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General Assembly

Chair report

Committee: General Assembly (GA)

Agenda 1: Preventing ISIS recruitment of civilians

Agenda 2: Removing legal measures and barriers that restrict women's rights

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Contents.

Agenda 1: Preventing ISIS recruitment of
civilians

Agenda 2: Removing legal measures and
barriers that restrict women's rights

I. Committee Introduction

I. Committee Introduction

II. Agenda Introduction

II. Agenda Introduction

III. Status Quo

III. Status Quo

IV. History

IV. History

V. Stance of involved
nations/organizations

V. Stance of involved
nations/organizations

VI. Future Outlook

VI. Future Outlook

VII. Possible Solutions

VII. Possible Solutions

VIII. Conclusion

VIII. Conclusion

IX. Questions to consider

IX. Questions to consider

X. Bibliography

X. Bibliography

I. Committee introduction

The General Assembly, also known as GA, is one of the biggest committee in the United Nations. The Assembly has acted and so far adopted around 300 resolutions and decisions in total. The most historical achievement of the General Assembly is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), which has become the guidebook for Human Rights until now. Another major achievement of General Assembly was the Sustainable Development and Global Prosperity, calling for the harmony between natural resources and the economic society.

It consists of all 193 states of the United Nations, and recognizes integrated understanding of the world. The General Assembly has profound roles; it considers United Nations budget and financial assessment, elects members of other United Nations organizations, makes recommendations on maintaining international peace and security, (except which are discussed by the Security Council), makes recommendations about any situation that can potentially disrupt peaceful relations among countries, considers reports from other United Nations organizations, studies ways to improve political cooperation, develops and codifies international law, realizes human rights and fundamental freedoms, and promotes the overall international collaboration in economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, educational, and health fields. General Assembly have had great impacts on the global world and have successfully lifted lives to those in need.

II. Agenda Introduction

There has been a lot of terrors done by ISIS, and their main purpose is to first

agitate the world, and then to construct an 'Islam World' by the reign of Caliph, by either make them coercively obey to or admire ISIS. Their means as to shake the world is to show threats and terrors in countries that disobey them, like their unceasing attacks in France, Russia, North America, and more. At the same time, ISIS is seeking for future recruits that will potentially help the group to expand their power. They not only want combat arms; highly educated and talented or men of wealth, and they are targeting people with recruitment tactics, which are unfortunately, quite effective.

i) Definition of key terms

ISIS stands for *Islamic State of Iraq and Syria*. In fact, there are many official names for this group, such as *ISIS*, *ISIL*, *IS*, or *Daesh*. *ISIL* stands for *Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant*, *IS* stands for *Islamic State*, and *Daesh* is a rather contemptuous Arabic word meaning trample down or crush. The reason there are many names for this group is because of the long history of this group. The appearance of the term was 2003, when America invaded Iraq. At that time, a small but notorious that fought against America was called *Al-Qaeda in Iraq*, or *AQI*. In 2007, by the death of the leader of *AQI*, they changed their name to *Islamic State in Iraq*, or *ISI*. After, their influence had been shrinking, but only until the Syrian civil war, and they changed their name to *Islamic State in Iraq and Syria*, or *ISIS*, again for the purpose of territorial expansion. Moreover, in 2014, they altered title to *State of the Islamic Caliphate*, or *SIC*, which shows an inordinate ambition to reign the world under Muslim.

In the status quo, the French government decided to refer the group as *Daesh*, and the secretary general of the United Nations, Ki-Moon Park refers them as *Non-Islamic Non-State*, at the point that the group is not Islamic nor a state. The members of this vicious group prefers themselves to be called *Islamic State*, *IS*,

or Al-Dawla, but it is better to keep away because it legitimizes their claims to a Caliphate.

ii) Urgency & importance of this agenda

The reason why the new members of ISIS is growing in arithmetical progression is that they have a rather effective way of PR methods, which are highly popular and accessible. The contents below are about the main PR strategies.



1) High Quality and technical videos

In the previous Al Qaeda time, or at the initial times of the Islamic State video clips, the members used to talk directly into the camera, but now they have changed. The recruitment videos, threatening/hostage/responding videos take a form of 'professional movie'. They employ multiple cameras and edited slow-motion action shots with various colors. Recently, in a hostage video showing U.K hostage John Cantlie delivering a propagandist message, Cantlie mentions that the video will be the first in a series of "programs," which are designed to sway public opinion on the Islamic State and entice prospective recruits.

2) Supporting organizations

The group actively uses social media including a media company, online magazine, and especially social media. It has the Al Hayat Media Center which backs its video production and distribution and an online English magazine called Dabig publishing propagandist articles, with the goal to praise the ISIS. Meanwhile, the influence of social media is growing larger day by day. Their Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and Middle Eastern networks appeal to the populations in a fast and intense way.

3) Induce of women

ISIS also draws attention to women, especially Middle Eastern women whose human rights are infringed (for example, patriarchy or marriage customs). The main incentive for women is “sexual comfort roles”, like preventing women from fighting on the frontlines, a promise of a devout husband, and ‘only-for-women’ marriage centers and honeymoon.

III. Status quo

On July 2, 2016, ISIS responded to Obama’s threat by spreading a ‘movie trailer-style video’, titled “Flames of War: Fighting Has Just Begun”. The video briefly shows their previous attacks on U.S troops in 2003, implying that they will attack the United States sooner or later.

Meanwhile, it is known that the number of new member of ISIS soared to 6000 people compared to last month. According to the analysis of the *Syria Observatory For Human Rights*, the new recruits includes not only the former militants of al-Nusra Front; but even the opponents of the ISIS, and Westerners and not natural-born Muslims, which implies that the recruitment is already

worldwide. The recruits are mostly 15-20 years old, and the nationality are Turkey, France, the United Kingdom, and Germany. The Observatory also estimates the militant power to be more than 50,000 in Syria alone. The power of ISIS to expand its organization seems greater than expected.

The below is the online intervention of the Islamic State recognized by the Combating Terrorism Center.

- First contact
 - Islamic State seeks out target
 - Recruiters respond to targets who seek out Islamic State
- Create micro-community
 - Maintain constant contact
 - Encourage target to insulate against outside influences
- Shift to private communications
- Identify and encourage pro-Islamic State action suitable for target
 - Social media activism
 - Travel to Islamic State territories
 - Terrorism

IV. History

The root of IS is 'a unipersonal god and the Holy Land' 1999 that al-Zarqawi founded. The group is renamed to Al-Qaeda (AQI) in Iraq in 2004, which is an organization that is infamous for shocking all nations for terroring Iraq's Shiite residents and committing random terror against the temples, the United Nations personnel.

Unlike Osama bin Laden, who grew up in from a good family with a wealthy family, al-Zarqawi, grew up from the poor family and getting into jail several

times. The organization that he led is more violent and cruel and terrorist obsessed with 'an attempt to show'. Although al-Zarqawi died in a U.S. air raid in June 2006, his organization has become more brutal and more dilated. AQI, with the al-Zarqawi and al-Baghdadi, reorganized the organization and named it 'Iraqi Muslim nation, (ISI)' in October 2006. The first phrase, 'Nation of Islam' comes from here. While other radical militant group was immersed in the fight against foreign enemies, IS tightly focused on dominating Iraq.

It absorbed the remnants of Saddam Hussein regime forces torn down by the U.S. Al-Baghdadi himself was the officer in Saddam Hussein regime. They broke into the jail and helped criminals' jailbreak, and became a very faithful and violent member of ISI. Isi slowly increased its control of Iraq and plagued it by a lawlessness.

'Arab Spring' which occurred in the Middle East from the end of 2010 to beginning of 2011 came into opportunities for ISI. People heated up with their urges to the democracy and unitedly stood up against the dictatorship. The tyranny had changed its form but it soon settled again came to power. In particular, when the pro-democracy rallies took place in Syria and changed into a civil war, ISI did not miss all the chaos. Until that time, militant organization who was referred to father of extremist Islam, the Al Qaeda, ordered the al-Baghdadi to support Syria dissidents in the civil war, not to form a new organization. April 2013, ISI changed its name into a 'Iraqi and Muslim Levant country (ISIL)', and the Al Qaeda ordered al-Baghdadi to dismantle this organization. However, he did not followed the orders and even killed an emissary sent by al Qaeda in November 2013. Al Qaeda has openly denounced the al-Baghdadi to the extreme penalty, including the beheading people publicly, and eventually made sure that ISI is "a group that is nothing to do with us" in February 2014.

Declaring its independence, ISI started to take over Syria and Iraq, and on June

9, 2014, they managed to dominate the city of Mosul, Iraq's largest oil fields. And finally declared its establishment of state. They claim that they would recreate Muslim nation, which the Muhammad, the founder of the Muslim religion and Allah's prophet, founded. And define not only the heathen, but also some Muslims who do not conform to the aim as enemies.

V. Stances of involved nations

● Jordan

It is estimated that about 3000 Jordanians have joined IS in Iraq and Syria and between 400 and 450 died when fighting for it. Jordan has imprisoned dozens of suspected IS sympathizers. The government spokesman Mohammed Momani said “We know we will win against those brutal murderers because we are defending the values of merciful Islam and world civilizations,” As an Islam nation, and both the victim nation of IS, Jordan would have to make a concrete solution for defending their citizens.

● The United States of America

US prosecutors have charged 71 people with ISIS-related activities, since March 2014. Charges include attempting to strike US territory with lethal attack in order to support the terrorist organization. 56 out of 71 of the arrests were executed this year, and this is the largest number of terrorism-related arrests in one year since September 2001.

Since USA is the main country which leads the resist to the IS, they would express their strong will to take action to this problem.

● China

Although China refuses to join the UN forces, the Chinese government is

negative about the current status quo. There has been rising number of terrorist attack for the past few years, and there are more than 300 Chinese citizens who participate the ISIS. This number is quite contradicting since China claims that it is crucial to repel the ISIS. The delegate of China must come out with the domestic

Solutions, and take a concrete stance.

● **European Union**

Along with the Brussels airport and central metro bombing, killing at least 30 people, the atmosphere of the continent has turned noticeably hostile toward the Islamic State. At the same time, the number of Europeans participating in the terrorist organization has been constantly increasing. More than 5,000 Europeans have gone to fight in Syria, and France and Belgium. Some returnees make bonds with locals and make attacks in the continent. Even inside the EU, there are different ideas and stances of each nations. Therefore the delegates of nations in EU would not only cooperate with one another but also make arguments in representing the nation.

VI. Future Outlook

Islamic State has developed with surprising success through recent years. It turned into a leader of global jihadists from small part of it. It has dominance over huge amount of territories in the eastern Syria and western Iraq, and also other parts of eastern Asia. It has steady flow of foreign recruitment, and various sources of income. They have also demonstrated its capability and will to attack the western world. Seeing from this, the brutality and aggressiveness does not seem to settle without any sanctions. However, since the nations that

has to fight for IS have so different interest, it is prospected to be quite a difficult task to achieve unified idea and band strongly to achieve their goals.

VII. Possible solutions

The ISIS is a tough problem and its solutions are even tougher. Two main solutions can be military force and negotiation, which differ greatly from each other. Using military force can be a solution, while the other depends merely on negotiation and compromises. Delegates should keep in mind that both the solutions can be adopted, but would have to consider a lot about how much force we would put in a solution.

Using military force is a solution which is now minutely adopted around the world. As France, the United Kingdom and Russia ratchet up their attacks on ISIS, the U.S has also came under increasing pressure to escalate military American action against the extremist organization. The attacks in Paris and San Bernadino have increased domestic pressure for more aggressive action against ISIS, and thus many are in the process of escalating its military campaign against ISIS. The most effective way to urge the ISIS from further terrorism and genocide, military force should intervene. Though the chair would like to emphasize, time and again, that intensified military action is unnecessary and harmful, and bombing and pure hard power will not resolve the overall problem in Syria. Destroying the Islamic State can lead to other terrorist organizations springing up in what would continue to be an ungoverned space, and many other problems are expected.

Diplomatic solutions also need to be considered. It is clear that what we need is a coherent political solution, which will best be constructed through diplomacy. The U.S. and Russia must first hammer out a broad agreement so that Iran and Saudi Arabia could follow up. The arms dealers, international bankers, weapons

manufacturers and Sunni oligarchs funding these groups and the economic effect they make should be considered, and there must be a clear debate on this issue. Negotiations can also involve the partition of Iraq and Syria. An ethnic/sectarian map of the two countries would result in the creation of five or six smaller countries from two, which is the usual outcome of a successful civil war. The interests of the elites in these two countries would seem to be better served by partition than by continuing on with their interminable civil wars that are inflicting unbearable suffering on their respective populations.

VIII. Conclusion

The Islamic State has developed through various events, and became comparably distinguishable from other jihadist movements. On the contrary to other prior jihadist actions, IS has constantly tried to achieve the status of a state, and actually controlled, governed and defended its territory. While Taliban had ruled over Afghanistan before the 9.11, Islamic State now operates transnational caliphate, ignoring the national borders, especially between Syria and Iraq.

However, the most noticeable difference of this huge criminal body and the prior jihadist is that it is exceedingly capable in recruiting the civilians from various countries. People from all over the world, especially in the developed countries such as those in Europe, Asia, and North America join the Islamic States. They fight for IS, and terror their nation.

In order for global society to reach a consensus on stopping the civilian recruitment of ISIS, measures to stop the civilians from accepting the Islamic States attractive, and to stop very methods such as propaganda in which IS uses to spread their radical idea should be discussed. Not only that, the committee should debate about the fundamental infrastructure that leads the people to join ISIS, such as poverty and social discrimination. Delegates in the GAIC MUN

2016 General Assembly must come up with immediate and long-term solutions for the problem in the current status quo.

IX. Questions to Consider

- Is military force inevitable, and if it is, how much is adequate?
- Will the Syrian regime that Obama opposes help fight ISIS?
- Will the United States or Russia expand air strikes to ISIS targets in Syria?
- How can the ISIS money flow be stopped?
- How can we effectively combat ISIS's ideology and chip away at its goals?
- Do Middle East nations allow a state to exist that corrupts the basic tenets of Islam or reject such an abomination while staying true to our own religious principles?
- Will the new Iraqi government help to alleviate sectarian tensions?
- Will Iraq break apart further, with Iraqi Kurds creating their own independent state?

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Agenda 2: Removing legal measures and barriers that restrict women's rights

I. Committee introduction

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II. Agenda Introduction

Looking backward, from the pre-industrial society, Europeans thought that men and women weren't that different in terms of their behavior or appearance. As time passed, marriage customs, sexual practices, women experiencing pain during childbirth are viewed as key distinctions used to disparage women.

(Although there are exceptions) Women were wrongly considered to have inferior brains, or have long been viewed as less than fully human, and males are seemed to have dominated ancient cultures. Although the myth has been proven a total fallacy, the debris are left in many parts of the world, in religion or in unconsciousness.

i) Definition of key terms

'Legal measures and barriers' refers to pieces of legislative law that are considered to block gender equality. The explanation below is an example about India's legal barriers towards women, in all social, economic aspects.

1. Military service

Women are not allowed to have combat roles in the armed forces. Throughout the history, a recommendation was made that female officers be excluded from induction in close combat arms. Women have neither been trained for command nor have they been given the responsibility so far.

2. Property Rights

Roughly 70% of Indian land are owned by men, due to the structural problem in India. Although there are laws that notify that women have equal rights with men regarding to own property and inheritance rights, but reality is different. Despite the Married Women Property Rights Act of 1974, or the Hindu Succession Act of 2005 seem to protect women's rights, these laws are barely enforced, especially in Northern India.

3. Marriage Laws

The official law outwardly states that Men and women have equal rights within marriage under Indian law. However, Muslim men are allowed to unilaterally divorce their wife. Also, the legal minimum age for marriage is 18 for women and 21 for men, which shows a patriarchal idea that women should be younger than men.

ii) Urgency and Importance of the agenda

The below refers to some barriers that women are still facing in the status quo.

1. Women Jobs

According to *Women, Business, and the Law* presented from The World Bank, in 79 countries, there are legislations which prevent women to engage in certain jobs. The reason for these restrictions is that the jobs are “deemed morally inappropriate for women” or “are seen as physically harmful.” This shows the ongoing physical prejudice of women.

2. Women Guardianship

The World Bank finds that more than 100 countries continue to impose legal differences between men and women in areas such as women's ability to sign a contract or travel abroad, manage property and interact with public authorities or the private sector.

In many countries, only men can be considered the head of household, preventing women – and especially mothers – from accessing important resources such as grain subsidies or enrollment papers for their children. Moreover, in Middle East countries, a father is considered the “natural guardian” of a child, although the custody of offspring under the age of 5 will ordinarily be awarded to the mother.

3. Patriarchal Mindset

The minimum age for marriage for a boy is 21, but 18 for a girl. This is a legal

extension of the patriarchal mindset that believes that a wife should always be younger than the man.

4. Child Rights

In the example of India, sexual intercourse with a girl below the age of 18 is considered rape. However since child marriages are legally allowed as long as she is above 15, a man can legally have sex with his wife even if she is a minor. This shows the limitations and the paradox of current laws that fail to protect young women's fundamental rights.

5. Marital property

Upon separation or divorce, an Indian woman is the entitled only to maintenance from her husband. She has no right on the assets, such as house or commercial property, bought in her husband's name during the marriage. So if she leaves him or gets divorced, even years after the marriage, she is potentially without assets. Indian government policies do not consider the work done at home by a woman as having an economic value.

6. Rape and sexual violence

In many Middle East nations, marital rape is not criminalized.

III. Status quo

It is a well-known fact that a country that has high social participation of women is likely to have economic growth, according to studies from the World Bank, the Organization for Economic Cooperation Development, or the United Nations. Moreover, a recent study among OECD countries finds that female labor participation rates are positively correlated to gross domestic product. In other words, nations with high rates of women workers have high rates of economic performance. This is also supported by The World Economic Forum reports that across 135 countries, greater gender equality correlates positively with per capita gross national product. Countries with greater equality between

women and men have economies that are more competitive and grow faster. This is also proved through the successful precedent of Indonesia. In the status quo, over 50 percent of female are engaged in work force. Indonesia is praised worldwide for achieving gender parity in education from primary to university level. This leads to the educated population to make the country step forward to strong economy, democracy, and diversity. It goes without question that there is much to learn from the experience of Indonesia.

IV. History

In 18th century, Europe went through the Age of Enlightenment, shifting a lot in all areas of the society. Theorists in the enlightenment area believed human as a rational, free and equal being, unlike the social stereotype of before, regarding the minority as the inferior. Citizens also started questioning what the essence of the nation is, whether the system of the nation fair, and started to voice out their opinions against their rights which often was stolen by aristocrats and the king. Citizens started to They made some remarkable movements, such as The United States Declaration of Independence and the French Revolution, dreaming of the new world. However, there was a big blind spot of these movements in these actions in 18th century; lack of criticism of female discrimination. Declaration of the Rights of Man (and of the Citizen) had contents restricted only the males, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau even mentioned that ‘It is law of nature that females, who have inferior rationality, being subordinated to males.

V. Stances of involved nations

● Afghanistan

Before the Soviet occupation and Taliban takeover, Afghanistan was quite a progressive country regarding the women’s rights. However, the effects of war

and the Taliban regime quickly effaced the rights of women in public life and relegated them solely to the domestic domain. Women and girls have often been the worst victims of conflict. Under the Taliban, women were forced to wear an all-encompassing burqa in public and barred from working outside the home. They were also banned from attending schools, riding bicycles, wearing brightly colored clothes, or laughing loudly. As many as 1 million women have been widowed by Afghanistan's wars and left with few options for supporting themselves and their families. Though the situation has changed since the US invasion and a new constitution was approved in 2004, the situation today is not very good. For most women, little has changed since the days of the Taliban.

● **European Union**

Daily reality for many women in Europe is much harsher than for men. This is related to some structural inequalities regarding the gender. It is estimated that 70% of the poor are female. These women are often underestimated on the job market, also is a frequent victims of violence. These can be explained by the lower level of education than that of men. Amnesty International says that women, violence and poverty are often situated in a vicious circle from which it is hard, or even impossible, to escape. EU defines itself as a protector of gender equality. Equality is a basic principle highlighted in article 2 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) and article 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. From an article on equal pay in the Treaty of Rome, gender equality has developed into a general approach today, as gender mainstreaming has become the guiding principle of all European policies (see also art. 8 TFEU).

● **United States of America**

Women's voice to enhance their equality started to gain strength in the 1840s,

emerging from the broader movement for women's rights. In 1848, the Seneca Falls Convention, the initial women's rights convention, passed a resolution on the side of feminists despite of its organizers, who believed the idea was too extreme, has opposed. By the time of the first National Women's Rights Convention in 1850, however, suffrage was becoming an increasingly important aspect of the movement's activities. In 1916 Alice Paul formed the National Woman's Party, a group focusing on the passage of a national suffrage amendment. With over 200 supporters, the Silent Sentinels, were arrested in 1917 while picketing the White House. The Nineteenth Amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920, after a series of votes in the U.S. Congress and in state legislatures. It states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

● **China**

Women's movement activists in China are fighting against the judicial injustices and gender inequalities by obtaining their rights. However, Reproductive Justice is one of the biggest problem facing Chinese women. The punishment for violating the "one child" policy is an obvious denial of human rights. This is a big cumbersome stone that China has to solve in order to get closer to the gender-equal society.

● **India**

Women in India have been participating in social activism. Now, the group Pandies uses humor and theatre to feature women's right issues. Recognizing the advances that have been made over time, women's groups in India still push for further gender equality. Even though gains have been made, there are still many issues facing Indian women today, including child marriage, police

brutality, and domestic violence.

VI. Future outlook

People did start to take actions toward female right since the late 19th century, but it was not until the end of the Second World War when the problem was spotlighted by global society independently. Since equality between women and men is a matter of human rights and a condition for social justice and is also a necessary and fundamental prerequisite for equality, development and peace it is the responsibility of all men and women to focus on this urgent issue. Women's rights is something that the whole world and not just a few countries have to dedicate their time to. Everyone deserves to be treated fairly regarding their human rights, especially women, at a time where their rights are ignored and unconcerned. These people and different organizations around the world are striving every day to increase health benefits, education, jobs, security, and the basic human rights for women. The problems and solution are faced in the world daily. This world issue is not the easiest thing to overcome, but could easily improve with people willing to stand up. We have seen that one person can make a difference so we just have to imagine what can happen when everyone realizes the issues at hand. The fight for women's rights has made progress slowly, but it is far from finished.

VII. Possible solutions

Today there is wide acknowledgement around the globe that women's empowerment is essential to social and economic and sustainable development. There can be no meaningful progress if women, who comprise half of society,

remain out of the mainstream of society and do not have access to opportunities, including those of quality education, healthcare, employment, protection from violence, and participation in decision-making processes in society, as well as ensuring their rights.

Laws, policies, and procedures that promote gender equality send positive messages to women and girls about their role and place in this country. Women around the world lack a constitutional guarantee of equality in a variety of areas. There are a lot of legislative fields to be considered. Wage equality is essential, as are policies mandating equal treatment in the workplace. We need rules that assure women a viable career choice, and protect their ability to choose whether to bear children. Policies for women to fully participate in the society through protecting them against sexual harassment, threats, and other forms of violence is also crucial. Progressive laws should be passed—to tackle violence against women, and to improve health care, reproductive rights and employment. Delegates should fully discuss about the wide variations current law cannot cover.

There also should be a deliberate cultural reprogramming. Culture is something in the unseen theoretical realm that we only get to understand by observing it, and deliberately changing cultural components that negatively work against the civil rights of women leads to a desirable cultural change. Delegates should also consider how reprogramming cultural components that negatively work against the civil rights of women into culturally desirable ones would be held efficiently.

XIII. Conclusion

The key solution, rather gradual but the only way, to remove legal barriers that

restrict women is to put the social belief, ‘women and men has equal rights innately’ in all individual, especially the people in the Middle Eastern nations. In other words, before changing social orders, it is critical to change minds of people. To do this, the United Nations should go first, and the responsibility of propagating the thought goes to each country to come up with specific action plan according to each social, political, economic, religious condition.

In GAIC 2016, the General Assembly will have to have a ‘mission statement’ to remove the legal barriers. The assembly should come up with applicable laws such as Civil Rights Act of 1964: Equal Employment Opportunities or The Equal Credit Opportunity Act by the United States of America. It is realistically quite difficult to step into the field of religion and tradition deeply embedded in some societies, but cannot no longer put off these values.

IX. Questions to consider

- What is the border line between religion or tradition and women’s rights?
- What are the limitations of the previous federal laws?
- What are the educations that can eradicate women prejudice in the long-term?
- Will the bias of women likely to continue or will gradually diminish?
- How can we change the criteria of the laws that allows men to smartly get out of legal punishment?

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