

**Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-seventh session**

**Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or
equality between women and men**

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consultations by providing analytical inputs, expertise
appointed a High-level Panel of Eminent Persons
advise on the global development framework beyond

The MDG Taskforce of the UN Development Group has initiated national and thematic

The MDGs framework, with its focus on aggregate progress and the use of national averages to evaluate progress, masks these complex social and economic disparities. The lack of sex disaggregated data, particularly on MDG 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and MDG 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability, has further challenged effective measurement of the extent of these inequalities and the resulting social exclusion experienced by marginalized populations. The MDGs also lack sufficient gender-sensitive targets and indicators. While the Beijing Platform for Action contains 12 critical areas of concern, MDG 3 on gender equality has only one target on eliminating gender disparity in education.

An additional critique of the current MDG framework has focused on the fact that the goals do not reflect the transformative dimensions of the Millennium Declaration from which they are derived. The Declaration reaffirms the commitment of all people to the goal of achieving a better world for all by the year 2015. It sets out a vision of a world where everyone enjoys peace, justice, and equality, and where the environment is protected and sustainable. It calls for a new partnership for development, based on mutual respect, shared responsibility, and solidarity.

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existing data. If the new development framework includes goals and targets, the choice of indicators should be driven by the most pressing issues, and not by current data availability.

A number of high priority issues for women were not included in the MDGs framework, such as the epidemic of violence against women. In addition, women have been heavily impacted by the global crises that have arisen or intensified since the establishment of the MDGs, including the global financial and economic crisis, climate change and the food and fuel crises. The new development framework will therefore need to be able to address

- What key principles should underpin the post-2015 development framework to ensure it is conducive to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women?
- What specific aspects should be captured in a gender equality goal so that it can be more encompassing and inclusive than the current MDG3?
- How should gender equality best be integrated into a sustainable development agenda?
- What could be some of the concrete targets and indicators that would help to promote accountability and increase the effectiveness of gender equality measures?