

## **2022 High Level Political Forum SDG5 session, 7 July**

### **Proposed**

- What is the current status of progress and trends on the SDG 5 indicators and gender equality more broadly?
- How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted progress on SDG 5, particularly considering women and girls facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination?
- How can we redirect more financing towards advancing the implementation of SDG 5, including through gender-responsive budgeting, access to economic opportunities, and international trade? How can gender data help inform this transition?
- In building a gender-equitable recovery from COVID-19, what are some key barriers, opportunities and promising practices in the areas of social protection, health systems, economic opportunities, particularly as pertains to employment opportunities and the care burden?
- Considering the interlinkages between SDG 5 and other SDGs, what are the main barriers and opportunities to advance gender equality in the areas of climate resilience, natural resources, technology and infrastructure?

**Lead discussant- Ms. Samra Filipović-Hadžiabdić, Director of the Agency for Gender Equality, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

**2 minutes for the intervention after the speaks who attend in person**

### **Suggest to focus on:**

- In building a gender-equitable recovery from COVID-19, what are some key barriers, opportunities and promising practices in the areas of social protection, health systems, economic opportunities, particularly as pertains to employment opportunities and the care burden?

### **Moderated panel round 2**

**2 minutes**

*Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished participants,  
Colleagues and partners,*

- It is a great pleasure to speak with you today.
- There is no question that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected women and widened gender inequalities across the globe.
- Female-dominated small and informal businesses were hardest hit, leaving too many women unemployed. In Europe and Central Asia region, twenty-two percent of women lost their jobs, and another fifty percent were forced to reduce their working hours.

- Internationally, women provide over three-quarters of all unpaid care work. The pandemic dramatically increased that workload.
- Women often lack access to credit and digital technologies. During the pandemic, this meant they couldn't participate in remote work or learning.
- Looking to the future, the Covid-19 impact continues to pose a great risk to gender equality and economic recovery, especially if women are unable to re-enter the workforce or remain in low-pay, low-skilled jobs to manage work and care.
- So how do we turn this crisis into an opportunity for systemic change?
- To build a gender-equitable recovery, women's access to decent work must be given priority. Unpaid care and domestic work must be recognized and compensated. Labour markets, employment policies and care systems need to be transformed.
- Specifically, accessible childcare, flexible work schedules, and decent pay for women can go a long way to empower women and benefit everyone.
- Easier access to digital technologies and learning can be transformative for women.
- In addition, gender-responsive budgeting is essential for ensuring equitable distribution of resources. In turn, that will contribute to equal opportunities for all.
- Moreover, women need a seat at decision-making tables. Their voices can lend greater accountability and effectiveness in both public and private spheres.
- As the world continues to grapple with the fallout from this COVID-19 pandemic, women and girls must be integral to the recovery process. Only through their active involvement can we hope to build a more resilient and equitable world that is better prepared to handle future crises.
- Thank you.