

## **Country: The United States of America Committee: UN WOMEN: Commission on the Status of Women Delegate: Bilge Defne Dursun**

The United States of America is located in North America, the country is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and to the east by the Atlantic Ocean. Along the northern border is Canada and the southern border is Mexico. There are 50 states and the District of Columbia.

#### **Agenda Items:**

- Closing the gender digital divide: Women's access to technology and its impact on education and employment.
- Promoting women's economic rights in global trade agreements.
- Gender equality in sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- Addressing the impact of climate change on women and girls in developing countries.

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality, the rights and the empowerment of women. A functional commission of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), it was established by ECOSOC resolution 11(II) of 21 June 1946.

The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's and girls' rights, documenting the reality of their lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

# First Agenda

As the United States of America we took lots of strategic initiatives to address the gender digital divide. Acknowledging the impact on women's access to education and also economic participation. With the help of the Digital Equity Act of 2021, the federal government provides significant funding to support digital inclusion projects that prioritize underserved women communities (US Congress,2021).

Also agencies such as National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Women's Bureau under the Department of Labor have fostered programs that digital training and workforce development in technology sectors.

Educational campaigns, including partnership with organizations like Girls Who Code and Black Girls Code, aim to inspire young women with the skills necessary to prosper in the digital economy. Furthermore gender equality tasks under Title IX assure that girls have equal access to technological systems in educational institutions.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds programs specifically designed to increase the participation of women in STEM fields, which involve ICT. Projects such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) and Advancing the Career of Women in STEM provide funding and resources for women aiming careers in digital technologies and ICTrelated sectors.

The Small Business Administration (SBA) has initiated multiple programs to support women entrepreneurs in the tech and digital sector, including the Women's Business Center (WBC) program. WBCs offer mentorship, training and access to capital, helping women start businesses in ICT and other tech sectors.

## Second Agenda

United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) one of the most remarkable trade agreements that includes resources for women's economic rights is USMCA. It includes a chapter specifically focused on gender equality, where the countries agree to enhance women's participation in the crew ,confront gender-based discrimination, and assure equal opportunities in trade. This agreement promotes women's rights by encouraging fair wages, labor protections, and expanding economic opportunities for women.

The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) released a report in 2019 to support gender equality and women's economic rights. This report focused on strategies to increase opportunities for women in global trade. With these strategies, the US is working to encourage more women to take part in decision-making positions related to trade and to increase their participation in the workforce.

The Women's Economic Empowerment and Development Act of 2019: This law sets strategic goals for women's economic empowerment in US trade agreements around the world. Within this framework, it is aimed to make trade more accessible to women and to create trade policies that will reduce gender inequality.

The 2020 World Trade Organization (WTO) Report: The WTO's Women and Trade Report highlights the need for greater women to be included in trade-related decision-making positions. The report highlights that the United States supports such policies and encourages their integration into trade agreements around the world. OECD Reports and Women's Economic Empowerment: The OECD recommends policy changes to ensure women are an active part of trade and the global economy. The United States also encourages the implementation of strategies that empower women economically.

Women's Global Development and Well-being (W-GDP) Initiative – 2019 Launched by the U.S. government, W-GDP aims to reach 50 million women in developing countries by 2025 through programs that promote workforce development, entrepreneurship, and enabling environments. It represents a whole-of-government approach to advance women's global economic empowerment.

# Third Agenda

1. USAID - Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy

USAID, the agency responsible for US foreign assistance, implements policies that aim to integrate gender equality into all development programs. This policy aims to:Increase women's participation in economic, social and political life,Reduce barriers to women's education, health and employment.

2. W-GDP (Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative) - 2019

Launched in 2019, this initiative aims to reach 50 million women in developing countries by 2025. It aims to empower women economically through participation in the workforce, entrepreneurship support and legal reforms. This initiative is directly related to SDG 5 – Gender Equality.

3. US Department of State - Office of Global Women's Issues

This unit promotes the protection of women's rights and the empowerment of women in US foreign policy. It ensures that gender equality is integrated into diplomacy and development policies. It also supports international projects to reduce gender-based violence in other countries and to include women in leadership roles.

4. International Collaborations and Institutional Contributions of the United States

It provides financial and political support to programs in the field of women's rights by collaborating with international organizations such as United Nations Women (UN Women).

It supports the greater inclusion of women in development processes by taking an active role in structures such as the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

## Fourth Agenda

Recognizing that climate change creates disproportionate impacts on women and girls, the United States has developed various strategies, programs, and international collaborations to address this problem. These activities aim to empower women as active actors in the fight against climate change and increase their participation in decision-making processes.

# 1. US Department of State - Women and Climate Strategy (2022)

This strategy document published by the US Department of State emphasizes the need to adopt a gender-based approach to combating climate change. The strategy aims to make women more resilient to the climate crisis, increase their access to leadership roles, and shape climate policies with a gender equality perspective.

## 2. USAID - Gender and Climate Adaptation Resource Guide

The US Agency for International Development (USAID) has published a guide aimed at integrating gender equality in climate adaptation projects carried out in developing countries. This resource includes sample practices that encourage women to take more effective roles in climate adaptation processes.

## 3. "Energizing Equality" Report

This report, prepared in collaboration with USAID and IUCN, is about evaluating energy policies from a gender perspective. The study identifies inequalities in access to energy and emphasizes the importance of women reaching decision-making positions in energy policies.

4. COP28 Commitments – Increasing Women's Participation in the Climate Economy Within the scope of the COP28 Summit held in 2023, the USA committed to an investment of 1.4 billion dollars to increase the role of women in the sustainable green economy. In this context, it is planned to support women-led environmental projects and initiatives.

#### **Pink Taxes**

The United States can take various legal and structural steps to solve the problem of the "pink tax", which is the application of higher prices to products and services for women compared to men. One of the most important steps that can be taken in this regard is to enact a federal law that explicitly prohibits gender-based pricing. The "Pink Tax Repeal Act", which was previously submitted to Congress, aims to directly intervene in this problem and aims to prohibit gender-based price differences in similar products or services. If this law is enacted, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) will have the authority to enforce violations.

In addition, strengthening existing consumer protection policies is an effective solution. The FTC's authority to monitor and penalize gender-based pricing practices within the scope of

unfair and misleading commercial activities can be expanded. Transparency regarding product labeling can be increased, allowing consumers to easily detect gender-based price differences for the same product.

In addition, studies to be conducted at the state level can also play an important role in this regard. For example, the State of California passed a law in 1995 prohibiting gender-based pricing for similar products and services. Other states can be encouraged to adopt similar regulations, and existing consumer protection laws can be revised in this direction.

It is also of great importance for the state to organize informative campaigns to raise awareness on this issue. Providing information to consumers about what the "pink tax" is, how to recognize it, and how to prevent it through public service announcements and educational materials can contribute to creating social pressure. In this way, positive pressure for change can be created on the private sector.

In addition, state-supported research projects and data analyses can be conducted to reveal the economic effects of the pink tax. These studies will make it easier for lawmakers to produce healthier and more data-based policies.

Finally, companies can be encouraged to implement gender-sensitive pricing policies through collaborations with the private sector. Companies can be supported to adopt gender-sensitive practices through tools such as voluntary certification systems or tax incentives.

we stated our current situations also still want to compromise with other countries and hope we can find even better solutions for all women's all around the world.

Best regards.