

## Supplementary Appendix

### Bivariate Relationships in the WR2D2 Data: Construct Validity

Examining descriptive statistics across the precision and action variables serves as a construct validity test because we suspect that recommendations involving particular types of actions will have varying levels of precision. For example, actions involving relationships with international organizations, legal/legislative changes, and policy/programming are likely to be relatively precise. We expect that these recommendations likely reference a specific IO, a particular piece of legislation, or a specific policy. We expect that actions specifying overarching actions with no accountable actors will be least precise, given that the recommendation does not provide enough information to determine which state actor is responsible for carrying it out. Figure 1A displays the number of recommendations falling into each category of precision and action for all international institutions (upper left), CEDAW (upper right), the ECtHR (lower left) and the UPR (lower right).

Darker cells indicate a higher number of recommendations in a particular cell, while lighter cells indicate fewer recommendations in each cell. Because each institution issues a different number of recommendations, the scales in each panel are different, and as a result, we cannot compare across institutions using the shading in Figure 1A. However, Figure 1A allows us to compare variation across precision and action *within* institutions. The European Court, for example, is more likely to make the most precise recommendations (directive) than it is to make guided or passive recommendations across all types of action. The European Court issues the highest number of recommendations that are directive *and* are also IO-oriented, related to the provision of justice and accountability, and involve legal or legislative changes. As the most

independent of the three international institutions, European Court independence gives the institution greater political leverage. As a result, we expect the European Court to issue more precise recommendations than imprecise recommendations. We also expect that given its mandate, a judicial body would focus its recommendations on the provision of justice, as our data on the European Court indicate.

[Figure 1A about here.]

The CEDAW Committee makes the highest number of directive (precise) recommendations involving policy and programming, assessment, and changing societal attitudes. The highest number of passive (imprecise) recommendations made by the CEDAW Committee involve overarching actions in which there is no accountable actor and policy and programming, though it is important to note that the majority of CEDAW recommendations fall in the policy and programming action category (across all values of precision).

Finally, turning to the UPR, the highest number of directive recommendations involve policy and programming, as well as legal and legislative changes. The highest number of passive (imprecise) recommendations coming from the UPR involve overarching actions that do not specify an accountable actor. Of course, because overarching actions do not specify an accountable actor, they are unlikely to offer the level of precision necessary to ensure they are carried out effectively. As the least independent of the three institutions, we would expect that states are likely to make relatively imprecise recommendations. By making imprecise recommendations, states are given flexibility in deciding how to comply with the recommendation. Flexibility encourages state compliance as states can point to various types of actions as compliance. Imprecision, then, protects the legitimacy of the UPR, by encouraging higher compliance rates.

When it comes to precision, the most common type of recommendation is directive, with the exception of the UPR, where several hundred recommendations involve overarching actions with no accountable actor. With respect to action, the evidence indicates that each institution focuses on specific actions at the expense of others, with the European Court focused on IO-oriented actions and the provision of justice, and CEDAW focused on policy, changing societal attitudes, and assessment, while recommendations through the UPR often involve overarching actions with no accountable actor and policy.

### **Data Coding Procedures: Identifying Recommendations:**

The authors worked with two undergraduate students to identify the totality of women's rights recommendations related to violence against women and women's economic rights made by the Committee of Ministers of the European Court of Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and by states through the Universal Periodic Review for the years 2007-2016. Coders were selected based on their GPA and classroom performance. Coders earned US \$10 per hour for coding.

To identify recommendations, coders were given the definition of women's rights from Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, which states that discrimination against women involves:

“...any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.”

To identify recommendations involving violence against women, the coders were guided by the definition of violence against women in Article 2 of the United Nations Declaration of the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVAW), where violence against women encompasses,

- (a) physical, sexual, and psychological violence occurring in the family, including battering, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, marital rape, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, non-spousal violence and violence related to exploitation;
- (b) physical, sexual, and psychological violence occurring within the general community, including rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work, in educational institutions and elsewhere, trafficking in women and forced prostitution;
- (c) physical, sexual and psychological violence perpetrated or condoned by the State, wherever it occurs.

To identify recommendations involving women's economic rights, coders were guided by the set of women's economic rights included in the Cingranelli, Richards, and Clay (2014) human rights dataset, including:

- (a) Equal pay for equal work
- (b) Free choice of profession or employment without the need to obtain a husband or male relative's consent
- (c) The right to gainful employment without the need to obtain a husband or male relative's consent
- (d) Equality in hiring and promotion practices
- (e) Job security (maternity leave, unemployment benefits, no arbitrary firing or layoffs, etc...)
- (f) Non-discrimination by employers
- (g) The right to be free from sexual harassment in the workplace
- (h) The right to work at night
- (i) The right to work in occupations classified as dangerous
- (j) The right to work in the military and police force

Other key words coders were instructed to use in identifying recommendations were:

- (a) Equality in representation and participation in political and public life, including high-level positions such as political office and academic positions
- (b) Access to full-time and permanent jobs
- (c) Promotion of sharing of domestic and family responsibilities among men and women
- (d) Equal access to education for women and girls

*European Court of Human Rights Recommendations:*

To identify recommendations from the European Court of Human Rights, coders were assigned one country at a time and instructed to visit HUDOC, the database of the European Court of Human Rights, and examine all adverse judgments involving violence against women and women's economic rights for their assigned country from 2007-2016, using the criteria above. Coders recorded each case in a spreadsheet, along with other identifying information. Coders often relied on the press release from the case, but also used the text of the judgment when necessary. After cases were recorded, coders then referenced the Department of the Execution of Judgments of the ECHR database (HUDOC EXEC), searched for each case by name, and examined Committee of Ministers reports to identify recommendations made by the ECtHR. The text of the recommendation, the year of the Committee of Ministers report when the recommendation was made, and the Committee of Ministers report number were all recorded in the spreadsheet. Where the case was closed after receiving an initial action report from the state, coders did not code any recommendations resulting from the case. In cases where the Committee of Ministers referenced a leading case, coders input recommendations from the leading case for all years following the case under consideration. Notably, recommendations made by the Committee of Ministers from 2007-2016 from adverse judgments that occurred prior to 2007 are not included in the dataset.

*Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women Recommendations:*

To identify recommendations from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, coders were assigned one country at a time, and instructed to evaluate the concluding observation reports and individual petitions for their assigned country from 2007-

2016. Concluding observation reports are in paragraph-format. Coders identified each recommendation by examining each sentence of the paragraphs related to violence against women and women's economic rights. In cases where a single sentence involved two actors or two different actions, coders were instructed to record each action as an individual recommendation. Coders recorded the text of the recommendation, the year of the recommendation, and the name of the CEDAW Concluding observations report.

#### *Universal Periodic Review:*

To gather UPR recommendations, coders were assigned one country at a time and instructed to visit the UPR-info.org recommendations database and sort the UPR recommendations using the keyword: "women's rights." Each recommending state makes a single recommendation to the state under review. In rare cases, a recommending state made a recommendation involving more than one actor or more than one action, and in these cases, coders were instructed to code two recommendations. Coders then narrowed down the entire list to recommendations specifically related to violence against women and women's economic rights, using the keywords identified above. The text of the recommendation, the year of the recommendation, the recommending state, and several other pieces of relevant information were recorded in a spreadsheet.

#### **Coding Precision and Action**

We developed a coding guide (below) for use by undergraduate coders in coding two variables: precision and action. Based on our reading of hundreds of recommendations, we created a three-point scale for the precision dimension and eight categories for the action

dimension. We discuss the development of the precision and action measurement schemes in the main manuscript.

Along with the same two undergraduate coders who worked with us to identify recommendations, we practice coded around 100 recommendations, met and discussed the coding decisions, and reconciled coding issues. The two coders were then required to pass a certification test in order to begin coding. Coders were required to code 80 percent of recommendations in line with our coding of the recommendations. Once coders passed the certification checks, they began coding the recommendations, first from the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, then from states through the Universal Periodic Review, and finally from the Committee of Ministers of the European Court of Human Rights. We performed certification checks three times during the coding process to assess inter-coder reliability. Inter-coder reliability statistics are reported below for each dimension. Coders were assigned 200 recommendations at a time, coded both precision and action for each recommendation, and turned in their coding weekly. On rare occasions, coders came across a recommendation that involved multiple actors or more than one action. In such cases, coders added an additional recommendation to the dataset and coded precision and action for both recommendations.

### **Examples from Precision Coding:**

In the manuscript, we note the three categories of precision, passive (0), guided (1), and directive (2). To better illustrate the types of recommendations that fall in each of these categories, we provide some examples. With respect to the passive category, Greece issued a recommendation to Sweden during its 2010 UPR review that stated, “Consider increasing the

financial resources allocated to programmes combating violence against women” (UPR-info 2010). Recommendations of this sort are vague and give the state interpretive power in implementation, which requires less effort on the part of the receiving state. It is difficult to determine, however, whether states have—or have not—taken them seriously. After all, how is one to know if a state has “considered” a topic?

Turning to the guided category of precision, in their 2010 review before CEDAW, Albania received the following recommendation: “Raise awareness of the importance of education for the empowerment of women and take steps to overcome traditional attitudes and other obstacles to the education of girls and women” (CEDAW 2010: 9). This recommendation provides more guidance and carries with it an expectation of action but lacks clarity. What types of measures would satisfy the Committee?

Finally, with respect to the directive precision category, during its 2015 UPR review, Turkey received the following recommendation from Albania: “Implement the National Action Plan for Gender Equality, in particular on the enhancement and awareness of the gender equality in different fields such as education, public life, employment and health” (UPR-info, 2015). This recommendation refers to a particular piece of policy. We rank this a highly precise recommendation, particularly as the implementation of this policy would be clearly observable.

### **Reliability:**

The authors conducted several intercoder (ICR) reliability checks during the coding process. Following Conrad, Haglund, and Moore (2014), we asked coders to perform several “coding checks” during the coding process using recommendations taken directly from the CEDAW Committee. Three times during the coding process, coders were emailed a set of 10



recommendations that were used to assess ICR. Coders were not informed that the coding of this set of recommendations was used to assess ICR, but coded these recommendations as a part of their assigned coding. One of the authors also coded all of the recommendations.

Table IA below provides ICR information on the precision and action variables in the WR2D2 dataset. We report the overall proportion of agreement measure (Fleiss 1971, 1981). The list of recommendations coded to assess ICR is also included below.

[Table IA about here.]

## References

- CEDAW (2010) Concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women: Albania. Forty-sixth session. CEDAW/C/ALB/CO/3. United Nations: Geneva, Switzerland.
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- UPR-info (2010) First Cycle, Eighth Session, Review of Sweden. UPR Database of Recommendations. Available at: <https://www.upr-info.org/database/>.
- UPR-info (2015) UPR Database of Recommendations. Second Cycle, Twenty-first Session, Review of Turkey. Available at: <https://www.upr-info.org/database/>.

## Overlapping Institutions Data Coding Rules

### Coding Precision:

#### 1- Passive: recommendations that ask states to:

- a. “Consider” an issue and/or
- b. Eliminate, eradicate, address *broad* women’s rights issues (i.e. gender equality, gender discrimination), no steps provided to achieve the goal
- c. Examples:
  - i. Consider implementing economic temporary measures with the aim of developing and strengthening the capacity of women entrepreneurs (“a” above)
  - ii. Accelerate the adoption of the proposed law on gender equality (“b” above)
  - iii. Adopt a gender specific approach in its laws, policies, and programmes (“b” above)

#### 2- Guided: recommendations that ask states to:

- a. “Take steps” toward a specific goal (VAW, equality in employment), but those steps are not clearly specified
- b. Examples:
  - i. Expedite the process to amend the Election Code to raise the 15 percent quota (steps to expedite not clearly specified)
  - ii. Take all the necessary steps to ensure the rehabilitation and social reintegration of victims of trafficking (specific goal, but steps not clearly specified)
  - iii. Increase women's representation in political and public life (goal specified, but no direction to achieve the recommended goal)

#### 3- Directive: recommendations that ask states to:

- a. Take particular actions, which ARE specified
- b. The goal is stated, and specific steps are laid out
- c. Examples:
  - i. Ensure access to employment for women with disabilities by providing adequate vocational training and accessible information on employment opportunities (clear goal and steps specified)
  - ii. Decriminalize abortion and provide access to legal abortion in cases of threats to the life or health of pregnant woman, rape, incest (clear goal and steps fully specified)

### Coding Action:

### General Coding Rules:

1. As a general rule, if the coding rules allow you to assign a score of 1-7, do so before coding a recommendation as an “8”. For example, if the recommendation mentions the use of “assessing the impact” of some policy, but it is unclear who the accountable actors are, code the recommendation as “2,” rather than “8.”

2. If the recommendation can be coded as more than one recommendation:

a. Insert a new row (or rows), paste the recommendations in each row, and rename the “RecNumber.” For example, if recommendation 65 is actually 2 recommendations, leave the first one as 65, paste one row for the new recommendations, and name the RecNumber 65a.

3. For difficult recommendations, keep some coding notes in the cell labeled “Coder Notes”

### **1- IO-Oriented:**

- a. Pertains to the state’s relationship with international organizations and/or international law.
- b. Focused on improving working relationship with the IOs in question and/or ratifying/acceding to specific international legal instruments.
- c. Examples:
  - i. Take some action for the next periodic review or assessment
  - ii. Include information in the next report on...
  - iii. Address concerns of human rights treaty bodies, etc.
  - iv. Share best practice and policies with States and relevant IOs
  - v. Share experiences with policy X or program X with other countries
  - vi. Accede to international treaty X, Ratify international treaty X
  - vii. Strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation mechanisms

### **2- Assessment:**

- a. Concerns the need to evaluate/assess attainment of policy objectives and legal initiatives.
- b. Could also include the creation/improvement of oversight bodies.
- c. Examples:
  - i. Assess the impact of some policy
  - ii. Set up oversight bodies
  - iii. Improve data collection and statistics on X
  - iv. Undertake a deep analysis of...
  - v. Monitor the impact of program X or policy X
  - vi. Monitor the situation of women in...
  - vii. Review the issue of...
  - viii. Conduct a comprehensive study on...

### **3- Provision of Justice and Accountability**

- a. Focused on holding individual perpetrators accountable and the ability of certain groups to access justice.
- b. The emphasis is on the provision of justice with victims’ rights central to the requested action.

- c. Examples:
  - i. Ensure that all reports are investigated and perpetrators brought to justice
  - ii. Remove impediments faced by women in accessing justice
  - iii. Ensure effective law enforcement/undertake investigations...
  - iv. Ensure offenders are punished
  - v. Provide free legal aid for women victims of domestic violence

#### **4- Changing Societal Attitudes**

- a. These recommendations are aimed at changing the public's perception and education.
- b. The key constituency is society at large.
- c. Examples:
  - i. Continue to increase active promotion...
  - ii. Develop awareness-raising campaigns aimed at...
  - iii. Promote gender equality through education and training programs
  - iv. Conduct outreach programs
  - v. Eradicate traditional stereotypes of women
  - vi. Strengthen educational measures
  - vii. Promote the rights of women
  - viii. Ensure international law is part of educational curricula
  - ix. Encourage media to project positive non-stereotyped images of women
  - x. Widely disseminate national law X or international treaty X

#### **5- Legal and Legislative Changes**

- a. These actions are directed toward the judiciary and legislature and involve adopting new laws or amending/striking down existing laws.
- b. Examples:
  - i. Adopt into law proposed changes...
  - ii. Improve the legal framework
  - iii. Undertake a gender revision...
  - iv. Amend all laws on...
  - v. Improve the efficiency of law X

#### **6- Policy and Programming**

- a. These actions involve creating or amending existing policies and programs.
- b. For recommendations related to creating or funding a particular policy or program related to assessment ("2"), provision of justice or accountability ("3"), changing societal attitudes ("4"), etc., code the recommendation based on the type of program recommended (i.e. 2, 3, or 4), rather than a "6".
  - i. For example, a recommendation involving the provision of legal aid or the establishment of legal aid clinics for victims of domestic violence should be coded as "3" (provision of justice and accountability).
- c. There could be multiple stakeholders for these actions but the recommendations are clear about what steps should be taken.

- d. Training and education for **stakeholders** should be included in this category (as opposed to society-wide education initiatives aimed at changing *public* perceptions.)
- e. Code recommendations involving the use of “temporary special measures” as a “6,” *unless* the “temporary special measures” are related to actions that fall under a different category (i.e. “utilize temporary special measures to promote women’s representation in education and academia (coded a “4”), or “evaluate the application on temporary special measures” (coded a “2”)).
- f. Examples:
  - i. Take gender sensitive approach to programs and policies
  - ii. Continue programs addressing values and attitudes that contribute to...
  - iii. Ensure adequate training of police
  - iv. Continue work aimed at increasing the participation of women
  - v. Strengthen collaboration with women’s groups
  - vi. Increase financial resources to program X; provide gender equality institutions with necessary financial and technical resources
  - vii. Support the victims and survivors/strengthen assistance to victims
  - viii. Enhance support services for victims
  - ix. Establish appropriate shelters and social services
  - x. Adopt rehabilitation and reintegration programmes
  - xi. Strengthen use of temporary special measures

## 7- Implementation

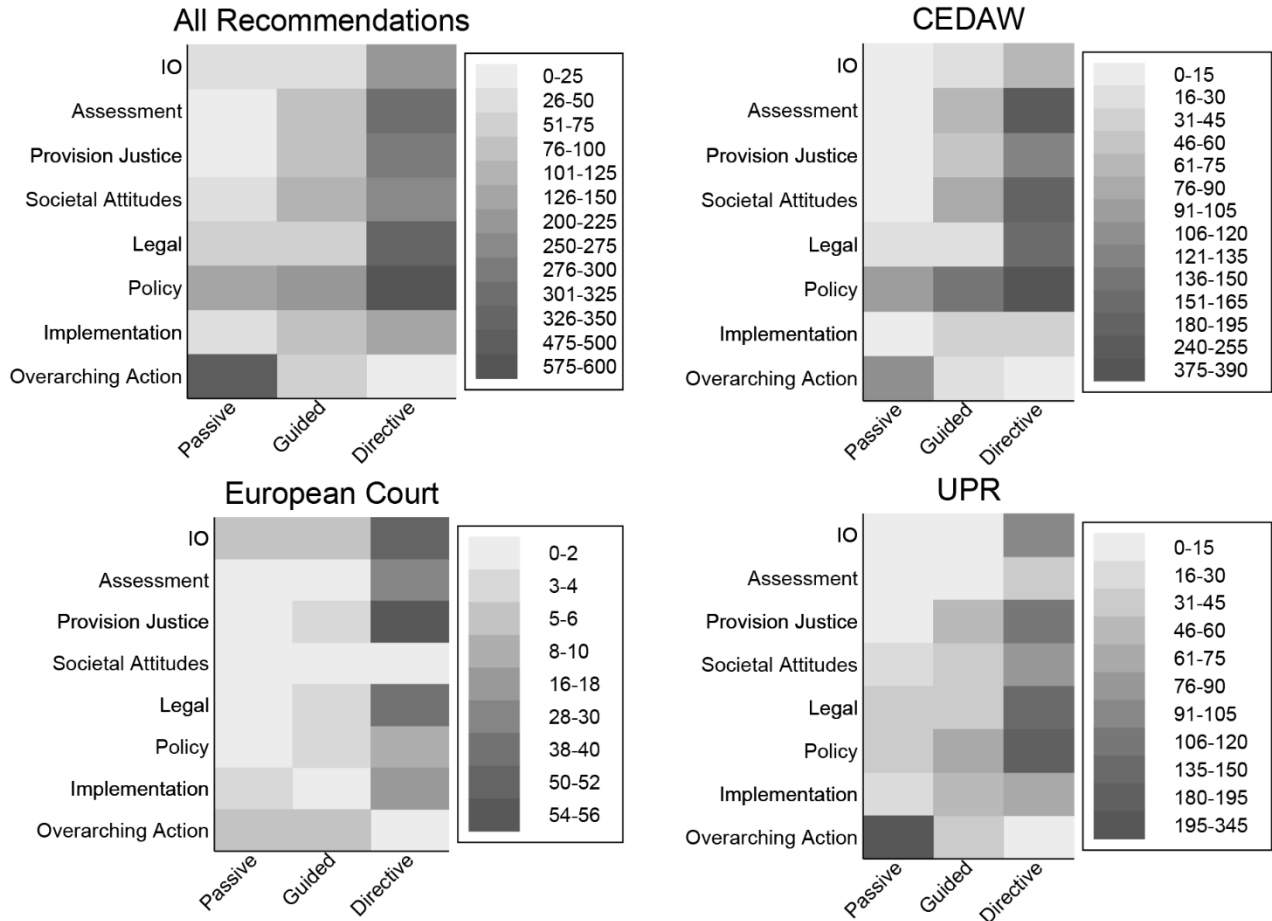
- a. These actions specifically mention implementing previous recommendations/rulings and/or international legal commitments.
- b. E.g. “Implement X policy” or “Take effect measure to...” or “take steps necessary to fulfill...”
- c. Examples:
  - i. Invest resources into the implementation of the law
  - ii. Continue to implement effective measures to...
  - iii. Continue the full implementation of the plan to combat...
  - iv. Take effective measures...
  - v. Fully implement policies

## 8- Overarching Actions with No Accountable Actors

- a. These actions identify broad objectives but have no accountable actors. It is unclear **what** the required action might be AND **who** has the burden of discharging the recommendations.
- b. The recommendations include language such as “take steps,” “take measures,” and “provide opportunities” but do not identify the stakeholders, either explicitly or implicitly.
- c. Examples:
  - i. Develop a national plan of action / national strategy
  - ii. Consider the establishment of quotas
  - iii. Intensify efforts to prevent discrimination
  - iv. Take steps to prevent discrimination

- v. Address the specific needs of “X” minority group
- vi. Intensify or make efforts or intensify measures
- vii. Give the female population the opportunity to do X
- viii. Address the issue of VAW
- ix. Take concrete actions to reduce the gender gap in decision-making
  - x. Ensure equal treatment
  - xi. Eliminate the gender pay gap
  - xii. Increase the number of women in political and public life
  - xiii. Strengthen administrative measures
  - xiv. Take legal steps necessary for...

**Figure 1A: International Institutions: Action by Precision**



**Table IA: Intercoder Reliability for WR2D2 Data**

**Proportion of Overall Agreement**

<b>Precision</b>	0.93
<b>Action</b>	0.87



## **Recommendations Used to Assess ICR**

### **ICR Check 1**

1. ensure that all cases of violence against women are swiftly prosecuted and punished
2. continue to provide training to officers who are in charge of asylum applications to ensure that they adopt a gender-sensitive approach in the system for the identification of victims of trafficking
3. Consider implementing, including by legislation, quotas for women's membership on the boards of private and State-owned enterprises
4. analyse the factors leading to the involvement of non-national women in prostitution with a view to applying the analysis to strengthen measures to address specific vulnerabilities to trafficking and exploitation of prostitution
5. ensure that a sufficient number of shelters are available to women victims of violence, staffed by expert personnel, provided with adequate financial resources and ensure shelters adhere to a strict policy of confidentiality to protect victim's identity and the locality of shelters
6. Set a time frame for ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (2011)
7. Step up efforts to enhance the economic and political empowerment of women in rural areas
8. Effectively implement existing and adopt additional policies and targeted measures with time-bound targets and indicators to achieve substantive equality of men and women in the labour market, promote employment of women, including Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian women, eliminate occupational segregation, and close the gender wage gap.
9. ensure that the representation of women in political and public bodies reflects the full diversity of the population and to include immigrant, refugee and minority women
10. consider the findings of the Equal Pay Working Group, which is due to report in 2007, and to take relevant follow-up steps

### **ICR Check 2**

1. Review regularly the situation of migrant women living with abusive partners and the conditions for granting regular residence permits
2. intensify efforts to ensure a unified implementation of the requirements tending to the granting of long-term residence permits or citizenships for victims of domestic violence
3. Consider undertaking a first evaluation within the next four years and carry out regular evaluations of the impact of the law of 2011 on women's participation on the management boards of listed companies and autonomous public enterprises, and include information on the results of those evaluations in its next periodic report; and consider taking temporary special measures to accelerate women's participation at the decision-making level in companies that are not covered by the law
4. provide incentives for active participation by men in such (family) responsibilities, e.g., by introducing special non-transferable paternity leave

5. consider ratifying the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing it, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
6. Give high priority to the enactment of comprehensive specific legislation on domestic violence, to put in place are prosecuted and punished commensurate with the gravity of their crimes, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 19 (1992) on violence against women
7. To amend the Criminal Code with a view to specifically criminalizing domestic violence and marital rape and include a definition of violence against women in the Act on countering domestic violence so as to ensure that relevant laws and policies are implemented in a gender-sensitive manner
8. Address the root causes of trafficking and forced prostitution by increasing the promotion of educational and income-generating opportunities for women and girls, thereby minimizing their vulnerability to exploitation
9. Ensure equal remuneration for work of equal value, including through mandatory equality plans for public and private employers and labour inspections
10. ensure the provision of adequate reparation to the surviving victims, including the families of the deceased, and to send a clear message that human rights abuses will not be tolerated and will be addressed through human rights complaints, thorough investigations, fair trials and punishment of the perpetrators

### **ICR Check 3**

1. Assist women and girls who wish to leave prostitution by providing alternative income-generating opportunities, among other measures
2. Encourage applications by women for teaching positions at higher levels of education and accelerate the appointment of women in academic institutions
3. Create more opportunities for women to gain access to full-time employment
4. Ensure that perpetrators of trafficking receive sentences commensurate with the gravity of the offence
5. Continue providing incentives for political parties to nominate equal numbers of women and men as candidates, and harmonize their statutes with the Gender Equality Law
6. information and training on the anti-trafficking legislation be provided to the judiciary, law enforcement officials, border guards and social workers in all parts of the country
7. widen the definition of sexual harassment and adopt concrete measures for addressing sexual harassment, including in the workplace
8. carry out a gender assessment of all measures set out in the new family policy and include the principle of gender equality in national social policy
9. ensure the participation of rural women in decision-making processes at the community level on an equal basis with men
10. ensure that perpetrators of violence and harmful practices against women are prosecuted and punished with sanctions commensurate with the gravity of the crime, effectively enforce and monitor compliance with protection orders against perpetrators

of domestic violence and ensure that the duration of such orders is sufficient to adequately protect the women concerned