

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-second session
Geneva, 13-17 May 2019**

Panel discussion on applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation

Statement submitted by

H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan
Chair of Commission on the Status of Women, UN Women

Monday, 13 May 2019

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Twenty-second session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Item 3: Science and technology for development

Panel discussion on applying a gender lens to STI

13 May 2019, 15:00-16:00

Geneva, Switzerland

H.E. Ambassador Mher Margaryan

Chair, Commission on the Status of Women

Draft Talking Points

[expected duration of remarks: 3 minutes]

Chair,

Excellencies,

It is a great pleasure to contribute to this panel discussion, in my capacity as Chair of CSW64. I thank you, Chair, and the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for your strong interest in ensuring that your work contributes to the accelerated realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Let me also stress how much I appreciated the interventions by Dame Jocelyn Bell Burnell, Ms. Shirley Malcom, and Ms. Neth Daño. They are not only giants in the field of STI, they have also compellingly outlined why attention to gender perspectives in science, technology and innovation is not only the right thing to do, but necessary for real impact and progress for everyone.

Today's event builds on the ~~inspiring~~ ^{inspiring} Workshop convened inter-sessionally last January, co-organized by UNCTAD and UN-Women in support of the work of our two commissions, ~~and in which I was joined by CSW, Ambassador Mher Margaryan, and other participants~~. ~~Indeed, as the workshop reaffirmed,~~ gender equality and science and technology are equally important components of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, without which, it would not be possible to achieve the sustainable development goals.

CSW consistently calls for strengthening the voice, agency, participation and leadership of women and girls, in all areas of human endeavour. Let me suggest a few key actions that facilitate and contribute to the application of a gender lens to STI. We need to: ^{my}

- support ^{od} girls and women in diversifying their educational and occupational choices and encourage ^{need to be} them to enter emerging fields and growing economic sectors, such as STEM and ICT.
- Collect, ^{is} analyse ^{is} and disseminate ^{is} more and better disaggregated data on women's and girls' participation in STEM education and careers, and in particular use such data to inform better and more targeted policies. ^{needs to be done}
- Ensure that gender analysis is undertaken, and disaggregated data utilized from the outset in the design of policy instruments, research projects and products. Yes, we need to

increase women's participation in STI and STEM, but we also need to make sure that STI *sector* responds to gender-specific needs and actively contributes to preventing and eliminating discrimination and inequalities.

Thank you.