

Working paper 2: On the topic of child marriage

Signatories: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Somalia, United States of America, Pakistan, Turkey, Russia,

Recognizing the harmful effects early marriage can have on young girls' lives,

Bearing in mind that every country has their own customs and traditions which should be respected by the international community,

Recalling past resolutions including Human Rights Council resolution, 24/23 of 27 September 2013 and 29/8 of 2 July 2015, 35 of 20 June 2017, General Assembly resolutions 69/156 of 18 December 2014 and 71/175 of 19 December 2016,

Stresses the fact that strict prohibition and criminalization would lead to outrage and only increase political tension and violence;

Calls upon accepting regional and cultural differences,

Endorses states' sovereignty and right to operate domestic issues as deemed appropriate by them,

Draws the attention to the correlation between economic development, lack of education and child marriage,

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Calls for community advocacy with religious scholars, clan elders, woman, and girls, to promote positive social norms;
2. Recommends creating an international fund with the purpose of financing:
 - a. combating extreme poverty in affected countries, as poverty has been identified as a major cause for child marriage
 - b. building hospitals
 - c. schooling the local staff;
3. Asks international companies to invest in local businesses in order to foster economic prosperity and therefore combat poverty;
4. Having studied the effects of lack of education extensively, recommends countries to invest in affordable education for all of its population by establishing a public school system, making school compulsory to an country depending age;
5. Requests the WHO to further
 - a. distribute contraceptives
 - b. inform the population about the risks of unprotected sex
 - c. inform the population that using condoms prevents HIV;
6. Urges the General Assembly to respect the cultural and regional differences by the following, not limiting points;
 - a. respecting the religious beliefs of the society in question
 - b. considering the opinion of residents of the discussed region
 - c. reflecting the effects of an forced divorce taken by the women;

7. Emphasises the importance of not introducing new legislations but to strengthen existing ones.