



Questionnaire to Governments

on Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the Outcome of the Twenty-Third Special Session of the General Assembly (2000)

For preparation of regional review and appraisals in the context of the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 2010

I. INTRODUCTION

The United Nations regional commissions will carry out a review and appraisal of progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000), in preparation for the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Platform for Action in 2010. The regional commissions will collaborate with the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in this process.

The review and appraisal of progress will cover the five-year period between the responses submitted by Member States to the questionnaire in 2004 and the end of 2009. It will identify achievements, gaps and challenges and provide an indication of areas where actions and initiatives are most urgent to further implementation.

In preparing the review and appraisal of progress, the regional commissions will utilize the responses of Member States to this questionnaire. In addition, a variety of sources of information and statistics will be drawn upon, including reports submitted by States parties under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; information generated in the context of the Commission on the Status of Women; regional action plans and national reports to regional bodies; as well as and the outcomes of expert group meetings and other activities at regional level. Other sources of information include Common Country Assessments and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, (CCA/UNDAFs), Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, (PRSPs), national Human Development Reports and national Millennium Development Goal (MDG) reports.

II. THE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire consists of four parts. Member States are requesting to provide information on efforts made and progress achieved since the most recent review and appraisal in 2005.

In **Part One**, reporting States are invited to highlight **major overall achievements and obstacles** encountered in the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. Responses in Part One of the questionnaire should be no longer than three pages.

In **Part Two** of the questionnaire, reporting states are encouraged to provide specific examples of achievements, including policy development, legislative change, advocacy, awareness-raising, capacity-development and programmes and projects which they have undertaken on implementation in the **critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action** (except for critical area H which is covered in Part Three), as well as areas requiring further initiative and action identified in the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. Obstacles and remaining gaps and challenges in relation to the critical areas of concern should also be identified and a summary of lessons learned provided. Response to Part Two of the questionnaire should be no longer than 10 pages.

Part Three focuses on **institutional development** or those structures and measures countries have put in place to support promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. It covers the critical area of concern H in the Platform for Action: Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women, and chapters V on Institutional Arrangements and VI on Financial Arrangements, as well as actions identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. Information on national machineries, capacity-building programmes for line ministries, resource allocation, statistics and indicators, monitoring and accountability mechanisms and partnerships should be described in this section. Responses to Part Three of the questionnaire should be four pages in length.

In **Part Four** respondents are invited to provide information on the **remaining key challenges and constraints** in the reporting States, as well as any **plans for future actions and initiatives** to address these and to ensure full implementation of the Platform for Action in each of the critical areas of concern. Reporting States are encouraged, in particular, to indicate any **new commitments** they will make to accelerate implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly at national level over the next five years. Responses to Part Four of the questionnaire should be no longer than three pages.

The annex provides some examples of issues which could be covered under each part of the questionnaire. These examples are provided as guidance only. Reporting States are not required to cover all these issues but should focus on issues which are most relevant in their national contexts. Additional issues not included in the annex can also be raised in the responses.

III. METHODOLOGICAL NOTE

The information being sought through the questionnaire is both qualitative and quantitative in nature. Emphasis is placed on implementation, and reporting States are urged, as far as possible, to provide concrete information on impacts of initiatives and activities described. Activities and outputs and actions should be differentiated from achievements and impacts on the situation of women and on the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women. Reporting States are encouraged to provide quantitative data, disaggregated by sex and age, or to indicate where such data has already been submitted in other contexts. Countries wishing to provide information on indicators used at the national level to monitor activities for gender equality and empowerment of women may do so. Reporting States are also urged to provide information on the specific time periods for initiatives and actions taken.

For guidance, a list of reports submitted by Member States to the United Nations Secretariat prior to the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995), the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (2000), and the ten-year review and appraisal in the Commission on the Status of Women (2005), as well as the most recent reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, can be found on the website of the Division for the Advancement of Women (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw>).

IV. SUBMISSION OF RESPONSES

Responses to this questionnaire should be sent in both hard copy and electronic format in one of the six official United Nations languages, no later than 31 March 2009 to the relevant regional commissions:

Economic Commission for Africa

African Centre for Women,
P.O. Box 3001 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Contact: Thokozile Ruzvidzo, Officer in Charge
African Centre for Gender and Social Development
Fax: (251-1) 5 51-2785
E.mail: truzvidz@uneca.org

Economic Commission for Europe

Palais des Nations 1211, Geneva, Switzerland
Contact: Ewa Ruminska-Zimny, Senior Social Affairs Officer
Office of the Executive Secretary
Fax: (41-22) 917-0036
E.mail: Ewa.Zimny@unece.org

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Women and Development Unit
Casilla 179-D, Santiago, Chile
Contact: Sonia Montano Director a.i.

Division for Gender Affairs

Fax: (56-2) 208-0252

E.mail: sonia.montano@cepal.org and ximena.sanchez@cepal.org

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Gender Equality and Empowerment Section

Social Development Division,

UN Building Rajdamnern Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Contact: Beverly Jones

Fax: (66-2) 288-1030/1000

E.mail: gad@un.org

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

P.O. Box 11-8575, Beirut, Lebanon

Contact: Miranda Hawa, Officer in Charge

Centre for Women

Fax: (961-1) 98-1510

E.mail: hawam@un.org

ANNEX: GUIDANCE ON ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN RESPONSES

The examples below are provided as guidance only. Reporting States are not required to cover these issues but should focus on issues which are most relevant in their national contexts. Additional issues not included in the annex can also be raised in the responses.

Part One: Overview of achievements and challenges in promoting gender equality and women's empowerment (3 pages)

Please note that the response to Part One of the questionnaire should contain highlights of achievements and challenges. The issues raised in this part can be discussed in more detail in responses to other parts of the questionnaire. For example, issues related to globalization would be discussed in more details under Part Two of the questionnaire and issues on gender-responsive budgeting would be discussed under Part Three.

Guiding questions: The response could, for example, address the following issues and questions:

*a) Has a national policy on **gender equality and the empowerment of women** been adopted and at what level? Was a strategy or plan of action developed to support the implementation of the policy? What mechanisms were established for monitoring and how are different actors held accountable for its implementation? Is there a national coordination mechanism at the highest level to ensure that the policy is implemented in all sector areas?*

Mozambique has developed the Gender Policy and its Strategy of Implementation that was approved by the Council of Ministers in 2006 and the National Plan for Advancement of Women 2006-2009. This plan defines strategies, activities, indicators in the areas of main concern: women and Education, Women and health and HIV/AIDS, Violence and women's rights, Women and Agriculture and Environment, Institutional Mechanisms for Advancement of Women, Women in power and decision making.

Gender focal points play important roles to ensure implementation of activities derived of legal instruments related to gender issues. The process of monitoring and evaluation has been conducted periodically, through reports developed by different sectors. Implementation of actions is coordinated by the Ministry of Women and Social Action through National Commission for Advancement of Women, that is chaired by the Minister of Women and Social Action who is answerable to the Government.

*b) What impact does the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**, and the concluding comments of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, have on the promotion of gender equality? How is implementation of the Convention progressing?*

There is a greater knowledge of CEDAW dispositions and there are improvement in its implementation. Following of recommendations on the Committee for Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women, Mozambique has defined in 2008 the strategy for implementation of the recommendations of CEDAW. This strategy is being implemented at various sectors.

*c) What are the **main legislative and policy-making achievements** in the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment over the past decade? Please provide details.*

Since 2000 Mozambique witnessing many progress in the reform of legislation. It has adopted the new Constitution that postulates in the articles 35 and 36 the principle of equality of rights and gender, when it defines that "men and women are equal before law in all fields of political, economic, social and cultural life". It was also approved a new Family Law (2004) that establishes *Equality of rights and obligations of the family members and between the spouses themselves*, and points out the marriage age for 18 years for boys and girls. Exceptionally its admitted marriage of girls and boys with the age of 16 years, through consent of parents or legal representatives. It has replaced the notion of head of family with "Representative of the Family", this means that the family can be without distinction be represented either by man or woman. With the present law woman can now register their children in absence of the father, a right that in the previous law was not allowed.

Besides that it is being revised the law of inheritance. Mozambique has ratified the African protocol on the rights of people related to women's rights (2005) and the Optional Protocol to CEDAW (2008).

*d) To what extent have gender perspectives and the concerns of women been taken into account in preparation of **budgets** at national, regional and local levels? Has this resulted in increased resources for gender equality? Describe efforts to increase and track budgetary allocations related to achieving gender equality and empowerment of women. Have gender-responsive budgeting procedures been introduced and to what effect?*

Mozambique has started in 2002 the process of sensitization and training of other sectors for the gender budgeting. These activities benefited the gender focal points, officers of planning and budgeting departments from Government and Civil Society institutions. There were produced textbooks on gender mainstreaming in planning and budgeting process. The ministries of health and home affairs have conducted studies on gender budget. A draft of gender budget proposal has been developed.

*e) To what extent are the **Millennium Declaration Goals (MDGs)** utilized as the national framework for development? What attention is given to Goal 3 on gender equality? Is national-level data available to effectively monitor the achievement of the targets under*

MDG3? Are gender perspectives and the concerns of women considered in all other MDG goals?

The Millennium Development Goals are the benchmarks for definition of macro-economic strategies such as the National Plan for Reduction of absolute poverty-PARPA, the five years Government plan and sectoral economic and Social plans. Regarding the MDG 3 Mozambique is witnessing progress in the area of gender equity in the education and the participation in the decision making processes.

In terms of indicators of educational coverage, the net schooling rate for primary school level, according to MEC data, was 94.1% in 2007 and 90.% for girls.

The six-year-old girls' enrolment index for Grade 1 was 70% against the 67% planned for 2007 achieving 3% over target. The girls' completion index for EP2 was 28.8% in 2006¹

Considerable increases are recorded in enrolment of girls and boys in schools, and the gender gap has gradually reduced at the primary education level (EP1). Although girls are still disadvantaged, their attendance of EP1 has recorded a slight increase from 46.3% in 2005 to 46.8% in 2006.

Therefore it can be said that gender gaps are continually being reduced in the primary education level (EP1).

There are also strong progress with regarding to women's political empowerment at various levels, particularly at central level.

With 37% of women in the Parliament, Mozambique has one of the highest statistics in the African continent. (please refer to the table in the annex 1).

Statistical data to track progress regarding the development of gender issues in the political participation and education are available. However data on economic participation of women are scarcer. However its worth noting that the National Institute of Statistics is developing tools to mainstream such statistics in the collection of vital statistics and national surveys.

There is also a growing number of sectors mainstreaming gender in their plans such as agriculture and health.

*f) Provide information on major **government policy discussions and/or parliamentary debates** where gender perspectives and the concerns of women have been taken systematically into account and resulted in policy and/or programmatic changes. What **recent major reforms** have taken place in the country where these perspectives were taken into account? What **major problems** are being debated in the country where the*

¹Balance of Economic and Social Plan 2007, pag. 101-2

perspective of women and gender equality are considered as an integral part of the overall debate?

Government in collaboration with Parliament holds discussions on the gender issues through the Social, Gender and Environmental Affairs Commission (CASGA), which is responsible for the mainstreaming of social issues and gender equity and environmental protection in national policies and programs discussed in the Parliament and the Office of Women MPs whose aims are to establish mechanisms to link it to feminine organizations so as to ensure that gender, and poverty issues are always present in the deliberations of the Parliament. For instance currently a draft proposal of a law against domestic violence has been sent to Parliament and there is expectation that it will be discussed and proved this year.

The Government of Mozambique has recently (2009) approved the Gender Strategy for Public Sector.

*g) In countries emerging from **armed conflict**, to what extent were women involved, and gender perspectives and women's concerns included, in peace negotiations and in planning of reconstruction efforts?*

Mozambique has reached peace since 17 years ago. After the conflict women were very instrumental in the reconstruction process. Engaged in women's groups, religious faith groups and in their families they have contributed to dissemination of education messages about the culture of peace. Women have played crucial role in the promotion and maintenance of stability and well being at family, community levels and society with their love and disseminating fundamental values through education of children.

*h) How has **globalization** (for example, the use of ICT, market liberalization, changes in trading patterns, etc) affected the empowerment of women and girls and the promotion of gender equality? What efforts are being made to reduce potential risks and to build on opportunities for women?*

The effects globalization in Mozambique will have both negative and positive impacts depending on the situation. In this context to maximize opportunities and mitigate the negative effects Mozambique has been developing many actions. For instance women lack to access of ICTs particularly rural women and women with low levels of education. To redress such situations education literacy programs that include use of ICTs are being held.

*i) In which **sector areas** have specific policies, strategies and/or action plans for promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment been developed and implemented? To what extent are gender perspectives and the concerns of women routinely taken into account in legislation, policy making and programme development in other sectors, so that inequalities and gaps are identified and addressed?*

In Mozambique the following sectors have already adopted gender strategies: Agriculture, Education, home affairs, health and energy. The remaining sectors are implementing activities based on the National Plan for Advancement of Women and the Economic and Social Plan.

*j) What types of significant **partnerships** have been established with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and Civil Society groups, as well as the private sector and other stakeholders, in support of different aspects of national efforts on gender equality and empowerment of women – through for example, advocacy, participation in planning, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes and service delivery?*

Civil Society and Non Government Organizations and private sector have a seat in the National Commission for Advancement of Women. Thus all those actors have opportunity to work closely with government to reform legislation. The draft proposal of law on domestic violence against women is live example. The Joint Revision process that engage both Government and Partners, the discussions of annual reports on Development Observatories are other examples. Ministry of Women and Social Action, Women's Forum and UNFPA are partners in the implementation of a programme on Gender Equity and Empowerment of Women that is being implemented in Zambézia, Niassa and Maputo provinces since 1998.

*k) What efforts have been made to actively engage **men and boys** in the promotion of gender equality, including for example in eliminating violence against women and combating HIV/AIDS? What successes have been achieved and what constraints have been identified?*

Men and boys work hand in hand with women and girls in prevention and fight against violence against women and prevention of HIV/AIDS. This collaboration is successful since men make difference. There is understanding that such issues are not merely women's issues but common issues for men and women. Mozambique has embarked in the initiative "Men as Partners". This initiative is positively influencing lobby and advocacy processes and the promotion of gender equality. The National plan for prevention and fighting against Domestic Violence include the active of men in the prevention and fighting the violence against women.

*l) What is the impact of **climate change** and **food and energy crises** on the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women? What steps are being taken to reduce the potential risks for and impact on women and to engage women effectively in prevention and mitigation processes? Have social protection measures been put in place to reduce the impact on women and have measures been adopted to support women farmers?*

In sector of agriculture climatic changes are already having negative impacts particularly in the production of crops. There are areas of the country that suffer from cyclical droughts with greater impacts on women which due socio-cultural reasons are

responsible for providing food. Food is scarce and women have to walk more and more distances to reach productive fields. Although specific steps for reduction of risks and impacts have not been taken, strategies in place already exist and include support for women in crop production, mitigation and prevention measures.

m) What is the impact of the financial crisis on the promotion of gender equality? What measures have been taken to reduce the negative impact on women's access to resources, income and social protection? To what extent have measures to revive growth mobilized women's economic potential?

Financial crisis has effects since the resources are scarce and the issue of gender equality is still not adequately addressed in the programs. However specific measures are to be taken regarding women's access to resources.

Part Two: Progress in implementation of the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action and the further initiatives and actions identified in the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly (10 pages)

Please organize the response to this part of the questionnaire according to the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (except for critical area H which is covered in Part Three of the questionnaire).

Guiding questions: The response within each critical area of concern could address, but does not need to be limited to, the issues outlined below:

A. Examples of successful policies, legislative change and programmes and projects

*a) In relation to the critical areas of concern in the Platform for Action and other key issues, what **successful actions** (such as legal measures, policy reforms, media campaigns, and pilot programmes or projects) have been taken by the Government or other actors (NGOs, civil society, the private sector) to achieve these objectives. Please provide concrete examples.*

With regard to policies, strategies and laws there were approved the Family law (2004), Gender Policy and Strategy of its Implementation (2006), National Plan for the Advancement of Women for the period 2006-2009 (2007) and the National Plan for Prevention and Combating Violence Against Women (2008). It is expected that the National Assembly approve this year the draft proposal of Law against domestic violence.

With regard to actions to fight violence against women - it was approved in 2008 a law against the trafficking of women. It was noted the expansion and improvements in assistance to victims of domestic violence and its reference to the appropriated services

available such as legal, medical, psychological and social assistance a chain involving different NGOs and ministries. There were extended special services to women and children victims of violence in police stations and units. Currently it is being developed a mechanism of integrated assistance to support victims of violence that include the components of health, social action and police.

*b) To what extent have **specific commitments** on the critical areas of concern – for example in terms of resource allocation, legislative change and policy and programme development - made by the Government at the Fourth World Conference on Women or in other contexts, been met?*

With regard to resource allocation there are efforts from Government to get more funds to the area of women and gender. For instance the CNAM has a specific budget for its activities. this is an important contribution for poverty reduction and women's empowerment. There are also guidelines and other instruments that mention the imperative of integrating gender budgeting, in order that this budget benefit with equity women and men taking in to account specific needs of each target group. The Ministry of Finance has started the implementation of budgets based on programs in some sectors such as health an home affairs. This system allows a greater visibility about the orientation of investment and this can assist a major influence on decision about investments for gender issues.

B. Examples of obstacles encountered and remaining gaps and challenges

*c) Describe the **obstacles, gaps and challenges** encountered in implementation of the critical areas of concern and other key issues identified.*

Obstacles

- Lack of financial resources to fund gender equality initiatives.
- Difficulties to understand the importance of gender issues in institutions.
- Gender focal points have obstacles to implement their activities, due their lack of decision or capacity to influence decision (most of them are not member of the Consultative Council, the decision making bodies within ministries).
- Weak knowledge of gender issues
- Persistence of stereotypes that puts women in positions of dependence.

Challenges

Challenges remain such as the active involvement of more men in programs against violence and in other actions for gender equality. Massive men participation can ensure long lasting and positive changes. However its worth to note that, positive initiatives are being

implemented . for instance in the Police Stations and the Civil Society through Men as Partners program.

C. Lessons learned

d) Provide information on the **main lessons learned** in implementation in relation to each of the critical areas of concern and other key issues identified.

One of the lessons learned is that for the interventions is crucial the continuous collaboration among different actors involved. An example is Gender Coordinating Group, that bring together staff from Government and Cooperation Partners. One of the advantages of this group is the fact that it joins *experts* in gender issues and has participation of officers from Cooperation Partners. Thus those officers are gateways to influence the partners to allocate more funds. Financial resource allocation is crucial in all initiatives for promotion of gender equality and its lack is a handicap for fulfillment of many interventions for gender equality.

e) Provide concrete examples of **successful interventions** and explain why these were judged to be successful? Describe any effort to replicate these efforts.

Gender mainstreaming in PARPA and the efforts for prevention and combat violence against women. Today the country has a specific plan against violence, the police stations has expanded services for assistance of women and children victims of violence to all corners of the country. The media are now very active in spreading messages about violence. There is also a movement known as *Men as Partners* that promote the engagement of men in actions for prevention and combat of gender based violence and HIV/AIDS.

Part Three: Institutional development (4 Pages)

Guiding questions: The response could address, but does not need to be limited to, the issues outlined below:

a) What **national mechanisms** exist for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women – for example, ministry, national commission, parliamentary committee or commission? What mandates and resources does each body have and have these increased in the review period? How do these bodies work together? Describe the location of the national mechanisms and the access to decision-making processes. What networks have been established and how effective are these networks? What resources do the national mechanisms have in terms of staff and financial support? What percentage of financial resources comes from international or bilateral donors or other external sources?

Mozambique has established institutional mechanisms for promotion of gender equity and empowerment of women namely the Ministry of Women and Social Action, the

National Commission for Advancement of Women, The Social, Gender and Environmental Affairs Commission (CASGA) and the Office of Women Members of Parliament.

The Ministry of Women and Social Action (MMAS) was created with specific functions of coordinating the implementation of women's empowerment, development policies and social action as well as promoting the rights of vulnerable groups.

This Ministry results from the acknowledgment of the role that Mozambican women play at various sectors of development and seeks among other objectives to promote the equality of rights and opportunities of women and men in order to raise the status of women.

CNAM is consultative body, whose main objective is to push forward and follow the implementation of policies and programs approved by the Government in the area of Women and Gender. This mechanism was legally recognized by the Council of Ministers in 2004.

At Parliamentary level there are the Social, Gender and Environmental Affairs Commission (CASGA) and the Office of Women MPs who respectively are responsible for the mainstreaming of social issues and gender equity and environmental protection in national policies and programs discussed in the Parliament and to establish mechanisms to link it to feminine organizations so as to ensure that gender, and poverty issues are always present in the deliberations of the Assembly of the Republic.

At Civil Society level there is Women's Forum, a network of non-Government organizations, dealing with women and gender issues.

The fundamental objective of this network is to influence the Parliament and the Government to adopt policies and strategies that best address women's needs and priorities, provide training in gender and women's rights to various groups like government., parliament, media and other Civil Society organizations.

All those mechanisms work hand in hand when there are initiatives for adoption of laws, policies and strategies on gender.

*b) Have **focal points** for gender equality and empowerment of women been established within line ministries, and in which ministries? What support is provided from within the ministries? What support (training, advice etc.) is provided by the national machinery? How effective are these focal points?*

Gender Focal Points have been designated in all ministries. They have benefited from a number of training sessions on gender and development, gender planning and budgeting etc. Those activities are organized by CNAM.

*c) What **monitoring** mechanisms have been established to measure progress in implementation – in relation to national policies, strategies and action plans as well as international commitments? How is accountability for promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women established across all ministries? How is coordination achieved? What role does the highest level of Government play?*

The monitoring process is done through regular reports from the National Commission For Advancement of Women- CNAM as a consultative body that follow up the implementation of policies and programs approved by the government in the area of women and gender. CNAM recommends to the Ministry of Women and Social Action the priority actions. Those recommendations are then addressed to the government.

The majority of sectors have already set up Gender Unites. Gender Units have responsibility of ensuring the mainstreaming gender issues in the program sectors. Each Gender Unit has a gender focal point who reports to National Commission For Advancement of Women on the progress achieved.

*d) What levels of **capacity** for promoting gender mainstreaming have been achieved? Through which mechanisms? What are the remaining challenges in the area of capacity building?*

There is a greater awareness about the importance of gender issues in all sectors. There is some knowledge and expertise about concepts and gender mainstreaming within Gender Units. However challenges remain in the capacity building to ensure an overall gender mainstreaming. This capacity must be transferred from Gender Units to another key actors within planning and decision making structures. There is a need to fill such gaps at provincial and district levels.

*e) Has a core set of **indicators** been established and where is responsibility for monitoring located? What gaps and challenges remain in relation to data and statistics? In which areas is lack of sex-disaggregation still a problem? In which areas do new types of data need to be collected? To what extent are the national statistical office and the statistical units in line ministries aware, committed and capable of providing the required data? In which sectors, and to what extent, is sex-disaggregated data being used effectively to inform policy-making and planning?*

Gender indicators were incorporated in the PARPA II. Those indicators are monitored through the process of Joint Revision that involves Government and cooperation partners. Joint Revision is a process of evaluation of the progress achieved by Government in the implementation of activities in various sectors. This process help to identify areas of major concern for intervention. This enable to reach commitments on the resource

allocation by the partners. Therefore Joint Revision is a vital process to achieve the objectives of gender equality.

Under the Joint Revision, gender issues are monitored through a special group which is lead by the Ministry of Women and Social Action and integrates the ministries of Planning and Development, health, Agriculture, home affairs and education as well as donor agencies.

Health and education sectors show significant advancement in the integration of gender indicators. The National Institute of Statistics have been playing an important role of providing vital statistics with gender perspective. However the economic areas still need greater visibility about gender issues.

f) Provide information on the **roles of different stakeholders**. For example, what role does Parliament play in the promotion and monitoring of gender equality and women's empowerment? How could this role be strengthened? Describe the role of NGOs in planning and implementing the follow-up activities. Do NGOs participate formally in the mechanisms established to follow up the Fourth World Conference on Women and support reporting on and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)?

Parliament is an important partner and collaborates with the Ministry of Women and Social Action in articulation, clarification and lobby for approval of laws that promotes gender equality through Social, Gender and Environmental Affairs Commission (CASGA) and the Office of Women MPs. An example is the draft proposal for law on domestic violence.

Part Four: Remaining challenges and actions to address them (3 pages)

Provide information on areas requiring future action.

a) *List any **further actions and initiatives** which the Government intends to take to fully implement the Platform for Action and outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly beyond 2010.*

Its envisaged that Government adopt in the next years the Gender Budgeting in all sectors and finalize the revision of all discriminatory legislation.

b) *Describe the **priority areas** that have been identified for improving implementation in the next five years.*

- Incentive of actions in the area of women and employment, as well as dissemination of labor law to protect the rights of women as mothers and educators.
- Promotion of actions related to women and HIV/AIDS.

- Establishment of Data Bank on gender with emphasis on women's intervention in economic area.
 - Investment on women's entrepreneurship, encouraging participation of young women.
 - Strengthening of activities of women's associations as well as legal instruments that promotes gender equality and equity.
 - Strengthening the capacity of coordination and cooperation between the Ministry and other sectors in particular with Civil Society and cooperation Agencies.
- c) *Give **examples of measures** (with targets and timeframes) which will be taken in each of these areas.*
- Adoption of Gender strategy in the area of HIV/AIDS in 2009.
 - Ministry of Women and Social Action will establish a Data Base System on gender and women to track statistics on economic, social and political status in 2009.
 - Establishment of Center for Economic Empowerment of women in Manhiça district in 2009
- d) *Outline explicit **new commitments** that will be made to accelerate implementation?*
- The Maputo Declaration produced from the 1st National Conference on Women and Gender has a set of activities to be developed with collaboration between Government and Civil Society as well e cooperation partners in the area of women and gender.
 - The institutionalization of the National Conference on Women and Gender to take place every two years is a strong compromise to gender equality and empowerment of women.

Annex 1. PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING BODIES (2005-2008)

Body	2005				2006				2007				2008			
	Women	Men	Total	%	Women	Men	Total	%	Women	Men	Total	%	Women	Men	Total	%
Government																
Ministers	6	26	32	18,7	6	26	32	18,7	6	26	32	18,7	7	20	27	25,9
Deputy-Ministers	4	13	17	23,5	4	13	17	23,5	4	13	17	23,5	6	14	20	30
Governors	2	9	11	18,1	2	9	11	18,1	2	9	11	18,1	2	9	11	18,1
Permanent Secretaries at Ministry level	6	13	19	31,5	6	13	19	31,5	6	13	19	31,5	7	13	19	31,5
Provincial Permanent Secretaries	4	7	11	36,3	4	7	11	36,3	4	7	11	36,3	4	7	11	36,3
Provincial Directors	33	130	163	20,2	33	130	163	20,2	33	130	163	20,2	34	130	164	20,7
Parliament																
Members of Parliament	89	161	250	35,6	90	160	250	36	93	159	250	37,2	93	159	250	37,2