FORUM: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

QUESTION OF: Implementing measures to prevent gender-related killing of women and girls

MAIN SUBMITTER: France

CO-SUBMITTERS:

*Confirms* that terms such as femicide and feminicide are terms that pertains to sexual or gender hate crimes that lead to the killing of women but may also pertain to that of men,

*Fully Alarmed* that 38% of all murders of women are committed by their intimate partners,

*Reminds* the delegation that "Honor Killings", a culturally accepted form of gender-based violence, continue to take place in Pakistan, Turkey, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Iran, Yemen, Morocco and other Mediterranean and Gulf Countries,

*Noting* that the specific definition of gender-related killings are those with a main motive incorporated in gender-based discrimination,

*Emphasizing* that any act of violence purposefully perpetrated against a female, either in private or public sphere, invokes the obligation of the State to prevent, investigate, punish and provide acts of compensation for all acts of violence,

*Recognizing* that Gender-related killings pertain to *inter alia,* rape-murder, intimate-partners violence that escalates into murder, dowry deaths and honor killings,

*Noting with approval* the actions of the OHCHR, a UN faction that oversees major programs pertaining to protecting human rights, and has implemented many measure towards ceasing the practice of femicide in Latin America nations through methods such as the development of special laws on violence against women and ensuring that gender-specific aspects are taken into account when analysing crime scenes,

1. Calls uponnations to implement a legal framework within their respective nations that prosecutes different forms of gender-related killings and eliminates discriminatory provision in the legislation which legally accepts gender-based violence such as "crimes of passion" through methods such as but not limited to:
   1. allowing women to remain anonymous under the lawif they so wish to prosecute their spouse for domestic violence which pertains to both regular and marital rape and other forms of domestic abuse
   2. using the Hudood Ordinance of Pakistan created in 1979 as a method to streamline both legal and religious law in order to legally create obstacles towards the practice of Honor killings
   3. prohibiting the request, payment or acceptance of a dowry in which the "dowry" is defined as a mandatory precondition or economic compensation from one family to another before a marriage;
   4. Ensuring that women have equal protection under the law and can access legal aid and witness protection, if necessary,
   5. Providing sufficient human, technical and financial resources to policing and judicial systems allowing them to appropriately respond to gender-related killing of women;
2. Draws attentionto the societal stigma attached to those who are victims of gender-based violence and seeks to provide the following tools to aid and guarantee the rights of victims, survivors and their families who are impacted by these actions:
   1. implementing UN based houses dispersed in their respective member nations which offer female support groups and counseling for victims of gender-based violence in order to provide a stronger female network against these attacks
   2. promoting UN safe-houses that offer women a safe environment to escape from a potentially hostile familial environment where they may feel unsafe, and allows women to remain there indefinitely until they wish to move on or return to their previous environment
   3. allowing trained UN personnel educated on women's rights within the respective nation to speak in public edifices such as schools, work places, and relative community centers to provide both private and public counsel to women and girls on their rights as citizens;
3. Recommendsthat in order to attack the issue justly, member nations review practices within national religious groupings to the best of their ability, and adopt the following practices in order to ensure the actions or intentions of these religious groupings does not result in femicide or unlawful consequences:
   1. mandating that religious bodies or groupings within a community which have been involved in acts pertaining to femicide in the past post or provide, information of the legal rights of women in the community within the church
   2. allowing UN officials to speak during an active religious gathering or seminar and educate women on their legal rights within the religious community,
   3. inviting religious leaders to actively encourage or promote female equality and rights during religious meetings in which they would receive later monetary or service compensation towards the religious house or community by the UN;
4. Asksnations to recognize the concept of "dowry deaths" as a prominent source of murder within their societies, and to help alleviate this particular form of female gender killing through methods such as but not limited too:
   1. encouraging families to look for other methods of economic advancement or compensation by coordinating with local banks who may organize financial loans or economic compensation to families who have lost a child due to marriage if the family may provide accurate evidence of their child and the marriage in question,
   2. Implementing governmental economic policy which offers long-term economic support towards rural or farm-based families which are losing a child due to a marriage, through providing the family with 2 farm animals or farm tools at a negotiated price due to the net-income of the family;
5. Further asks for ending forced early marriage and premature pregnancy through:
   1. Creating more programs such as the *Apni Beti Apna Dhan* (ABAD), to offer conditional cash transfers to incentivize families to delay daughter's marriage
6. Draws attentiontothe practice of female genital mutilation that almost always results in the death of the woman, and seeks to end the continuation of this cultural practice in communities by streamlining these procedures or cultural practices with official medical facilities through methods such as the following:
   1. imposing legislation that requires future surgeries to be documented and proceeded within official medical facilities,
   2. mandating that patients have a precursory appointment before their surgery in which they will be provided with written, visual or oratory instruction on the consequences that this surgery may have,
   3. requiring that patients reflect and explore this information before they proceed with their surgery;
7. Asksnations to promote gender equality in order to realistically allow women to seek opportunities for economic autonomy outside compromising familial relations if needed, through methods such as:
   1. encouraging banks to loan micro-credits to women in order to help them start up their own businesses,
   2. implement business or economics into the school and university curriculums for both girls and boys to allow the distribution of equal knowledge in regards to finance and potential business start-ups,
   3. providing UN based centers within respective member nations that freely allows women or girls to use the technology within the center to further their educational abilities through online courses or allow community members the chance to take full advantage of the web in furthering their own economic or business aspirations;
8. Urges to increase the efficacy of their primary and secondary school education systems with a particular focus on gender parity through measures such as, but not limited to:
   1. Increasing educational opportunities for girls by:
      1. Implementing social cash transfers to help families offset the cost of sending female children to school,
      2. Providing scholarships to marginalized groups,
      3. Increasing attention to ethnic and linguistic minorities,
   2. Increasing the quality of education in disadvantaged schools by:
      1. Increasing government expenditure on education,
      2. Prioritizing the building of links between schools and parents/communities,
      3. Providing teacher training programs, including mentoring programs for novice teachers, to increase the effectiveness of classroom learning strategies,
      4. Providing adequate sanitation facilities in schools including private/separate latrines for girls,
      5. Creating a safer school environment by strengthening school leadership,
      6. Creating victim support units in schools for students who are victims of violence, exploitation or corporal punishment to facilitate the reporting of crimes to local authorities;
9. Recommends that relevant NGOs, United Nations Educational and Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to combine efforts with grassroots organizations in Developing countries in educational campaigns against all forms of violence and spread awareness among women about their rights where it is applicable:
   1. media including:
      1. social Networking sites,
      2. television commercials,
      3. radio commercials,
      4. billboards,
   2. seminars that will introduce volunteering programs such as but not limited to:
      1. United Nations Volunteers,
      2. United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).