Background Note: Briefing to the Executive Board, Annual Session 2023

"UN-Women's operational response in Europe and Central Asia"

Theme: regional roll-out of the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Commission on the Status of Women: Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls

I. Context

Women and girls in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region have been disproportionately impacted by a number of challenges and humanitarian crises. The war in Ukraine marked the start of the largest displacement and refugee crisis in Europe since 1945 and the greatest modern challenge to the global and regional peace architecture. Out of the 35.6 million people currently estimated to be living in Ukraine, 17.6 million people – nearly 50 per cent – are estimated to be in need of multisectoral humanitarian assistance in 2023.[1] Approximately 15.4 million people require some form of protection assistance, including child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response, and land mine action services.[2] National mental health research undertaken in September 2022 showed that 71 per cent of Ukraine's population is experiencing war-related stress and high anxiety. Since September, mental health conditions have worsened considerably, given the sharp increase in missile attacks, casualties, and destruction of power infrastructure. The World Health Organization (WHO) expects that approximately 9.6 million people in Ukraine may have a mental health condition related to war.

Also, on 6 February 2023, Türkiye was struck by two significant earthquakes that resulted in widespread devastation in the southeast part of the country. Eleven provinces with a population of around 14 million (16.4 per cent of the country's population) were affected, with women and girls making up half of the population of these affected areas. Moreover, as Türkiye hosts the largest refugee population in the world, around 1.74 million refugees live in the 11 provinces impacted by the earthquakes, approximately half of whom are women and girls. At the same time, millions of women and girls from the region have been displaced and poverty and insecurity are on the rise, while gender inequality and discrimination against women are fostered by these threats.

Apart from the fact that the ECA region faces several complex crises that disproportionately impact women and girls, the expanding prevalence and importance of digital spaces during and after the COVID-19 pandemic has fuelled another emerging challenge: online violence against women and girls (TFVAWG). The impact of TFVAWG can be as harmful as offline violence, with negative effects on the health and well-being of women and girls as well as serious economic, social and

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[1] UNHCR. 2023. Ukraine Emergency: UNHCR Operational Response, Delivery Updates. 2 February.
[2] Ibid.

political consequences. Furthermore, TFVAWG presents a real and severe threat to the ability of women and girls to harness the potential of the digital transformation of economies and industries, which provides an opportunity for economic empowerment.

Currently, women's participation in information and communications technology (ICT) and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) jobs is limited. In most parts of the region, fewer than 40 per cent of ICT jobs are held by women, and those jobs are more likely to be of lower status and with less decision-making power.[3] At the same time, ICT skills are becoming increasingly more important for the workplace, with the vast majority of future jobs expected to require some type of STEM skills.

Despite the gender gaps in ICT leadership and employment, other characteristics of the ECA region make it ideal for advancing women's opportunities in these areas. Internet connectivity is high, with 78 per cent of the population connected via mobile device.[4] Additionally, existing ICT infrastructure is widespread, which reduces structural barriers to women's participation and skills-building.

In addition to playing a key role in current and future employment opportunities, basic ICT skills are becoming a prerequisite for accessing services and otherwise participating in public life.[5] This shift threatens to leave behind older women and women from other marginalized groups and contribute to an ever-widening gap between those with the ability to access the online world and those without.

II. Advancing CSW67 Agreed Conclusions and priority actions in the region: past and present

The recent 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) provided an opportunity to scale up past commitments and set the way forward to operationalize six of the eight actions laid out in the agreed conclusions focus on "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls."

Across the ECA region, UN-Women actively engaged with governments, the UN system and civil society partners in the lead-up to CSW67. As in previous years, in 2023, UN-Women hosted subregional preparatory meetings for Member States prior to CSW67 as an opportunity to formulate national and subregional positions to influence and inform CSW67. These included meetings for Central Asia (hosted by the Government of Kyrgyzstan) and the Western Balkans and Türkiye (hosted by the Government of Albania). In Central Asia, partners prioritized the need for continued digitalization of public gender-responsive services for citizens and businesses, reengineering existing procedures, determining the effectiveness of current levels of digitalization, creating a road map for implementing and adapting the target model, and monitoring

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[3] UNDP. 2023. "Do the maths: future-proof economies need women and girls in STEM"
[4] https://www.statista.com/statistics/1272289/mobile-internet-connectivity-europe-central-asia/#statisticContainer
[5] https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/migration/eurasia/UNDP-RBEC-Gender-Equality-Digitalization-guidance.pdf

implementation. In the Western Balkans and Türkiye, priority was given to building a community of practice to address the underrepresentation of women in the ICT sector and participants acknowledge the transformative potential of gender equality in digitalization as well as of the application of gender-responsive planning and budgeting to that ensure gender aspects are integrated in budget programmes in the area of digital transformation. Data privacy and the quality of data were equally identified as a priority for evidence-based policymaking and implementation. As such, both subregions need to do more to promote the benefits of gender-responsive digitalization.

The CSW67 subregional consultation for Ukraine, hosted by the Government of Ukraine and organized by UN-Women in February 2023, brought together State institutions, civil society and private companies. These stakeholders exchanged ideas and best practices on how to unlock the potential of digital opportunities for gender-responsive recovery and sustainable development. Several key recommendations tailored to each stakeholder group emerged from the event, one of which was the expansion of women's access to digital skills and affordable technologies for their access to decent work in Ukraine and refugee-hosting countries as well as financial resources to sustain and scale-up their businesses. This recommendation also highlights the critical role of digital solutions in promoting women's empowerment, particularly in the areas of economic empowerment and access to income-generating activities.

Only three weeks after CSW67, UN-Women used the opportunity of the 2023 Regional Forum for Sustainable Development to raise awareness about the agreed conclusions and renewed commitments by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Member States and share good practices and innovative solutions for further upscaling in the region to bridge the digital divide and advance gender responsiveness. UN-Women joined the Peer-Learning Round Table on "SDG 9&17: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure & Partnerships for the Goals", where the achievements made on both SDG 9 and 17 were reviewed together with the UN Digital Transformation Group for Europe and Central Asia, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). A separate side event was also organized by UN-Women which brought together governments and experts as well as the private sector, youth and civil society perspectives from the ECA region to follow-up on CSW67 outcomes and to identify game-changing actions in the digital age for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls to further localize CSW67 conclusions and commitments.

By applying integrated and multidimensional approaches and leveraging our unique triple mandate – normative support, UN system coordination and operational activities – UN-Women is catalysing and scaling-up programming in digitalization. Initiated after the Beijing +25 regional review, we are responding to new opportunities and emerging priorities in six of the eight action areas laid out in the CSW67 Agreed Conclusions:

1. **Prioritizing digital equity to close the gender digital divide**

The importance of closing the digital gender gap was magnified by the global COVID-19 pandemic as digital technology became a lifeline for millions of women and girls around the world,

and a critical tool to cope with the crisis and its aftermath. It also posed an increased risk for many women and girls as online violence against women and girls rapidly escalated in the shadows of the pandemic.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, UN-Women partnered with the ITU to highlight digital gender gaps across the region by commissioning a study covering eight countries. The study evaluated trends in the participation of girls and women in the ICT sector and its dynamics while analysing women's participation in the digital world, with a special focus on COVID-19 implications. The analysis included country-specific recommendations to develop a set of national initiatives to foster the participation of women and girls in the ICT sector.[6] Specifically, the recommendations include: support for extra-curricular STEM enrichment programmes for girls; encouraging gender-sensitive STEM learning environments; facilitating partnerships between start-ups/ICT companies and technology training programmes to offer girls real world experience; collecting precise gender-disaggregated data within the ICT industry; and supporting gender-sensitive start-up investments, including women investing in women; among others.

Further, UN-Women carried out a rapid assessment among 40 civil society organizations that informed the organization's response to secure services for survivors in the Western Balkans to date. The findings of the assessment "Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on specialist services for victims and survivors of violence in the Western Balkans and Turkey: A proposal for addressing the needs" revealed that the provision of general and specialist services to survivors of violence requires mid-term investments in order to serve all women optimally and to curb the rise of violence following the pandemic. While limited in scope, the research disclosed, firstly, that services were not well-designed for crisis situations, particularly crises caused by infectious diseases, which have very different causes and consequences from emergency situations caused by natural or human-made disasters; secondly, the pandemic more clearly unveiled weak spots in the system for prevention and protection that can be better targeted with support. Nevertheless, the assessment concluded that the pandemic, as any other crisis, posed challenges but also presented opportunities for innovation as organizations adjusted services to fit the new reality, emphasizing that this innovation should be supported in order to develop more effective and better-quality services.

Almost three years since the initial rapid assessment, UN Women is undertaking a follow-up in-depth assessment to appraise the adaptation of essential services to emergencies and crises; the responses to old and new challenges, including safety in the digital sphere and online violence; and the most pressing needs in the coming years. The follow-up assessment will inform key stakeholders' policy and programming strategies to prevent and respond to violence against women.

In Georgia, UN-Women initiated a public-private partnership with the Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency and the private sector, resulting in the flagship programme "500 Women in Tech," which aimed to bridge the digital gender divide and advance women's participation in the

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[6] https://eca.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/2021/05/digitally-empowered-generation-equality

innovation and technology sector throughout Georgia. Receiving more than 4,000 applications, the final 994 participants underwent intensive English language and professional courses followed by employment application skills-building and then mentorship with partner ICT companies. Preliminary follow-up with programme participants showed that over 90 per cent had been employed using the skills acquired through the programme.

With support from the UN-Women/UNPFA EU4GE regional programme, around 4.8 million people overall were reached through multiple innovative campaigns on social media to debunk gender stereotypes and discriminatory social norms through behavioral change. These include: the digital campaign "Daddy every day" and "DoctorPRO" initiative in Belarus; the campaign dedicated to the International Day of the Girl Child, "Men talk for gender equality" sessions, Papa Schools, and grass roots advocacy campaign targeting young boys and girls in Azerbaijan; the TikTok campaign and "It can be different, without stereotypes" campaign in Moldova; video materials, publications on the website, social media channels, and local media outlets in Armenia; and the promotion of the Fathers' School, a photo project, web story and event on International Youth Day in Georgia.

Also, recognizing that digital education is often inaccessible or unaffordable for women from marginalized groups, UN-Women partnered with Vodafone Albania to donate smartphones and provide digital literacy training to women from marginalized communities. The smartphones came with the Bright Sky application pre-installed – an application that helps women report violence and access services anonymously and confidentially. As a result, 80 women from disadvantaged groups – women with disabilities, Roma and Egyptian women, and from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and other (LGBTIQ+) community – increased their technological literacy and received 80 electronic devices equipped with an Internet connection that were functional for 18 months in five municipalities of Albania.

2. Leveraging financing for inclusive digital transformation and innovation towards achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls

The digital revolution is one of the major shifts since the Beijing Conference, having profound effects on gender equality and women's rights in all spheres of life. In 2019, the Beijing +25 subregional consultations and regional review for Europe and Central Asia identified among its five emerging and future priorities the importance of ensuring women's and girls' inclusion in STEM and the emerging challenge of online forms of violence.[7] To advance work in this area, UN-Women Europe and Central Asia scaled up its work on digitalization, innovation and technology across the region to address gaps identified during the review process.

Subsequently, UN-Women secured a partnership with the European Commission to work in the region to harness the potential of digital transformation and increase access to digital essential

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[7] UNECE. 2019. Beijing +25 Regional Review Meeting, Regional review of progress: regional synthesis, 20 August. https://unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/RCM_Website/ECE_AC.28_2019_3-e_rev.pdf

services for women and girls who are survivors of online violence, as well as tools to protect themselves from such violence. The new programme, kicking off in 2024, will strengthen referral systems for the delivery of online and offline services for women and girl survivors of violence in the Western Balkans and Türkiye, including by training providers and improving coordination among relevant State actors (police, justice sector, social services and health care). The programme will also provide technical assistance for the introduction of specific gender-sensitive legislation on TFVAWG and abuse and raise awareness among youth on the topic, available services and how to react to incidents.

3. **Promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership, as well as full employment, of women in technology and innovation**

Increased regionalization of Generation Equality Forum (GEF) commitments through the convening of a multi-stakeholder platform to advance progress. UN-Women, in collaboration with the regional UN system, will prioritize sustained engagement with partners in the ECA region who joined the GEF Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality and made commitments to advance gender equality in STEM, which will remain an important priority for UN-Women together with our key partners.

The year 2023 is a midpoint for Generation Equality to assess and report on progress and consider how the commitments made could be further strengthened by the solutions suggested by inter-governmental platforms like CSW67. Regional follow-up events are planned to precede the global midpoint review event.

Across Europe and Central Asia, UN-Women is also deepening collaboration with key regional partners across priority areas and leveraging their capabilities, resources and knowledge. For example, we have operationalized our MOU with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and our targeted private sector companies, Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) signatories and networks of women entrepreneurs through signature interventions on digital solutions for women entrepreneurs. We have also signed a letter of intent with the Regional Cooperation Council to advance work on gender-responsive digitalization in the Western Balkans.

Finally, UN-Women is identifying the needs of both women entrepreneurs and private sector companies to address gender-responsive procurement from both the supply and demand sides. We have formed a strategic partnership with Yildiz Holding, which has committed $4.1 million to support gender-responsive procurement from women-owned businesses through key subsidiaries – and the impact will be large.

Investing in gender-responsive digitalization to boost women's entrepreneurship. Across the region, UN-Women will continue to engage with governments, the UN system, development partners and the private sector to advance digital tools that can help make business formalization and growth more accessible and facilitate women's input into legal and regulatory reforms, their access to finance and credit tools, their entry into new markets, and their acquisition of skills and development of business acumen. A further focus will be the digital upskilling and digital entrepreneurship training of women and girls and fighting gender stereotypes in the digital sector.

In the Western Balkans, new EU-funded programming and partnerships with the Regional Cooperation Council, UNDP and European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) will contribute to the increased capacity-building of civil society organizations (CSOs), business and industry associations and networks to advocate for the implementation of a gender-responsive digital agenda.

UN-Women will continue providing online and offline platforms to boost entrepreneurship, including through the regional flagship Women's Entrepreneurship EXPO. In 2022, the EXPO catalysed ongoing strategic partnerships with international financial institutions (IFIs) and private sector companies to facilitate business connections and growth for women entrepreneurs. As a result of these partnerships, over 1,600 women entrepreneurs accessed an interactive and inclusive professional space to develop their skills, access business tools and receive mentorship. Further, 243 women entrepreneurs physically presented and sold products and services through satellite Expos, and 163 women entrepreneurs increased their knowledge, networked and promoted products during in satellite summits. A further 232 women entrepreneurs selected to participate in the Expo increased their knowledge through a Bootcamp held by private sector partner Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC). UN-Women established this strategic partnership with PWC and signed private sector collaboration agreements with seven PWC offices (in Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine). Currently, 60 selected entrepreneurs from 12 countries are participating in the mentorship programme and preparing for the final pitching meeting with investors from across Europe and Central Asia.

UN-Women will also harness the potential of digital transformation to accelerate efforts to empower women economically by enhancing their access to entrepreneurship, specialized employment opportunities (notably in the digital labour market) and in STEM education and employment in the Western Balkans. Specifically, UN-Women will organize a digital chapter of the Women's Entrepreneurship Expos that will provide women (including those from marginalized groups) with access to networking and mentoring opportunities informed by a comprehensive gender analysis of the entrepreneurial ecosystem for women in the Western Balkans using the Women's Entrepreneurship Development (WED) Assessment Framework. UN Women will also launch a mentorship programme in partnership with Women in Tech – a leading global community that fosters inclusion, diversity and equity in STEM.

Harnessing digital and entrepreneurial ecosystems for the social and economic resilience of women affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Recognizing the importance and effectiveness of inclusive, accessible and safe digital solutions in humanitarian responses, UN-Women has intensified its humanitarian efforts to promote the capacity of women to cope with the crisis and economic fragility by means of digital and entrepreneurial ecosystems, as well as women's leadership in the digital space.

To advance these efforts, UN-Women has provided online training, career development and job-seeking consultations through the Women for the Future platform for women who lost their job or income during the war, which has had a significant impact on women's economic empowerment in Ukraine and abroad. More than 15,000 women accessed the platform in 2022 alone, which has

helped expand their access to income-generating activities with enhanced digital skills and affordable tools.

Another digital initiative, the SafeWomenHub platform, provided psychosocial assistance to over 2,700 women and girls – one of the emerging and critical needs of women and girls affected by the war. Through a dedicated hotline, UN-Women enabled more than 5,000 women to access legal aid services – an impressive achievement that demonstrates the importance of service-delivery using technology. In 2023, UN-Women, the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine and Diia.Business partnered to empower war-affected women who want to start up or rescale their businesses in Poland and Ukraine, through a unique initiative that provides blended entrepreneurial, digital and financial literacy trainings, business consultations, financial assistance and support to access markets. The initiative will provide vital resources and tools that can change the lives of these entrepreneurs, giving them a chance to regain their economic agency and rebuild their lives.[8]

In 2022, UN Women also supported Ukrainian NGO INSCIENCE to launch a platform БУДЬ/ВЕ to provide mentoring support to 735 Ukrainian women who either lost their jobs or want to get a job in STEM, ICT and creative industries. Seventy-two well-known ICT and creative industry companies joined the project, 22 women got new jobs, and 192 are continuing their professional development. Around 2 million people were reached through nine career-building webinars. The WOMEN IN SCIENCE initiative in Ukraine has made female scientists visible to society, showing the importance of science, including in times of war, and inspiring girls and women to build careers in STEM. The project got more than 50 media mentions in national and regional media, including *Elle Ukraine*, the Ministry of Science of Ukraine, *Science.ua*, *NV*, The Ukrainian *Newsweek, Wonderzine*, and others. Project content on women in science currently has more than 1.35 million views.

4. Adopting gender-responsive technology design, development and deployment

During the Generation Equality Forum in Paris, gender-responsive innovation and technology was singled out as one of the six Action Coalition themes. Governments and key actors were urged to look at technology as one of the key areas in which achieving gender equality can transform our world and to recognize the catalytic role that technology can play in helping achieve all the other Action Coalition objectives by accelerating progress.

In the ECA Asia region, UN-Women actively engaged with governments (including those leading Action Coalitions such as Armenia and North Macedonia), the UN system and civil society partners to regionalize GEF commitments, including under the Action Coalition 5 on innovation and technology. Public and private sector leaders announced their support to the Action Coalition,

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[8] https://eca.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2022-12/Summary_Digital%20Empowerment%20of%20Women.pdf

with a focus on reaching girls and women with STEM programmes and opportunities and increasing the representation of women in STEM by 2026.

One year after the GEF in Paris, UNICEF, UN-Women and the ITU, in partnership with the United Nations Europe and Central Asia Issue-Based Coalition on Gender Equality (IBC-GE), organized a regional event in July 2022 convening Action Coalition 5 commitment-makers from governments, the private sector, civil society, and women and girl leaders in a dynamic dialogue on the progress in implementing the regional commitments to advance gender equality in STEM. The event served as the first in a series of key convenings to foster new strategic alliances and partnerships to advance women and girls in technology and innovation. Priorities highlighted by partners included: "the need to (i) build private-public partnerships; (ii) have equal opportunities and access to the labour market; (iii) address gender norms; and (iv) engage women and girls in dialogues to make sure that the initiatives undertaken address their needs and concerns. When asked about the support needed and expected from the UN IBC-GE side, participants highlighted the need for: (i) evidence-based solutions and case studies; (ii) Internet access for rural areas; (iii) micro funding; and (iv) more opportunities to increase digital literacy and digital skills among women and girls; among others.

Additionally, the development of a regional youth engagement road map involving 40 youth activists, organizations and leaders from over 22 countries under the Generation Equality Europe and Central Asia Youth Forum has been another entry point for advancing digital priorities and commitments. Youth activists reflected on young people's role in the GEF initiative, as well as challenges and best practices for meaningful youth engagement. Their recommendations on youth and digitalization and their reflections on their role in Generation Equality resulted in an outcome document that has defined the next steps of the region's youth engagement.

UN-Women also supports the UN Digital Transformation Group for Europe and Central Asia's initiative on "UN Digital Development Toolbox: Guidelines, frameworks, and tools supporting the UN Development System delivery on digital in Europe and Central Asia". It aims to support UN Country Teams and Resident Coordinators in the region to apply available frameworks, guidelines, capacity-building tools, toolkits and other measurement tools that may be utilized for ICT and digital-development-related initiatives in the context of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCFs).

5. **Enhancing data science to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls**

Data collection on VAW, particularly femicide, suffers from a lack of standardization within and across the region. As a result, UN-Women has led efforts to strengthen and systematize data collection and analysis on femicide, resulting in the development of a comprehensive framework for understanding the characteristics, patterns and causes of femicide and for collecting comparable, disaggregated data on the crime. Originally developed in Serbia, the model has been replicated in Albania, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina and has also informed the launch of an interactive map of all femicides committed in Albania, Montenegro and Serbia since 2019.

This has served as an example for prospective femicide-watch initiatives in the region in addition to being a valuable and informative tool in itself.

These efforts, along with other advocacy and programmatic initiatives spearheaded by UN-Women, have resulted in new and strengthened commitments to address and eradicate femicide, including through the development of regional and country-level femicide watches. UN-Women will continue pursuing these efforts and leveraging data science to provide comparable and higher-quality data on VAW to inform policy and programming.

6. **Preventing and eliminating all forms of violence, including gender-based violence that occurs through or is amplified by the use of technology**

Providing increased access to digital essential services for women and girls who are survivors of online violence, and tools to protect themselves from such violence. While digitalization has brought with it new forms of abuse and violence against women that have been facilitated by technology, there are new untapped opportunities for the provision of online, as well as in-person, services for survivors and at-risk women and girls.

To advance these efforts, UN-Women has supported the development of a mobile application for reporting violence for both Android and iOS operating systems in Serbia. The app was developed as a direct response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the new realities it created, such as the fact that all support for women fell to specialized women's organizations and services that were available through electronic communication channels. More than 250 women reported violence through the app, and each of those women had more than one interaction/SMS/chat through the app. Special attention was paid to teaching staff how to instruct women with disabilities on using digital communication channels to access SOS services.

To inform its operational work, UN-Women is undertaking a regional study on online violence against women and girls. The research, conducted in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo,[9] Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Türkiye and Ukraine, investigates the nature and scale of the issue; explores women's experiences with diverse forms of online violence; develops a greater understanding of the consequences of various manifestations of these forms of VAWG on the continuum between offline and online violence, through the voices of women and girls; and will lay out strategic recommendations for prevention and responses to TFVAWG. The results of this research, which will be launched during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence 2023, will bridge knowledge gaps on digital violence which can subsequently inform holistic regional, subregional and eventually country-level approaches, policymaking and programme development to strengthen protection systems and prevention and response mechanisms related to online violence.

As a follow-up to CSW67, on 31 March UN-Women in partnership with the UNODC Regional Office supported a cross-regional consultation for Central Asia and the South Caucasus on Women and Cybercrime Prevention aimed at discussing current challenges, best practices and lessons

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[9] All references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

learned for the implementation of practical solutions for the empowerment of women in prevention of cybercrime, cyberbullying and online violence. The dialogue will be continued to help design further joint programmatic support to countries, in line with CSW67 Agreed Conclusions.

Key Take-Aways:

- CSW67 Agreed Conclusions will be applied in further dialogues ahead of the upcoming SDG summit and Beijing+30 regional review.
- CSW67 Agreed Conclusions will be applied in designing programmatic interventions to support partners in Ukraine and Türkiye on their recovery plans' design and implementation to broaden perspectives regarding the benefits of gender-responsive digitalization to building back equally for all.
- The Beijing+30 review will be linked with the follow-up on CSW67 outcomes at the national and regional levels.
- UN-Women will strengthen engagement with leaders of the Action Coalition on Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality from the region (Armenia, Finland, Koc Holding, UNICEF, ITU) to mobilize new commitment-makers and ensure their joint transformative commitment to advancing gender equality in the area of digitalization.
- Possibilities for new UN joint programmes and joint initiatives with regional bodies will be explored to address multidisciplinary and intersectional approaches to the current challenges and gaps on gender equality in STEM.