

POST GRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

MDS 502: SOCIAL POLICY AND GENDER DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 30TH JULY 2024

DURATION: 3 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 60

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **FOUR (4)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is **compulsory**.
5. Answer any other **TWO** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **30 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

GENDER ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

For several years now, governments and development agencies have given top priority to gender issues in development planning and policies. Gender equity, concerning resource access and allocation as well as opportunities for social and economic advancement, has been a prominent item on the agendas of all recent international meetings, which have also investigated the basic link between gender equity and sustainable development, defining specific mechanisms and objectives for international cooperation.

The 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro (known as the "Earth Summit") explicitly included gender issues in Agenda 21, its platform statement. The World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, also made significant progress in recognizing the rights of women and girl-children as an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. This principle was taken up again by the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994. Discussions focused on gender issues, stressing the empowerment of women for equitable development: "...the objective is to promote gender equality in all spheres of life, including family and community life, and to encourage and enable men to take responsibility for their sexual and reproductive behavior and their social and family roles." The World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in 1995, took gender equity as the core strategy for social and economic development and environmental protection. The 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing, reiterated the importance of these new options, drawing up an agenda to strengthen the status of women and adopting a declaration and platform for action aimed at overcoming the barriers to gender equity and guaranteeing women's active participation in all spheres of life. Governments, the international community and civil society, including NGOs and the private sector, were called upon to take strategic action in the following critical areas of concern: The persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women. Inequalities and inadequacies in, and unequal access to, education and training.

Inequalities and inadequacies in, and unequal access to, health care and related services. Violence against women. The effects of armed or other kinds of conflict on women, including those living under foreign occupation. Inequality in economic structures and policies, in all forms of productive activities and in access to resources, Inequality between men and women in the sharing of power and decision-making, at all levels. Insufficient mechanisms, at all levels, to promote the advancement of women. Lack of respect for, and inadequate promotion and protection of, the human rights of women. Stereotyping of women and inequality in women's access to, and participation in, all communication systems, especially the media. Gender inequalities in the management of natural resources and the safeguarding of the environment. Persistent discrimination against, and violation of the rights of, the girl-child.

United Nations. 1995. Critical areas of concern. In Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995, Chapter III, Item 44, p. 23, United Nations A7CONF.177/20. Governments and international organizations were urged to promote the search for, and the dissemination of, information on the main aspects of gender issues, and to encourage the production and dissemination of gender-specific statistics for programme planning and evaluation.

Specific recommendations concerning statistics were formulated. Strategic objective H.34 of the Platform for Action in Annex 1 states that all statistics concerning individuals should be gathered, compiled, analysed and presented as gender-disaggregated data, mirroring the concerns and issues of women in society. Data should, therefore: Ibid, p. 106, Strategic Objective H3: Generate and disseminate gender-disaggregated data and information for planning and evaluation.

Measure the full contributions of women and men to the economy. Measure unpaid work in agriculture, particularly subsistence agriculture, and other types of non-market production activities included in the UN System of National Accounts. Develop methods for the quantitative measurement of unremunerated work that is outside the UN System of National Accounts, such as caring for dependents and preparing food, for possible inclusion in satellite or other official accounts that may

be produced separately from the National Accounts. Develop an international classification of unremunerated work activities for measurement in time-use studies. Measure underemployment of men and women. Define concepts and methods to measure poverty and access to resources. Strengthen systems for gathering essential statistics and incorporate gender analysis. Develop data on morbidity and access to health services. Develop improved data on all forms of violence against women. Develop data collection on women and men with disabilities, including data on their access to resources.

The Platform also formulated specific recommendations concerning national statistics. Governments were urged to review their statistics systems' coverage of gender considerations, disseminate statistics periodically in appropriate published forms for a wide range of users and utilize gender-specific data in the formulation of sustainable development policies and programmes.

Required:

- a) A call was made upon for Governments, the international community and civil society, including NGOs and the private sector, to take strategic action in critical areas concerning gender. Discuss five areas of gender concern as per the case above. **(10 Marks)**
- b) Governments and international organizations were urged to promote the search for, and the dissemination of, information on the main aspects of gender issues, with example, appreciate any five strategic concerns and issues of women in society. **(15 Marks)**
- c) Discuss five burdens of migration on the environment. **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Examine three social policy issues affecting gender in project implementation. **(9 Marks)**
- b) Women's studies' identity is pulled in two directions. Discuss this statement **(6 Marks)**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Planners and policy-makers must be mindful of the major aspects of socially ascribed gender functions and the specific needs of men and women. If development policies are to be sustainable. Evaluate five of existing gender disparities. **(10 Marks)**
- b) Examine the five principal causes of the growing concentration of poverty and food insecurity among rural women and their families. **(5 Marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Evaluate the main role of "gatekeepers" of women's progress toward parity. **(5 Marks)**
- b) Analyze any five rationale behind The Strategy for Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment (GEWE). **(5 Marks)**
- c) Discuss five constraints in development policies. **(5 Marks)**

