/78/L.21/Rev.1](#), [E/FFDF/2023/L.1](#), [A/RES/74/235](#))
- Urge Member States to enhance national policies, international cooperation and official development assistance for the implementation of universal health coverage, with explicit provisions for comprehensive SRHR integrated into health plans; ensure the inclusion of marginalized groups such as migrant women, Indigenous Peoples, LGBTQIA+ individuals, sex workers, internally displaced peoples and refugees, and end discrimination in healthcare service provision ([A/RES/74/20](#), [A/RES/78/4](#)).
- Remove development and aid conditionalities limiting access to funding for women's rights and feminist organizations, including those related to SRHR.
- Increase long-term and flexible funding to civil society organizations led by women, girls, and gender-diverse people, including organizations that are expanding access to SRHR.

Chapter II. International peace and security

- Reaffirm the commitments made in all Women, Peace and Security and Youth, Peace and Security resolutions and call for their full implementation at local, national, regional and international levels.
- Call to prevent and eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence and abuse in armed and non-conflict settings, and ensuring that women and girls, in all their diversity, and survivors have access to timely, equitable, and accessible SRHR services, including HIV treatment, maternal services, or other health services ([A/RES/76/304](#), [A/RES/69/147](#)).
- Ensure equitable, timely and uninterrupted access to SRHR services and healthcare, including menstrual products, maternal and prenatal care, HIV/AIDS medications, and abortion care, in

conflict, post-conflict, or humanitarian crises. These lifesaving products must be widely accessible, especially for those who face multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

- Protect, respect, and fulfill the human rights of all women human rights defenders, especially those who advocate for SRHR, to allow them to live in dignity and work free from violence, especially sexual and gender-based violence, in conflict and non-conflict settings and humanitarian crises.

Chapter III. Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

- Recognize and catalyze the digitalization of health-care services to positively influence health outcomes, information, and education for women and girls in all their diversity, including on SRHR, and contribute towards achieving universal health coverage, including SRHR ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3, A/RES/78/4](#)).
- Urge the promotion of and respect for women's and girls' right to privacy, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, and recognize as important to the prevention of all forms of violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, abuse and sexual harassment, cyberbullying and cyberstalking, and any form of discrimination which can occur in digital and online spaces ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3](#)).
- Prevent and eliminate all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, discrimination, intimidation, and harassment that occurs through or is amplified using technologies ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3, A/RES/77/193](#)).
- Bridge the gender digital divide and ensure equal access of women and girls to information and communications technology design and consumption, promoting digital, media and information literacy and connectivity to enable the participation of all women and girls in education and training, especially for rural women and girls, those living in situations of poverty and extreme poverty, those in vulnerable settings and situations, those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, and people with disabilities ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3, A/RES/77/193](#)).
- Utilize new and innovative technologies and digitalization to expand women's and girls' access to adequate, safe and clean water and sanitation facilities, including for menstrual health and hygiene, especially in disaster relief and humanitarian emergencies ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3](#)).
- Create access to safe, quality-assured Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) through digital tools and platforms supporting school learning and facilitating learning for young people without access to CSE at schools ([E/2014/25, E/2016/27](#)).
- Protect against and counter the proliferation and dissemination of online disinformation and misinformation on gender, gender equality, SRHR, and CSE, including access to abortion and contraceptives ([E/CN.6/2023/L.3](#)).
- Continue to support developing countries through knowledge-sharing, technology transfer and capacity-building to better address the opportunities, challenges and implications of emerging digital financial technologies ([E/FFDF/2023/L.1](#)).
- Promote increased and equal access to affordable, safe, effective and quality medicines, including generics, vaccines, diagnostics and health technologies, reaffirming the TRIPS Agreement as amended, and also reaffirming the 2001 Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which recognizes that intellectual property rights should be interpreted and implemented

in a manner supportive of the right of Member States to protect public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all ([A/78/L.2](#)).

Chapter IV. Youth and future generations

- Call upon states, with the participation of civil society, organizations led by women and youth, human rights groups, men and boys, the media and the private sectors, to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive, and coordinated responses and strategies to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, and support girls and women who are affected or at risk by strengthening child protection systems, safe shelters, access to justice, and by sharing best practices across borders ([A/RES/75/167](#), [A/RES/73/153](#)).
- Address the intersectional discrimination experienced by young women and girls in all their diversity that affects their ability to enjoy their right to education. Low enrollment/dropout rates correlate to the lack of access to gender-responsive, intercultural, quality education; lack of financial resources; lack of access to health services, including SRH services; unpaid care work; and/or high prevalence of sexual and other types of violence. Call on States to address the gender-based violence and/or discriminatory attitudes, based on race, ethnicity, work and descent, sexual orientation or religion held by education personnel and fellow students that may also prevent girls from having access to and remaining in school ([A/HRC/35/10](#)).
- Reaffirm the rights of young women and girls, in all their diversity, especially those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, to maintain the right to SRH and bodily autonomy and for Governments to protect the human rights of adolescents and youth to decide on such matters, free from coercion, discrimination or violence ([Montevideo Consensus](#)).
- Ensure the unimpeded access to SRH services, including menstrual health and hygiene management, abortion services, prenatal and maternal health services, contraception, and other gynecological services, for young women, girls, and youth in all of their diversity. Guarantee young women and girls have the autonomy to make choices about their bodies and protect themselves from health complications, such as maternal mortality, or infectious disease, such as HIV/AIDS.
- Recognize the importance of age-appropriate, comprehensive and inclusive sexuality education, based on scientific evidence and human rights, and call on Member States to introduce measures to raise adolescents' awareness of their rights to SRH services and goods at the community level and as part of mandatory school curriculum, with special attention given to relationships, sexuality, gender equality and identity and sex characteristics, including non-conforming gender identities, responsible parenthood and sexual behavior, and preventing early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections ([A/HRC/32/32](#), [E/2014/25](#), [E/2016/27](#)).
- Eliminate gender stereotypes and negative social norms in the workforce by ensuring equal pay for work of equal value and reaffirming the necessity of redistributing unpaid care and domestic work to ensure the equal sharing of responsibilities within households, including through parental leave policies and increased flexibility in working arrangements ([A/RES/77/193](#)).
- Commit to the systematic integration of meaningful youth engagement, especially of young women, girls, and adolescents and those from the Global South, in decision-making at the local, national, regional and global levels and call on the UN Youth Office to create a global standard for meaningful youth engagement, in consultation with feminist youth, youth-led and youth-focused

organizations, for the consideration of Member States. Further commit to the full implementation of all recommendations from the [Secretary-General's policy brief on meaningful youth engagement](#) from a gender-transformative perspective.

Chapter V. Transforming global governance

- Commit to ensuring equitable and meaningful participation of women, girls, gender-diverse people, youth, and diverse civil society in all matters concerning their rights and lived realities, particularly those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and working at the national and local level in the Global South, including through regular and open consultations for political processes, appointments in official delegations for negotiations, and inputs into high-level political declarations and political appointments. Create a multilateral system whose policies honor transparency and accountability to people and civil society at its center, at all levels and all stages. Ensure equitable power and accountability to all stakeholders in any multistakeholder multilateral process.
- Address and eliminate structural issues in global governance that perpetuate inequalities and hierarchies, especially gender inequalities, stereotypes, and harmful social norms, undertaking power analysis and decolonizing approaches. Promote and prioritize feminist leadership in the selection and appointment of roles.
- Bridge the gap between Global North and Global South representation and ensure equal power in decision-making in all UN bodies.