



# WELMUN'23

## *Background Guide*

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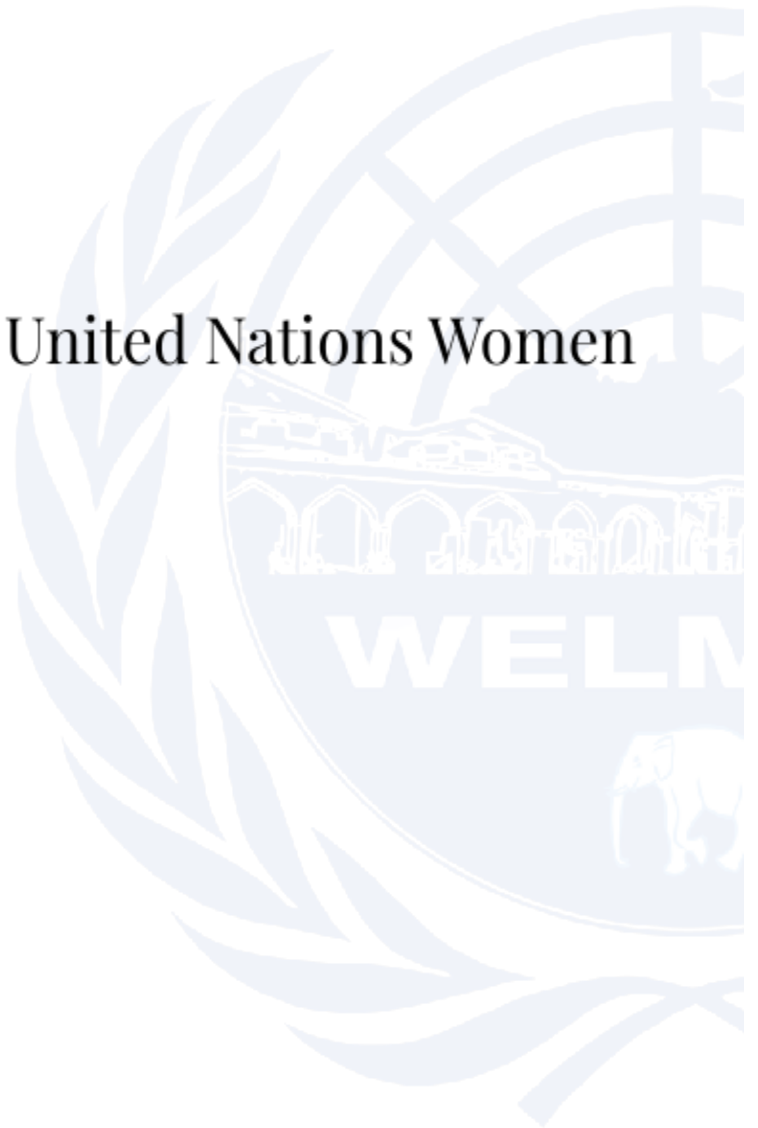
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United Nations Women



# **United Nations Women**

## **Background Guide**

### **AGENDA :**

**DELIBERATING UPON THE INFRINGEMENT  
OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
REGION**

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## Letter from the Executive Board

It is an immense pleasure to welcome you all to the United Nations Women (UNW) Committee 2023 at the 9th edition of WELMUN.

The United Nations Women invites the cooperation of delegates representing diverse nations to deliberate upon the grave injustices faced by women in certain parts of the Middle East region. It is within the delegates' purview to effect change in the rigid policies that have perpetuated the exploitation of women for an extended period. The Middle East is particularly vulnerable to such atrocities and requires the support of UN Women to halt these violations and restore a progressive societal framework.

This guide aims to provide an overview of the agenda and assist delegates in further research. However, it is strongly advised that delegates refrain from relying solely on the information presented herein. We emphasize the significance of conducting thorough investigations beyond the guide's parameters. It is essential to recognize that this guide does not serve as conclusive evidence to substantiate claims during the deliberations.

Foremost, delegates are expected to conduct comprehensive research to enhance their effective contributions to the discussions. They should thoroughly examine their portfolio's stance on the agenda, the historical context, as well as the socioeconomic and political status of women in their respective nations. Additionally, delegates should acquaint themselves with relevant legislation and policies affecting women within their assigned portfolios. Such diligent research will enable delegates to make informed and insightful contributions to the discussions.

Throughout the committee proceedings, delegates will undergo assessments to evaluate their problem-solving abilities. Delegates are expected to demonstrate the capacity to generate substantial and meaningful ideas while maintaining consistency with their original positions throughout the committee's duration. However, our objective is to infuse the sessions with the principles of diplomacy and cooperation through spirited competition.

We eagerly anticipate a fruitful and engaging conference.

Best regards,

The Executive Board  
United Nations Women  
[chair.unw@welhamboys.org](mailto:chair.unw@welhamboys.org)

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Rakshit Khurana  
(*Chairperson*)

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(*Vice Chairperson*)

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(*Director*)

Shubh Tandon  
(*Rapporteur*)

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## Introduction to the Committee

**“The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment”** was founded in July 2010. On 2 July 2010, the General Assembly adopted a resolution to merge four different entities of the United Nations into one, which is the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, also known as United Nations Women. The creation of UN Women came about as part of the “UN reform agenda”<sup>2</sup>, bringing together resources and mandates for greater impact.

Talking about the area it works in, United Nations Women is committed to ensuring equality among men and women. This committee works towards the empowerment and rights of women and girls worldwide, with its main role being to support inter-governmental bodies such as **“The Commission on the Status of Women”**, in the formation of their policies and guidelines. Ending violence against women: UN Women is at the forefront of efforts to combat violence against women and girls. It works towards preventing violence, providing support and services to survivors, and holding perpetrators accountable. UN Women's initiatives include awareness campaigns, capacity-building programs for service providers, and the establishment of safe spaces for women. It has several goals that it is working to achieve.

### **Following are the set of goals the UN Women focuses on:**

- 1. Governance and equal participation in public life**
- 2. Empowerment of women's economic status**
- 3. Ending violence against women**
- 4. Women's Peace and Security**

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<sup>1</sup> [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)

<sup>2</sup> The goals of the UN reform agenda, which were eventually endorsed by the UN member states, included enabling more freedom of movement, more decentralisation, more effectiveness, and increased transparency and accountability.

## **Role of United Nations Women:**

The United Nations Women have been playing the **role of advocating, suggesting and supporting initiatives** throughout the world. It has been vested with many execution and suggestive powers granted by various conventions and treaties adopted by the United Nations.

- 1) UN Women collaborates with governments and civil society organizations to execute and implement programs, projects, and initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.
- 2) UN Women provides expertise, shares best practices, and offers training programs to strengthen the capacity of governments and civil society organizations in implementing gender-responsive policies and programs.
- 3) Leveraging its platform, UN Women raises awareness about gender equality and advocates for women's rights worldwide through campaigns, events, and initiatives. Its efforts aim to mobilize public support, shape public opinion, and prioritize gender equality as a global imperative.

## **WORK OF UN WOMEN IN THE MIDDLE EAST REGION**

UN Women actively promote gender equality and women's empowerment in various Middle East countries. In **Iraq**, it supports the government in implementing the National Action Plan on women's participation in peace and security processes, provides aid to survivors of gender-based violence, and enhances women's economic empowerment. In **Lebanon**, UN Women combats violence against women, offers legal aid services, and promotes economic independence through vocational training and entrepreneurship support. In **Jordan**, it focuses on women's political participation, addresses gender-based violence, and empowers refugee women through livelihood programs. In **Saudi Arabia**, UN Women raises awareness, supports women's economic participation, advocates for legal reforms, and addresses gender-based violence. In **Palestine**, it enhances women's political representation, combats violence against women, and promotes economic empowerment.

# Introduction to the Agenda

## AGENDA - DELIBERATING UPON THE INFRINGEMENT OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST REGION

The history of women's rights in the Middle East is long and complex, **influenced by various factors, including religion, social customs, political structures, and economic development.** Despite efforts made by various organizations across the world towards the improvement of women's lives in the Middle Eastern region, issues such as gender equality remain a challenge.

Women have experienced a variety of atrocities throughout the Middle East, but it's important to remember that women's experiences vary across nations and regions within the Middle East. Issues such as gender inequality, no financial freedom, discriminatory laws and practices, limited access to education, strict dress norms etc. have made the lives of women living in this region dreadful. There are many laws which discriminate against women and offer them fewer opportunities.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the status of women in the modern Middle East has been in transition. The status of women has not been addressed in any of the Middle Eastern legal systems and is affected to some extent by customary rules, Islamic laws, imported European laws, and reformed versions of Islamic laws. Women's status-related legal issues in the Middle East vary significantly from those in the West. Although there are feminist organisations<sup>3</sup> in Middle East nations, they are often small and have little influence over politics. This is one of the reasons for the slow transition of women's rights in the Middle East.

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<sup>3</sup> These organisations include KAFA, Arab Women Organization of Jordan, The Center of Arab Women for Training and Research etc



## **Political Sphere**

Taking a look at the **political sphere**, in the Gulf, neither men nor women can democratically change their government, and their freedom of speech and peaceful assembly have been severely restricted. **Despite an overall absence of independence, women have made progress in the last five years in terms of their ability to vote, run for office, hold prominent government posts, and demand further rights.**

**Nationalistic movements and reforms** led by figures like Kemal Ataturk in Turkey and Habib Bourguiba in Tunisia have brought about legal equality for women in certain contexts. However, there are still significant challenges. Women's political participation and decision-making power are often limited, and legal frameworks may perpetuate gender-based discrimination. Laws allowing child marriages and the practice of polygamy further highlight the unequal treatment of women in the political sphere.

## **Economic Sphere**

Talking about the status of women in the **economic sphere**, there has been some progress. **In the last 10 years alone in Saudi Arabia, account ownership among women jumped from around 15% to 63.5% - a huge shift.** In the Middle East, women continue to have a huge gap in the rate of employment than men. Legal restrictions, established gender roles, and social norms all contribute to this. To enhance women's participation in the workforce, some nations have implemented policy changes and awareness-raising programmes. Many women have launched enterprises, especially in industries like fashion, technology, healthcare, and education. Additionally, organisations and governments have started initiatives to mentor, educate, and financially support female entrepreneurs. Traditional gender roles often place the burden of domestic chores and childcare primarily on women, which can limit their ability to fully engage in the workforce.

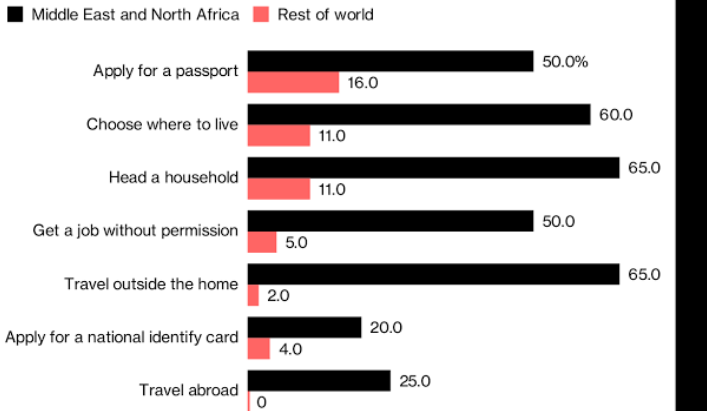
## **Social Sphere**

The social sphere presents various challenges for women in the Middle East. In countries like Saudi Arabia, women are required to adhere to a strict dress code, are

often veiled in public, and are forbidden from driving. Domestic violence is prevalent, and women may be subjected to physical, psychological, and sexual assault. Additionally, female domestic workers may experience mistreatment and abuse. These social norms and practices reflect unequal power dynamics and limitations on women's autonomy and rights. **High rates of violence against women persist in the Arab region, with 37% experiencing violence and indications suggesting the actual percentage may be higher.** Globally, one in three women faces physical or sexual violence, often from intimate partners. **In certain countries, the rate of violence against women reaches alarming levels of up to 70%.** Furthermore, 700 million women worldwide have been married before the age of 18, and within the Arab region, 14% of girls are married off before reaching adulthood. These statistics highlight the urgent need for addressing and combating violence against women in the Arab world.

**Restricting Women's Agency**

Share of countries and territories where women can't legally do things men can



Source: World Bank Group's "Women, Business and the Law 2018" BloombergQuickTake

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-01-11/on-women-s-rights-uneven-progress-in-the-middle-cast-quicktake>

## Overview of the Present Situation

### Lebanese Republic

Lebanon's authorities are falling short of effective measures to protect girls and women from violence and end discrimination against them. The country has not made any progress in carrying out a **unified personal status code** that would guarantee equal treatment for all citizens and amending the national discriminatory law to ensure that **Lebanese women married to non-Lebanese men can pass on their citizenship to their children and spouse**, while men married to foreign nationals can pass on their citizenship. This leads to statelessness among children. Lebanon has not taken any steps to issue an optimal civil code to reform its **15 religion-based personal status laws**.<sup>4</sup> The religious courts discriminate against women across the religious spectrum and do not guarantee their basic rights, especially in matters such as divorce, property rights, and responsibility for children after divorce. The **current domestic law** defines domestic violence narrowly and fails to specifically criminalize marital rape. Members of parliament have introduced multiple draft laws since 2017 on sexual harassment, but no action has been taken. Lebanon currently has no minimum age for marriage. **The Human Rights Watch** found that early marriage can lead to a higher risk of marital rape, exploitation, domestic violence, and health problems. One prominent group advocating for women in Lebanon is KAFA.<sup>5</sup> KAFA is a feminist, secular, Lebanese, non-profit organisation fighting against discrimination against women. The organisation focuses on family violence, human trafficking, and child protection.

### Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia

Saudi women are forced to rely on male guardians. Without the permission of a male guardian, usually a father, brother, husband, or son, women cannot marry, travel, or access higher education. Saudi Arabia announced new penalties for abuse against women that include imprisonment and hefty fines for any physical, psychological, or

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/news/2019/09/27>

<sup>5</sup> <https://borgenproject.org/taq/the-kafala-system/>

sexual assaults against women in the Kingdom. The Saudi Public Prosecution Office has mandated a minimum jail sentence of 1 month for the act of attacking a woman.

To mark the International Day of Victims of Torture, ECDHR<sup>6</sup> (European Centre for Democracy and Human Rights) presented an article that examines torture in Saudi Arabia. It takes a women's rights approach to this issue and specifically looks at the prevalence of torture for women's rights defenders. Domestic violence remains a widespread problem in Saudi Arabia where the male guardianship system renders women extremely vulnerable as they are dependent on their male guardians. Moreover, many female domestic workers suffer from bad treatment, ranging from physical, and psychological to sexual assault.

In Saudi Arabia, **women's rights defenders**<sup>7</sup> have been fighting for their rights, and in particular, they have advocated for the abolition of the male guardianship system as well as for the right to drive which was finally announced in September 2017. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment is considered one of the most serious violations of human rights; nevertheless, it remains widespread and systematic in Saudi Arabia. It affects women in different circumstances, including while in detention but also as domestic violence or as physical and psychological abuse while working as a domestic worker.

## **The Islamic Republic of Iran**

Iran is an Islamic state in which **Sharia law** is strictly enforced. Women's rights are severely restricted in Iran, to the point where women are even forbidden from watching men's sports in stadiums<sup>8</sup>. The ban on women in sports stadiums is emblematic of the repression of women across the country. Women confront serious discrimination on issues such as marriage, divorce, and child custody. Since the government wants Iran's population to grow, it's even moving to ban voluntary medical procedures women can undergo to avoid pregnancy. Women in Iran are **forced to wear the hijab**<sup>9</sup>, the headscarf worn by some women in public. This even applies to young schoolgirls who are required to wear the head covering to attend

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<sup>6</sup> It is a non-profit organization that raises awareness and promotes human rights in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.amnesty.org › Latest › News › 2023 › 03>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.hrw.org/news/2015/10/28/womens-rights-iran>

<sup>9</sup> <https://theconversation.com › hijab-law-in-iran-over-t...>

elementary school. Women and girls are still treated as second-class citizens in Iran. One of the most concerning issues in Iran is **child marriage**, thousands of marriages of girls aged between 10 - 14 are happening. Women have been fighting against compulsory dress codes that they have to follow. Iranian girls and women are protesting discriminatory rules and calling for a sudden change to achieve their fundamental rights and freedoms. **The authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran are adopting an array of new laws and policies, daily, to further cement discriminatory, degrading and humiliating compulsory veiling and to subject millions of women and girls who stand up for equality and human rights to even harsher punishments.**

## **Republic of Iraq**

Iraqi women and girls have played an integral part in the demonstrations that have gripped Iraq. They marched in masses protesting openly for gender equality, as well as protesting against the broader social, political and economic conditions which continue to enable and justify violence in the country. Among the key laws which discriminate against women and girls in Iraq is the **Penal Code**<sup>10</sup>. The Penal Code stipulates that no crime is committed while exercising a legal right, including the punishment of a wife by her husband. It lists several reasons that either result in the reduction or dismissal of a penalty, the offences that are committed by honourable motives. It exempts an offender who has committed sexual assault from prosecution if they marry their victim. The main issue in Iraq is **Honour Killing** which is happening on a large scale.

**Honour killing**<sup>11</sup> is mostly referring to killing a woman who has an affair with a man in an extramarital relationship to purify the family's or the tribe's honour; mostly it is related to sexuality, Honour killing is carried out by the male members of the family. Many other factors contribute to honour killing, such as refusal of an arranged marriage, seeking a divorce, sexual orientation, gender expression, sex characteristics, and victims of rape. Iraqis view women as inferior beings subordinate to men. This image of women has grown, despite changes in society and the status of

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ilo.org> > ELECTRONIC > IRO5720

<sup>11</sup> the killing of a relative, especially a girl or woman, who is perceived to have brought dishonor to the family.

women, women are still perceived as having inferior qualities that require them to be treated as not fully human.

## **Republic Of Yemen**

Yemen, the poorest country in the Arab States region is experiencing a complex war. The situation of women and girls in Yemen is very challenging. **Women and girls in Yemen<sup>12</sup>** are facing devastating consequences in terms of lack of access to sexual and reproductive health and protection services, including about in **pregnancy and childbirth and life-threatening violence**. According to **Article 40 of Yemen's Personal Status Law<sup>13</sup>**, a woman cannot acquire employment in the same capacity as a male and the work must have been agreed by her husband. The most recent figure from 2019 is the 6.04% employment rate for women in Yemen. **In comparison, the global average in 2019 was 51.96% based on 181 nations.**

Additionally, there is no legislation prohibiting sexual harassment in the workplace, nor are there any legal sanctions or civil recourse for workplace sexual misconduct. Women are less likely to submit a sexual misconduct complaint due to concerns about receiving accusations of soliciting men's attention. Women in Yemen have to fight for rights in the workplace because no law requiring equivalent compensation for labour of equivalent merit exists.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://borgenproject.org> > The Blog

<sup>13</sup> <https://oidaiisd.com> > uploads > 2019/03

## Recent Atrocities Against Women

- **Mahsa Amini Hijab Row**<sup>14</sup>- On September 13, Jina "Mahsa" Amini, age 22, was detained by Iran's morality police for "improperly" putting on her headscarf. Her relatives and the local media claim that she was severely abused during this time. Three days later, while still in police custody, she passed away. This incident caused a public uproar and anti-government protests. What began as anger at the hijab law grew into a bigger movement as people were fed up with the regime's corruption, economic mismanagement, and oppression of its citizens. Now, a visible minority of women in Iran are refusing to wear headscarves, in defiant protest against the government and all of its policies.
- **Tiba al-Ali**<sup>15</sup>- In Iraq, where women are frequently murdered by their male relatives during family disputes, the murder of a young YouTube celebrity by her father has aroused outrage. Tiba al-Ali, 22, who was visiting Iraq and lived in Turkey, was murdered by her father on January 31 in the southern province of Diwaniya. The police had made efforts to negotiate between the two parties but were unsuccessful. This incident ignited protests in Iraq forcing women of Iraq to fight for their rights.
- **Zainab murder case**<sup>16</sup>- The murder of a 26-year-old lady by her husband in the Choueifat district southeast of Beirut shocked the nation and reignited calls to stop Lebanon's widespread abuse against women. Hasan Zaiter killed his wife, Zainab, in front of their three children, the oldest of whom is 7. Hasan allegedly used about ten gunshots to shoot his wife in the face, according to Sharika Wa Laken, a local feminist website.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com> › World › Middle East

<sup>15</sup> <https://themarkaz.org> › All Articles

<sup>16</sup> <https://thewire.in> › gender › murder-rap

## Questions to be Answered

**The following are the questions that are expected to be answered during Committee Sessions:**

- **How can legislation and regulatory frameworks be established and implemented specifically to address violence against women?**
- **What strategies are being deliberated upon to mitigate the gender pay gap in the Middle East?**
- **How do progress on the formulation or reinforcement of constitutional frameworks and policies that foster the advancement of women's rights?**
- **What is being taken to identify and resolve barriers and obstacles obstructing women's access to quality education and the promotion of gender equality in educational opportunities?**
- **In what ways can women's participation in the political arena and decision-making processes be augmented within the Middle East?**
- **How are economic opportunities for women being promoted within the Middle East region?**
- **What measures are being taken to combat detrimental cultural practices that impede the realization of women's rights within the Middle East?**



## Important Treaties And Conventions

### 1. CEDAW

CEDAW, the short form of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, is an international legal framework that mandates nations to eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination and advances women's equal rights. CEDAW is frequently referred to as the Global Bill of Rights for Women. It is a treaty or convention, which means it forms a part of international law and has legal force in the nations that have ratified it.

### 2. UN Security Council Resolution 1325

This resolution, issued in 2000, acknowledges the essential role played by women in efforts to maintain peace and security. It demands that women take part in decision-making, that their rights be respected in times of conflict, and that gender-based violence be avoided.

### 3. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

This historic declaration, adopted at the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women<sup>17</sup> in 1995, lays out strategic goals and initiatives for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment. It tackles various topics, including economic empowerment, education, health, and violence against women.

### 4. UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a set of 17 global objectives that must be achieved by 2030, have been included in this resolution. The achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls are the specific goals of Goal 5. The SDGs acknowledge the crucial role that women's rights and empowerment play in efforts to achieve sustainable development.

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<sup>17</sup> It set strategic objectives and actions for the advancement of women and the achievement of gender equality in 12 critical areas of concern.

# DOCUMENTATION

## Position Paper

A position paper is a written document that outlines the stance, policies, and proposed solutions of a specific country or delegation on the agenda topics being discussed. It serves as a means for delegates to communicate their country's position and strategies to other participants in the simulation.

It typically includes an introduction that provides background information on the topic and highlights its significance. It then proceeds to present the country's perspective, outlining its main objectives, interests, and concerns related to the issue. Delegates often support their arguments with factual evidence, statistics, and references to international treaties or agreements.

A position paper suggests specific measures, policies, or actions that the delegation believes would address the problem effectively. These proposals may range from diplomatic negotiations to development programs, peacekeeping operations, or legal reforms.

## Position Paper Format

**Portfolio:**

**Committee:**

**School Name:**

**Agenda:**

### **Paragraph One – Issue and Position**

This paragraph serves to succinctly outline the key problems associated with the topic. Its purpose is to provide a basic understanding of the current situation. After

introducing the issue, present your country's policy and explain why your country supports it. Keep this section concise, limiting it to five to six sentences.

### **Paragraph Two – Detailed Background Information**

This paragraph allows you to demonstrate your in-depth knowledge of the historical and present contexts of the topic. Cover the following points:

- Origin of the problem, highlighting why it emerged.
- The issue's relevance to the international community and its global significance.
- Previous attempts to address the problem, if any.
- Assess successes and failures of past actions, providing reasons for their outcomes.
- Persisting problems or unresolved aspects related to the issue.

Devote a couple of sentences to each item on this list to ensure comprehensive coverage and set the stage for the final paragraph.

### **Paragraph Three – Proposed Solutions Regarding the Issue**

This paragraph distinguishes your paper by presenting your unique solutions to the problems outlined in the previous paragraph. Emphasize the quality of your proposals as it influences the overall evaluation of your position paper. Discuss the following:

- Specific proposals to address particular issues.
- Implementation plans for each proposal, including their feasibility.
- The global impact of solving the problem or implementing the proposed solutions.

**Ensure your position paper adheres to formatting guidelines, such as using a standard font (e.g., Times New Roman) with 12-point font size, 1-inch document margins, and not exceeding two pages.**

## Draft Resolution

A draft resolution is a written document that suggests solutions and actions for a specific committee topic. It consists of **preambulatory clauses** which provide background information, citing relevant international agreements, conventions, or resolutions. The resolution's core is formed by the **operative clauses**, which specify actions, policies, or recommendations to address the issue. Each operative clause is numbered and begins with an action verb, outlining the proposed steps to be taken. Draft resolutions serve as a framework for discussion, collaboration, and decision-making, guiding delegates towards finding common ground and formulating comprehensive solutions.

### Sample Preambulatory Phrases

- Affirming
- Expecting
- Expecting
- Reaffirming
- Approving
- Expressing its appreciation
- Recalling
- Recognizing
- Observing
- Contemplating
- Further recalling
- Seeking
- Convinced
- Having adopted

### Sample Operative Phrases

- Designates
- Further resolves
- Affirms
- Draws the attention
- Has resolved
- Approves
- Expresses hope
- Regrets
- Confirms
- Further invites
- Reminds
- Congratulates

## Other Documents

### Working Paper

A working paper is a preliminary document that delegates create to propose ideas, solutions, or strategies regarding a specific topic. It serves as a starting point for collaboration, discussion, and refinement before potentially evolving into a draft resolution or an amendment during the conference.

### Communique

A Communique is a formal written document issued by a committee or group of countries to convey their collective position, decisions, or recommendations on a specific issue. It summarizes discussions, agreements, and proposed actions, serving as a means of communication and promoting dialogue among delegates.

## Due Dates and Submission Procedure

Kindly note that the submission deadline for position papers pertaining to this committee is July 30, 2023. It is requested that upon completion of your position paper, you save the file as "Your Country Position Paper" and proceed to attach it to an email to be sent to the committee's designated email address. When composing the subject line of the email, please include your country name along with the term "Position Paper." It is important to ensure that the subject of the email is formulated as follows: **(Country Name) - Position Paper**

**The email address for this committee: [chair.unw@welhamboys.org](mailto:chair.unw@welhamboys.org)**

## FURTHER RESEARCH

1. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2016/12/cedaw-for-youth>
2. [www.ungm.org](http://www.ungm.org)
3. [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)
4. [https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldcivilization/chapter/women-in-pr  
e-islamic-Arabia/](https://courses.lumenlearning.com/suny-hccc-worldcivilization/chapter/women-in-pr<br/>e-islamic-Arabia/)
5. [https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/03/saudi-arabia-personal-status-law-co  
difies-discrimination-against-women/](https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2023/03/saudi-arabia-personal-status-law-co<br/>difies-discrimination-against-women/)
6. [www.freedomhouse.org](http://www.freedomhouse.org)
7. [POMED: Home](#)
8. [www.wilsoncenter.org](http://www.wilsoncenter.org)
9. [www.aljazeera.com](http://www.aljazeera.com)
10. [Carnegieendowment.org](http://Carnegieendowment.org)
11. <https://www.equalitynow.org/>
12. <https://www.hrw.org/>
13. <https://www.ilo.org/>
14. [https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/mec/2020/06/15/iraqi-women-are-engaged-in-a-struggle-for-th  
eir-rights/](https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/mec/2020/06/15/iraqi-women-are-engaged-in-a-struggle-for-th<br/>eir-rights/)
15. <https://www.oecd.org/>
16. <https://globalhistorydialogues.org/projects/womens-rights-in-the-middle-east/>