

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of key achievements since 2012	
The adoption or establishment of:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Harmful Digital Communications Act of 2015, which aimed at preventing and mitigating harm caused to women by digital communications and provide victims of harmful digital communications with means of redress
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Vulnerable Children Act 2014, which enhanced protection for the well-being of vulnerable children and their mothers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The creation of Parliamentary Under Secretary to the Minister of Justice position in 2017, which will work on designing an integrated and responsive family violence system
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Pasifika Disability Plan (Faiva Ora) 2014-2016, which ensures Pasifika women and girls with disabilities and their family members are provided with enhanced effective support
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act 2013, which allowed same-sex couples to legally marry
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Māori Education Strategy, Ka Hikitia: Accelerating Success 2013-2017, which aimed at achieving equity and excellence in education for Māori
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The second national plan of action on human rights, for the period 2015-2019

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
Visibility of the Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of visibility of the Convention as reflected by the absence of judgements directly referring to the Convention as well as the absence of cases brought to the Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue raising of awareness among women about their rights under the Convention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of awareness among women about their rights under the Convention. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the Conventions and Committee's recommendations, form part of mandatory training of the judiciary, law enforcement personnel, lawyers, social workers, medical personnel and other relevant professional groups
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The insufficient level of support provided to civil society organizations engaging with the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen cooperation and partnerships by providing financial and other forms of support to civil society organizations assisting women
Definition of equality and non-discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of specific prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend section 21(1)(a) of the Human Rights Act with a view to including specific prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That current legislation in New Zealand is generally gender-neutral. This may result in loss of the specificity of gender based discrimination, inadequate protection of women against direct and indirect discrimination and impede the achievement of substantive equality of women and men 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include a gender-specific rather than gender-neutral approach in legislations, policies and programmes
Access to Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The decrease in availability of legal aid, as the numbers of legal aid lawyers has declined steadily since 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase availability of legal aid for women, particularly Māori, Ethnic and migrant women, including in civil and family courts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's limited legal literacy and access to information on available remedies, particularly among rural women and migrant women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate information, in particular in rural and remote areas, about the legal remedies available to women regarding violations of their rights
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of gender sensitivity within the judiciary, particularly within the family courts, including negative attitudes among judges and law enforcement officials towards women claiming violations of their rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen gender responsiveness and gender sensitivity within the judiciary, by increasing the number of women judges and strengthening systematic capacity-building for judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers and other law enforcement officials on the Convention
Women and Peace and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of consultations with women's human rights organizations in the process of drafting the national action plan and a lack of sufficient resources allocated to the national action plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain dedication to ensuring the effective implementation of Security Council resolution on women, peace and security, through ensuring that its national action plan contributes to significantly increasing the participation of women in peace processes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate sufficient resources for the implementation of the national action plan and enhance the consultation with the women's human rights organizations to ensure promoting the meaningful involvement of women at all stages in the women, peace and security agenda
National machinery for the advancement of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The absence of a national action plan or strategy for the advancement of women, not having renewed the previous one since 2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adopt and adequately fund the implementation of a National Action Plan for the advancement of women, and strengthen the role, efficiency and effectiveness of the Ministry for Women by allocating sufficient human, technical and financial resources to enable the Ministry to carry out its mandate to promote and protect women's rights

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of gender budgeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduce gender budgeting so as to ensure that gender implications are taken into account during legislation and policy development throughout all government agencies
National human rights institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the Commission has suffered over the past years a constant decrease in both financial, technical and human resources and that its mandate is currently limited by section 392 of the Immigration Act, which is preventing the New Zealand Human Rights Commission (NZHRC) from accepting complaints from migrants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide the NZHRC with sufficient human, technical and financial resources to carry out its mandate to promote and protect women's rights
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To repeal Section 392 of the Immigration Act 2009 with a view to ensure that the NZHRC is mandated with the power to receive and process complaints from migrants, in line with the GANHRI recommendations of 2016
Temporary special measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The progress in reaching goal to achieve gender parity on State Sector Boards and Committees, as well as the willingness to consider affirmative action as a tool to accelerate the realization of substantive equality of women and men, including in the private sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adopt and implement temporary special measures, including quotas, in all areas where women are underrepresented or disadvantaged, including in political life, in the labour market as well as in the private sector, with specific increased efforts to achieve 50% women on Public Sector Boards and a set goal of achieving gender parity on Private Sector Boards
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise public awareness about the non-discriminatory nature and importance of temporary special measures for the achievement of substantive equality of women and men
Discriminatory stereotypes and harmful practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The high persistence of cyberbullying in high-schools disproportionately affecting women and girls with disability as well as lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematically collect data on harmful practices, including cyberbullying targeting teenage girls, and to implement measures, such as awareness campaigns in schools, to prevent such practices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The persistence and lack of reliable information of entrenched harmful cultural norms and practices, including female genital mutilation (FGM), early and forced marriages, crimes in the name of so-called honour, dowry and polygamy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to combat harmful practices, in particular female genital mutilation (FGM), early and forced marriages, crimes in the name of so-called honour, dowry and polygamy, and systematically collect disaggregated data on those harmful practices
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The conduct of medically unnecessary procedures on intersex infants and children before they reach an age when they are able to provide their free, prior and informed consent, and at inadequate support and counselling for families with intersex children and remedies for victims 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt clear legislative provisions explicitly prohibiting the performance of unnecessary surgical or other medical treatment on intersex children before they reach the legal age of consent, provide families with intersex children with adequate counselling and support, and provide redress to intersex persons having undergone medical treatment.
Gender based violence against women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The alarmingly high level of gender-based violence against women; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt a comprehensive and cross-party strategy on combatting gender based violence against women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The very low levels of reporting and the high recidivism rate, particularly within the Māori community, with only 20% of family violence and only 9% of sexual violence reported to the police 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct public awareness-raising programmes in collaboration with teachers and the media, including social media, to promote understanding of the criminal nature of gender-based violence against women and encourage victims and witnesses to report violence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The growing usage of gender-blinding terminology of "family harm" which obscures the women' rights violation aspect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity-building and awareness-raising campaigns as well as training for judges, law enforcement officials and welfare personnel on all forms of gender-based violence and abuse and the specific protection needs of migrant women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The allocation of resources mostly to treatment and rehabilitation with little emphasis on prevention programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate resources aimed at developing a comprehensive prevention strategy for gender-based violence against women;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The absence of systematic specialized capacity-building programmes on the strict application of law provisions on gender-based violence and on gender-sensitive investigation methods for judges, and law enforcement officials and welfare personnel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt criteria and guidelines for the provision of victim-oriented and culturally appropriate legal, psychosocial and economic assistance, that recognizes the special needs of Māori and ethnic minority women and girls;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of a single-integrated data source and the lack of sufficient funding for data collecting agencies including non-government agencies, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and report to the Committee disaggregated data on the number of cases of violence against women that have been investigated and that have led to prosecutions, including information on the sanctions imposed on perpetrators;

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
	encompassing all data regarding domestic violence, disaggregated by sex, ethnicity, type of violence, and the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim;	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The inadequacy of a culturally sensitive approach, leading to cultural and linguistic barriers, and distrust in the public authorities, which prevents Māori and ethnic minority women and girls from seeking protection from domestic and sexual violence as well as redress; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt criteria and guidelines for the provision of victim-oriented and culturally appropriate legal, psychosocial and economic assistance, that recognizes the special needs of Māori and ethnic minority women and girls, while ensuring that cultural sensitivity does not disregard the State party's obligations under the Convention;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of connection and coordination between Police Safety Orders and Courts Protection Orders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure effective coordination and collaboration among the entities responsible for combating gender-based violence;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That despite a reported decrease in "no crime" files, a lack of a subsequent increase in court cases has been observed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider renewing its invitation to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women its causes and consequences
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The heightened vulnerability of women with disabilities to care-giver violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the Family and Whānau Violence Legislation Bill protects women with disabilities from care-giver violence
Trafficking and exploitation of prostitution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Section 19 of the Prostitution Reform Act may have a negative impact on migrant women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Committee recommends that the State party amend Section 19 of the Prostitution Reform Act with a view to reducing its negative impact on migrant women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That migrant women engaged in prostitution may be exposed to exploitation and are at risk of trafficking due to the prohibition on migrants to engage in prostitution which prevents them from reporting abuse fearing deportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise migration laws, and adopt measures aimed at preventing discrimination against women in prostitution and the factors that render migrant women vulnerable to trafficking, with a view to addressing those factors and structures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minimal level of prosecutions and convictions and the sentences imposed on traffickers, possibly stemming from a high threshold of proof and demanding proceedings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen mechanisms to identify, protect and assist victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation, provide them with legal support and systematically collect comprehensive data about victims of trafficking and report them to the Committee in its next periodic report;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The absence of a national action plan on trafficking and the lack of coordination among relevant State agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speedily adopt a new national action plan to combat human trafficking
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the Crimes Amendment Act (2015) does not make an exception to the requirement of one or more acts of coercion or deception in the situation of trafficking in children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise the Crimes Amendment Act (2015) to criminalize trafficking in children
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaps in the early identification of victims of trafficking and their referral to the appropriate services and lack of specialized shelters in the State party, in particular in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with adequate protection and support
Participation in political and public life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the low levels of women representation in leadership roles in other levels and sectors: only 19% of directors of companies listed on the New Zealand Stock Exchange Main Board were female, and 56% of businesses have no women in senior roles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To adopt and implement temporary special measures, including time-bound goals, quotas or preferential treatment, to accelerate women's equal representation in decision-making positions in all areas of decision-making positions, both in the public and the private sectors.
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited access to secondary and tertiary education for many rural girls and women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take all necessary measures, including through increased resources, to facilitate access to secondary and tertiary education for rural girls and women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of inclusion in school curriculum of comprehensive, culturally sensitive and age-appropriate sexuality education or education on harmful practices and gender-based violence against women and girls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the inclusion in school curricula of mandatory, culturally sensitive and age-appropriate education on sexual and reproductive health and rights and responsible sexual behaviour, focusing on the prevention and the consequences of early pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The increasing rate of girls who drop out of school, including as a result of teenage pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide girls with a safe educational environment free from discrimination and sexual violence and include education on non-violence in the curricula
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of data, disaggregated by sex, ethnicity and disability, on enrolment at all levels, in particular in higher education, and on dropout rates and the reasons for them 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the efforts aimed at ensuring that no pressure is placed on pregnant teenage girls to leave school or change courses and establish a reintegration policy for teenage mothers while safeguarding against perceiving teen pregnancy and motherhood as a norm;

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concentration of women and girls in traditionally female-dominated fields of study and underrepresented in science and technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue eliminating stereotypes and structural barriers that may deter girls from enrolling in traditionally male-dominated fields of study, provide girls with career counselling, scholarships and other incentives to orient them to science and technology subjects, including meteorological studies, disaster risk reduction and
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing impediments to the education of rural girls on account of growing transportation costs, the closing of rural schools, the reduction of governmental financing of community education services, as well as the information-barrier regarding the obligation to pay 'voluntary donations' to schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address all impediments to the education of rural girls, including financial and transportation obstacles for rural girls
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The persistent discrimination against Māori, Pasifika and women with disabilities in the labour market 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To urgently addresses the working conditions of Māori, Pasifika, women with disabilities and young women in all areas of employment including through data collection and analysis;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The high unemployment rate among women under 25 years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider adopting a new law based on the recommendations of the reconvened joint working group on pay equity principles, with a view to applying it to both the public and private sectors;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The persistent gender pay gap, which disproportionately affects women in low-income jobs, including those from Māori, Pasifika and other ethnic and cultural minority groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and enforce the principle of equal pay for work of equal value in a revised employment relations legislation covering both public and private workplaces, including through analytical job classification and evaluation methods and regular pay surveys, and regularly review wages in sectors in which women are concentrated;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occupational segregation with concomitant wage differentials and women's concentration in unpaid work or in lower-paid jobs in the informal economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt temporary special measures to address occupational segregation and ensure that women and men have equal promotion opportunities;
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decreased funding for childcare facilities and services, which impedes on the ability of women to participate equally in the workforce and also leads to loss of jobs for women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate funding for childcare facilities and services.
Sexual harassment in the workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About sexual harassment and other forms of sexual assault in the workplace and the severe underreporting of such incidents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine the organizational culture in workplaces in order to address the root causes of sexual harassment and assault
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The high number of sexual harassment and bullying cases in the workplace, particularly within the police, the defence force, the legal professions and the health sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that all work places have a sexual harassment policy and clear process in place for victims
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That in the course 2017, the New Zealand Human Rights Commission received 1577 complaints alleging unlawful discrimination, of which 123 alleged sexual harassment, showing a 43% increase in sexual harassment complaints over the previous 10 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disseminate information on available reporting procedures and ensure that complaints about sexual harassment and bullying in the workplace are investigated and perpetrators brought to justice
Economic and social benefits and economic empowerment of women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The provisions in the Social Security Act, which entails a gender-neutral approach, may expose women to discrimination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend the Social Security Act to fully align it with its obligations under the Convention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of measures to fulfil extraterritorial obligations with regard to tax avoidance, tax abuse and exploitation of weak economies in third developing countries, which further reduces the resources available in those countries to advance women's rights and gender equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase tax collection and improve revenue administration, with a view to increasing social expenditure
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take measures to reduce poverty and improve the economic empowerment of women, in particular rural women, Māori, Pacific, Asian, immigrant, migrant and refugee women, and women with disabilities

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake independent, participatory and periodic impact assessments of the extraterritorial effects of its financial and corporate tax policies on women's rights and substantive equality, ensuring that those assessments are conducted impartially, with public disclosure of the methodology used and the findings
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That currently, the Criminal Act provides restrictive legal grounds for abortion in which rape or sexual violence are not included, and that the Contraception, Sterilization and Abortion Act requires the approval of two certifying consultants prior to the administration of abortion, thus further impeding on accessibility of the service and creating unnecessary delays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove abortion from the Crimes Act 1961 and amend the Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion Act 1977 in order for abortion to be fully decriminalized and incorporated into health services legislation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That under the new child care alert system of the Ministry of Health, unborn foetuses are included in the definition of child, which has resulted in foetal protection measures, such as court decisions granting special protection to the foetus, and that this may undermine pregnant women's bodily autonomy and reproductive health rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that abortion is legalized at least in cases of rape, incest, threats to the life or health of the pregnant woman or severe foetal impairment, and ensure women's access to safe abortion and post-abortion care and services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the number of qualified midwives is decreasing, primarily in remote and rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the necessary steps to ensure sufficient numbers of midwives to provide appropriate health-care services to women during pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period and to their children, in particular in remote and rural areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate services of mental health for women, including addiction treatments, targeting primarily Māori women and women with disabilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take the necessary steps to improve the availability and quality of accessible mental health care services, including addiction treatments, targeting primarily Māori women and women with disabilities
Rural Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women living in rural areas, are exposed to high levels of poverty and gender-based violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take measures aimed at improving the living conditions of women in rural areas, including alleviating poverty and eliminating gender-based violence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural women bear an unequal burden of family responsibilities and traditional attitudes compel them to perform unpaid work and provide food for their families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that rural women are offered with alternatives to unpaid work
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inadequate broadband and internet services in rural areas, posing significant further barriers to information and services for women 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure expanded use of modern technologies and adequate broadband internet services in rural areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The disproportionate impact of climate change on women in the State party, as well as the absence of information on women's participation in decision-making on rural development within related policies and programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further take into account the greater vulnerability of women in the face of natural disasters and climate change at all decision making levels of the process
Women belonging to Maori and ethnic women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Māori and ethnic minority women in the State party are exposed to intersecting forms of discrimination, particularly in accessing health services and protecting their right to land ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt all necessary legislation, including temporary special measures and awareness-raising measures, to combat intersecting forms of discrimination against women, particularly in assessing health-care services and protecting their right to land ownership
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That Māori women continue to be disproportionately affected by incarceration and that 65 per cent of female inmates are Māori 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the United Nations Rules for the Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-custodial Measures for Women Offenders (the Bangkok Rules) and provide alternatives to detention to reduce the high number of Māori women detainees
Migrant Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The situation faced by migrant women with children not holding permanent visas who lose their partners' sponsorship as a consequence of separation or divorce; and those who are returned to their country of origin leaving their children behind with the abusive fathers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revise its immigration laws with a view to facilitating access to permanent residency permits for mothers of children who hold New Zealand nationality
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That women may remain in abusive relationships so as not to lose their visa status which is dependent on the status of the perpetrator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the availability of shelters for migrant women who are victims of violence, including domestic violence, and provide them with free legal and psychological counselling, rehabilitation and other support services

Appendix B

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women.

Summary of concluding observations on New Zealand's progress on CEDAW goals. July 2018

Summary of principal areas of concerns and recommendations		
Principal areas	Concerns	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That women in such situations face particular obstacles in their access to justice for a variety of knowledge and language barriers as well as lack of legal aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create adequate conditions for women migrant to bring complaints, including by ensuring that they are properly informed about their rights and available remedies to complain about violations of those rights, including in a language that they can understand
Marriage and family relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment being performed in only few of the cases where violence is reported by the woman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Royal Commission of Inquiry with independent mandate to engage in wide-ranging evaluation of the drawbacks and obstruction of justice and safety for women inherent in the Family Court system, and to recommend necessary legislative and structural changes necessary for making the Family Court safe and just for women and children, particularly in situations of domestic violence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandatory mediation and joint partner courses are implemented even in situations of domestic violence, including when protection orders are in place, thus exposing the female victim to heightened risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take all necessary measures, including through legislation and policy guidelines on gender-based violence against women to ensure that women victims of domestic violence are not forced to participate in out-of-court solutions such as mandated mediation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no particular provisions to courts to consider domestic violence, whether directed at the mother or at the child, when deciding on child custody, and judges reportedly recommend shared physical custody even when fathers are abusive to them or to their mothers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take all necessary measures, including through legislation and policy guidelines, to ensure that domestic violence, whether directed at the child or at the mother, is properly considered in child custody disputes, particularly when shared physical custody is being contemplated, and investigate the outcomes for shared physical custody on children's development and welfare
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courts, lawyers for children and social workers are routinely resorting to the Parental Alienation Syndrome theory despite its being refuted internationally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the reliance on the Parental Alienation theory, with a view to limit its usage in child custody disputes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls between 16 and 18 years of age can marry with parental consent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedite the adoption of the The Marriage (Court Consent to Marriage of Minors) Amendment Bill, 2017, so as to completely preclude the parental consent as a sufficient requirement to allow marriage below the age of 18, and to allow only court approval under exceptional circumstances for marriages between 16 and 18 years
Data collection and analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About the deficiencies in compiling, analysing and processing reliable statistical data on the situation of women in all areas covered by the Convention, including intersections between women belonging to more than one group with specific characterization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the State party set up a centralized system for the collection, analysis and dissemination of comprehensive data, disaggregated by sex, age, disability, ethnicity, location, gender identity and sexual orientation and socioeconomic status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use measurable indicators to assess trends in the situation of women and progress towards the realization of substantive equality in all areas covered by the Convention, while maintaining confidentiality of women in these groups
Dissemination		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the timely dissemination of the present concluding observations, in the official languages of the State party, to the relevant State institutions at all levels (national, regional and local), in particular to the Government, the ministries, Parliament and the judiciary, to enable their full implementation
Technical assistance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link the implementation of the Convention to its development efforts and that it avail itself of regional or international technical assistance in this respect