

FORUM: Special Conference on Securing and Advancing Democracy 1

QUESTION OF: Strengthening the voice and visibility of women in elections

SUBMITTED BY: People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

CO-SUBMITTERS: Benin, Sri Lanka, Argentina, Switzerland, Ecuador, Lesotho, Bangladesh, Poland, Rwanda, Finland, Austria, ECE, Canada, Kenya, Kazakhstan, Costa Rico

SPECIAL CONFERENCE ON SECURING AND ADVANCING DEMOCRACY,

Noting that equality of women's rights has been achieved in some countries, but this issue has not been taken seriously in most countries

Seeing as how only 24.3% of global parliamentarians are women, and the proportion of female parliamentarians between regions is very different with only 16.3% in the pacific region compared with 40% in the Americas

Further noting that the issue of women's rights mainly comes from inequality in women's participation in politics and it has been proven that this can be solved such as in Rwanda where the constitution stipulates that 30% of civil servants should be women and effectively implement this policy,

Recalling the establishment of UN-Women in 2010 whose main role is to protect gender equality, support women's right to vote and be elected, and also work to improve women's leadership and decision-making

Further recalling that the United Nations, in 2000 and 2019, addressed women's issues of peace and security which advocates addressing women's sexual violence and inequality

Convinced that future General Assembly resolutions will not violate the treaties and spirit of the previous General Assembly and can effectively deal with international women's rights issues

1. Suggests that each country reasonably allocate the ratio of male and female parliamentarians in the government, like Rwanda, the constitution establishes a minimum ratio of female parliamentarians to occupy public servants;
2. Calls for that UN-Women and countries strengthen security efforts to protect women's elections, such as the safety of female candidates when speaking in some remote areas;
3. Urges implementation of a bill that would make women candidates the same right as men:
 - a) in a general election, the ratio of men and women in the referendum must be equal, so that no gender discrimination can occur with female candidates
 - b) national government has an obligation to protect female candidates from unwarranted attacks from news media and social networking sites
 - c) the government needs to be transparent and real-time voting information, and must not maliciously tamper with the voting information and intentionally reduce the number of female candidates
 - d) if women candidates face financial difficulties, the government has an obligation to help them, such as giving financial help
4. Further suggests that the proportion of women be implemented within the national parties:
 - a) When a new party is established, one third of its members at the maximum degree be women
 - b) If a party wants to run for election to become a ruling party, it must have 40% support from women who have voted for this election across the country and a third of the party must be women;

5. Promotes to strengthen the training of national gender equality and women's awareness of political participation in elementary and middle schools so that citizens will not discriminate against sex from an early age;
6. Asks for tougher laws to sanction those who oppress or discriminate against women such as increasing fines;
7. Requires the government to treat women fairly in strict accordance with the Human Rights Declaration of 1948 by:
 - a) protecting women's rights, sanctioning companies for suppressing female workers and factory wages owed to female employees
 - b) ensuring women have the right to enjoy human rights, and the transparency of the government must be disclosed to ensure that women politicians cannot receive unfair treatment in the government
 - c) requiring news agencies to protect women's privacy, they need permission from the women when reporting incidents, and they cannot be discriminatory in news reports;
8. Further calls for the proportion of women in the highest administrative bodies should not be less than the proportion of women in the total civil service;
9. Requests UN Women and other countries to conduct speech activities for young women, encourage women to speak on the status of modern society, and cultivate their decision-making and thinking skills.