



SC (11) SI 25 E
Original: ENGLISH

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

DRAFT RESOLUTION

ON

“GENDER, MIGRATION AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE”

**Principal Sponsor
Ms. Hedy Fry
Canada**

BELGRADE, 6 JULY TO 10 JULY 2011

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Gender, Migration and Economic Independence

Principal Sponsor: Ms. Hedy Fry (Canada)

1. Recognising that equal opportunities for women and men and the full and equal enjoyment of their human rights by women are essential to peace, sustainable democracy, economic development and prosperity and, therefore, to security and stability in the OSCE region,
2. Recognising that at the UN Beijing Conference in 1995 women's rights were recognised as de facto human rights,
3. Noting that in some OSCE participating States women still do not participate fully in the economic, social, cultural and political lives of their countries,
4. Acknowledging that in many OSCE participating States, women are still the poorest and most vulnerable members of society,
5. Being aware that poverty is a key indicator of political and social instability, and that it affects men and women differently,
6. Noting that the full potential of women's economic activities and their contribution to the economic prosperity of their families and countries is unrealised and underutilised across the OSCE region,
7. Acknowledging that women share responsibility for income generation and economic stability and that their income has a multiplier effect given that it is more likely to be invested in their families and communities,
8. Concerned that women's economic dependence on men, especially in times of economic difficulty and crises, increases their vulnerability and susceptibility to violence, abuse, oppression, isolation, exploitation and discrimination, domestically or socially, and potential as victims of deliberately submissive foreign bride arrangements and illegitimate economic activities such as prostitution and human trafficking,
9. Acknowledging that gainful economic opportunities, economic empowerment, migration education and training are legitimate avenues and solutions by which women and girls can reduce their impoverishment, achieve economic independence, improve their living conditions and realise their full economic potential,
10. Noting the variation in the prominence and success of women entrepreneurs across countries of the OSCE region and that women entrepreneurs are more likely to face challenges relating to discrimination regarding access to and control over such economic and financial resources as loans, credit, financing, property and inheritance rights, as well as barriers pertaining to social norms and traditional values, the undervaluing of women's

potential and abilities, inadequate business skills and education and inadequate access to markets,

11. Acknowledging that the experiences and disadvantages of female migrants, labourers and entrepreneurs are different than those of men, due to their status, nature of the employment sectors in which they are typically represented, type of educational requirements, limited legal channels for female migrant workers, and exclusion from the protection of sound labour legislation,
12. Noting that gender-based analysis has shown that female workers and migrants are more likely to be underrepresented in senior positions of responsibility and management, paid lower wages, work longer hours, have less job security and face increased sexual harassment, abuse, discrimination than male counterparts,
13. Recognising the various types of female migrants, such as permanent and temporary, labour and family class, low skill and high skill, refugees and asylum seekers, documented and undocumented, young and old, each present its own opportunities and challenges requiring equally diverse policy responses,
14. Concerned that the disproportionate number of migrant women employed in economic labour sectors, such as domestic and care services, garment manufacturing, hospitality, and agriculture, remain unregulated in some countries,
15. Affirming the economic and social benefits resulting from legal and orderly migration by women, including labour migration, and of actively promoting possibilities for women in the labour market and as business entrepreneurs for their own benefit, and also for the benefit of their families and their country's economic potential,
16. Noting that wider access to affordable and reliable justice on the part of vulnerable groups such as female migrants and women economically dependent on their spouses is an important avenue for ensuring their rights are respected, particularly under circumstances of marital dissolution, custody of children, employment discrimination and harassment, and equity of pay for equal work,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

17. Reiterates and commends past OSCE PA resolutions on gender, migration and economic opportunities, the 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, and the work of the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, the OSCE Gender Section and OSCE field missions in promoting gender mainstreaming and regarding support for projects and seminars addressing gender equality, migration, labour, economic opportunities and skills, and data collection, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment;
18. Stresses the need to raise awareness about the untapped potential of women in all economic sectors;

19. Affirms the rights of women to increased economic autonomy, including control over their earnings, legal migration opportunities, safe and secure recruitment procedures, access to judicial proceedings, fair remuneration and decent working conditions, including the right to negotiate better terms of employment;
20. Notes the principle that maternity/paternity policies and childcare programs are key elements in promoting equal employment opportunities and responsibility-sharing between women and men and enhancing the economic prosperity of women and their families;
21. Encourages OSCE participating States to build liaisons and strong relations with non-governmental labour and business sectors to promote training opportunities, education, employment and pay equity for women in the labour market by way of various programs, policies, legislative and financial/tax incentives; Encourages mentoring relationships and cooperation at the national and regional levels among women's organisations relating to labour, migration and entrepreneurship, including trade unions, non-governmental organisations, business associations, that focus on training and counselling, exchanging good practices regarding women's entrepreneurship, developing associations and networks of women entrepreneurs, identifying priorities for economic reforms and policies that support women's economic independence and prosperity, enhancing employment opportunities, and support and protection of female migrant workers and entrepreneurs;
22. Calls upon participating States to adopt legislation that creates an enabling environment to provide equality of economic and employment opportunity for men and women, ensure equal access for women and girls to education, training and equal wages; promotes gender balance in senior positions of responsibility and management; improves working conditions and provides equal access to benefits including child care;
23. Calls upon participating States to adopt policies that facilitate economic opportunities and independence for women; including promoting growth of female entrepreneurship, establishing non-burdensome licensing and taxation regimes, developing gender sensitive programmes that facilitate access to finance, education and training and development of local, national and regional business associations;
24. Calls upon participating States to adopt programs and strategies that implement women's rights regarding equality of economic and employment opportunity, education, training and wages;
25. Urges participating States to enhance their capacity for reliable collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data and research on migration, employment and economic independence according to standardised methodology, and to consider issuing grants or other means of supporting non-governmental organisations to collect, analyse and disseminate sex-disaggregated data and research;
26. Encourages participating States to exchange best practices concerning gender, migration and economic independence of women in order to develop more effective policies in business support, education, labour regulation, and identify priority areas for further capacity building.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT to the DRAFT RESOLUTION

on

“GENDER, MIGRATION AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE”

[Set out text of Amendment here:]

Principal Sponsor:

Mr/Mrs	Family Name in Capital Letters	Country	Signature

Co-sponsored by:

Mr/Mrs	Family Name in Capital Letters	Country	Signature