



**GLI™** girlscouts



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The CSW Girl Engagement Group (Girls Learn International, Girl Scouts of the USA, Global G.L.O.W, The Grail, Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Our Lady of the Charity of the Good Shepherd) brought together a group of global girls to review the Working Text of the Agreed Conclusions of the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Below are our key suggestions for member states to consider in their comments as they head into negotiations. We ask that these suggestions be taken into serious consideration.

## Recommendations:

- We are concerned that the current draft **lacks a substantial focus on reference to girls from different backgrounds, ethnic groups, and geographic locations, specifically those from rural, indigenous, and otherwise marginalized zones. Girls, in all their diversity, should be included in discussions on technology, innovation, and education in the digital age.**
- We cannot prioritize digital equity or closing the digital gender divide when our communities do not have the infrastructure, access, and/or devices that are available and affordable. From our perspective, **the text fails to address the lack of provisions in communities around the world and also fails to address accessibility for persons with disabilities.**
- We support having access to schools with the necessary infrastructure for quality public **education programs that promote digital and media literacy** for girls, make girls aware of their digital rights, facilitate vocational training for girls in STEM fields, shatter gender stereotypes, and secure their digital and technological competencies safely in all cultures and geographic regions.
- We support guarantees of **digital education as a fundamental right** to which all girls have access. We also support digital safety training for girls, parents, families, educators and communities to enhance the benefits of digital technology in daily life while protecting against cyberbullying, risk of human trafficking, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, and other forms of gender-based violence.
- Member states must actively prioritize and ensure the protection of **the mental health of all girls**, in an impartial and non-discriminatory manner, recognizing that media and digital content often contains harmful images of girls that can negatively impact their mental health and well-being, violating their rights.
- We support establishing mandatory requirements for impact assessments and due diligence mechanisms in local languages, to identify, **prevent and mitigate societal risks and the negative impacts of digital technology on girls**, especially by including affected groups, indigenous and marginalized groups, women's rights organizations and human rights experts.
- We call for effective legislation that addresses the problems of **technology-facilitated gender-based violence**, such as online sexual exploitation and human trafficking, as it affects all girls across the globe. This includes reporting violence on social platforms, holding technology companies accountable for digital violence, and encouraging law enforcement to develop the capacity to enforce policies and laws that protect and support girls who experience gender-based violence. Implement mechanisms to support victims/survivors and sanction those who perpetrate violence against girls.
- During natural emergencies or conflict, **sanitary products and contraception must be guaranteed** as part of the relief items provided along with food, water, and first aid. Digital equity cannot be achieved when girls do not have access to basic resources and supplies.