Welcome remarks

Virtual Expert Group Meeting:
Implementing Beijing+25 commitments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

Dr. Srinivas Tata
Director
Social Development Division
Key Gender Outcomes and Priorities

**Labor force participation**

The labor force participation rate among those 25 and older is higher for men than women.

- **Men**: 84%
- **Women**: 50%

**Gap**: 34%

Based on 2018 data.

The **majority** of working women in the Asia-Pacific region are employed in the informal sector.

- **Formal sector**: 36%
- **Informal sector**: 64%

Women are 21 per cent less likely than men to be employed on a full-time basis.

Mothers are 28 per cent less likely than men to be employed on a full-time basis.

**Unpaid care work**

Women do **three times** more unpaid care work in an average day than men globally, but **four times** as much in Asia-Pacific.

- **Women**: 262 minutes unpaid care work, 198 minutes paid work, total 459 minutes
- **Men**: 67 minutes unpaid care work, 348 minutes paid work, total 414 minutes

**Violence against women**

Worldwide, **30%** of women experience violence by a partner.

Between **15 per cent and 68 per cent** of women in a given Asian-Pacific country have faced physical and/or sexual violence by a partner.
**THE GENDERED IMPACT OF COVID-19**

**Health**

Women in Asia and the Pacific disproportionately report their **emotional health** is affected by COVID-19. This is compounded by care work, job losses, and gender-based violence.

Over half the women who responded to a UN Women survey reported they were **not able to see a doctor** when in need.

In some countries, women are **less likely to receive COVID-19 information than men**. This has important consequences for household and family health.

**Work**

Women in informal employment face high rates of **job loss**, and women working in the informal and formal sectors have seen **reduced hours** during the pandemic.

Women in Asia and the Pacific are more likely than men to experience an increase in time spent performing **domestic work and unpaid care work** during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Gender-Based Violence**

Data indicate **increased rates** of violence against women and girls worldwide during lockdowns. In particular, domestic violence is rising.
**Beijing+25 Declaration**

- 25 years since the historic Beijing Platform for Action
- Consultations with governments, civil society, UN agencies and other actors
- Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference in November 2019
- Adopted the Asia-Pacific Beijing+25 Declaration

**Key thematic areas**

- Inclusive development and decent work
- Poverty eradication and gender-responsive social protection
- Freedom from violence, harmful stereotypes and negative social norms
- Participation, social dialogue, accountability and national women’s machinery
- Peaceful and inclusive societies
- Environmental conservation, climate action and resilience-building
- Data and statistics
- Partnerships and regional cooperation

**ESCAP’s focus areas**

- **ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT**
  - promotion of women’s entrepreneurship
- **ACTIVE PARTICIPATION**
  - political leadership and decision-making
- **QUALITY DATA**
  - timely and sex-disaggregated
THANK YOU

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