

MACAO, CHINA

Comprehensive National-Level Review

1. What have been the most important achievements, challenges and set-backs in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women over the past 5 years?

The "Women's Affairs Advisory Committee" of the Macao Special Administrative Region Government was established in 2005. It was reorganized In November 2016, during which children's rights and interests were included in its obligations and therefore was renamed "Women and Children's Affairs Committee" (hereinafter referred to as "Women and Children Committee"). The purpose of the Women's Commissioner is to assist the government in paying attention to the work of women and children and to safeguard the opportunities, rights and dignity that women and children deserve.

Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture is the chair of the Women and Children Committee while the Director of Social Welfare Bureau is the Vice-Chairman. Members of Women and Children Committee are from different public sectors, and also representatives of non-governmental organizations and recognized outstanding social figures. (Administrative Regulation No. 27/2016)

The Women and Children Committee has set up two task units: namely "Macao Women development goal" follow up task unit and "Children's rights and interests" attention task unit to assist the SAR Government in formulating and promoting women's and children's policies and monitoring the implementation process.

The Women and Children Committee proposed the implementation of the "Macau Women's Development Goals" plan in 2018, which lasts for seven years, starting from 2019 and accomplishing in 2025. To this end, the SAR Government has established the "Macao Women's Development Goals Inter-Departmental Working Group" for better implementation and coordination of specific programs.

2. Which of the following have been the top five priorities for the accelerating progress for women and girls in your country over the past five years through laws, policies and/or programs?

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights

Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice

《Basic Law of the Macao Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China》(the “Basic Law”) Article 25 is purposed that: All Macao residents shall be equal before the law, and shall be free from discrimination, irrespective of their nationality, descent, sex, race, language, religion, political persuasion or ideological belief, educational level, economic status or social conditions. Article 38 is specially purposed that the legitimate rights and interests of women shall be protected by the Macao Special Administrative Region.

According to the Basic Law, the relevant international conventions and interregional agreements applicable to the Macao SAR, as well as local laws (including the Criminal Code, the Civil Code, and other laws), women's rights and interests are protected and valued. Conventions have been extended to local applications before the return of Macao to China such as “the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women”, “the Convention on the Suppression of the Trafficking of Persons and the Prohibition of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others” and “the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights”. After the reunification, these international conventions relating to women's rights continue to be effective.

Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls

(Functions of Education and Youth Affairs Bureau)

Law No. 9/2006 on the “Non-Higher Education System Outline Law”, which sets the right to education without discrimination and equalizes the chances of pupils in terms of enrollment and success in learning as the government responsibility.

On the basis of the principle of equality between men and women, Macao implements compulsory, universal and free education. Since the school year of 2007/2008, 15 years of free non-higher education has been implemented. According to Decree-Law 42/99/M, children between the ages of 5 to 15 must have compulsory education at school and the benefits are not different by gender.

Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security

The Macao SAR Government has always attached importance to social welfare and social service, with systematic short-term, medium-term and long-term policy measures, and continuous social security network consolidation.

According to 6/2007 Administrative Regulations "The System for Disbursing Assistance to Individuals and Family Groups in Economically Poor Situations" and No. 18/2003 the "Special Assistance Regulations for Vulnerable Households" endorsed by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture, the Social Welfare Bureau will provide social assistance to individuals or families who are in economic disadvantage due to social, health and other factors that require special assistance. Especially the elderly, the disabled, the chronically ill, and single-parent families. Also, through the "Social Harmony Plan", short-term food subsidy services and other subsidies will be provided to alleviate the stress of the vulnerable (including three types of vulnerable families - single parents, the disabled and the chronically ill).
Eliminating violence against women and girls

The Domestic Violence Prevention and Correction Law entered into force on the 5th of October 2016. The law establishes the normative framework in which public entities are involved in the event of domestic violence, the type of crime against domestic violence and the penal system, as well as measures to protect and assist victims.

Before the establishment of "Law on Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence", the SAR Government has drawn up a multi-pronged mechanism for combating domestic violence and introduced various service projects, including a 24-hour helpline for domestic violence and a 24-hour helpline of public departments/non-government organizations (hereinafter "NGO") respectively, and continues to optimize emergency shelter service, child protection service and perpetrator tutoring service.

In order to strengthen the protection of women and children, Law No. 8/2017 amends the Criminal Code to increase the involvement of public power in cases of sexual abuse of minors and introduce "sexual harassment" (Article 164-A) to criminalize harassment involving physical contact with sex.

Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights

(Functions of Health Bureau)

In 1986, the amended Decree No. 24/86/M established the rules for all Macao residents to obtain health care, namely free medical care. The benefits do not differ by gender. At present, all Macao residents can enjoy free primary health care. As for hospital medical services, Macao residents can enjoy a 30% medical fee reduction, and can also be referred to the Centro Hospitalar Conde de São Januário(CHCSJ) for free auxiliary examination through the health center; in addition, specific patients such as the elderly over 65, children, primary and secondary school students, maternal, mentally ill, infectious diseases and cancer, can enjoy free hospital medical services.

Starting from 2009, the SAR Government has introduced a subsidy for the "Medical Subsidy Scheme", and Macao residents can use it to choose a private medical institution for medical treatment.

The Macao SAR Government's medical system also provides special medical services to women, such as family planning projects and free primary health care services, as well as drugs and equipment for family planning. Family planning programs include routine health checks, gynecological care, Pap smear, guidance on genetic issues

between premarital and couples, pregnancy control methods, breastfeeding, infertility treatment, genetic disease and precaution of sexually transmitted diseases. Under the free health care policy, the Health Bureau also provides a health care plan for pregnant women, including general and specialized care services, as well as free medical services for inpatient hospitalization. The maternal mortality rate in Macao has been at a low level for more than 10 years (Note: There was one maternal death in 2016, the maternal mortality rate was 14 in a 100,000). The maternal mortality rate in 2017 was zero.

3. Over the past five years, have you taken specific measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination?

Women who live with disabilities

Older women

Women live with disabilities

Act No. 33/99/M, “Prevention of Disability and the Rehabilitation and Integration of Persons with Disabilities” establishes the basis for policies to prevent disability, treatment, rehabilitation, participation and integration of persons with disabilities. The Macao SAR Government established the Rehabilitation Affairs Committee in 2008 to assist in conceiving, implementing, coordinating and monitoring the prevention of disability and social integration. In 2016, the "Ten-year Development Plan for Rehabilitation Services for 2016-2025" was launched to implement the established policies for preventing disability and supporting the rehabilitation and integration of people with disabilities, and an inter-departmental task unit was set up to coordinate and promote the implementation of relevant plans.

Older women

The Macao SAR Government established the "Senior Citizen Affairs Committee" in 2007 to assist in researching, conceiving, implementing and monitoring the social policies of the elderly. In order to comprehensively address the opportunities and challenges brought about by the aging of the population, the SAR Government announced in 2016 the “Macao SAR Endowment Insurance Mechanism” and the “2016-2025 Seniors Service Decade Action Plan” and established the “Endowment Policy for Endowment Insurance Mechanism Unit” to promote the implementation of the policy objectives of Macao SAR pension security mechanism. In addition, in 2018, the “Law on the Protection of the Rights and Interests of the Elderly” was promulgated. Through the above-mentioned measures, actions and legislation, the rights and interests of elders of different genders can be guaranteed and maintained.

4. Has the increasing number of humanitarian crises-caused by conflict, extreme weather or other events-affected the implementation of the BPfA in your country?

No.

5. Which of the following does your country consider to be the top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country for the coming five years through laws, policies and programs?

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights

All Macao residents, regardless of their genders, are protected by the laws of the Macao Special Administrative Region (including the Basic Law, the Criminal Code, the Civil Code, the Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence Act, etc.).

The Macao SAR Government will continue to provide free medical services, 15 years of free education in accordance with the law, and provide financial and social services and assistance to the vulnerable people in Macao.

**6. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to advance gender equality in relation to women's role in paid work employment?
(Functions of the Labor Affairs Bureau)**

Article 6 of the "Labor Relations Law" of Law No. 7/2008 clearly establishes the principle of equal employment opportunities, and Article 10, paragraph 3, of Law No. 14/2009 on the "Civil Service Staff System", also specifies the principle of equality of candidates and the principle of equal opportunity for them.

7. What action has your country taken in the last five years to recognize, reduce and/or redistribute unpaid care and domestic work and promote work-family conciliation?

- Expanded childcare services or made existing services more affordable
- Expand support for frail elderly persons and others needing intense forms of care
- Introduced or strengthened maternity/paternity/parental leave or other types of family leave
- Other

Expanded childcare services or made existing services more affordable

At present, there are 59 kindergartens in Macao with a total of about 11,000 positions, of which 20 are non-subsidized child care and 39 are funded by the Social Welfare Bureau. The number of children being cared for aged 2-3 is 100%, and the number of holders aged 0-3 is 55%. This shows that the number of children needed to be cared for in Macao is high, sharing the needs of parents who need to work during the day or those who cannot take care of children so that women can choose their career in a flexible way.

Expand support for frail elderly persons and others needing intense forms of care

The Macao SAR Government has launched an elderly service for community care services and home care and support services to alleviate the pressure on local family caregivers. Regarding social protection for vulnerable women, the Social Welfare Bureau has subsidized NGOs to provide homes, institutions and other community support services to those who are in true need for a long term. Similarly, with the financial and technical support from the Social Welfare Bureau, NGOs provide home care services to people with disabilities or frail elders who lack family care.

Introduced or strengthened maternity/paternity/parental leave or other types of family leave

(Functions of Labor Affairs Bureau)

According to the Law No.7/2008 《Labor Relations Law》, the welfare of female employees during pregnancy. According to the Law, a female employee is entitled to, for reason of childbirth, 56 days of maternity leave without any effect on her remuneration and employment; Of the 56 days of maternity leave, 49 days must be taken immediately after the confinement, and the days left may be taken consecutively or separately, before or after the confinement, at the discretion of the female employee; the female employee shall not be instructed to perform work incompatible with her physical condition during pregnancy and within three months after confinement.

Other

(Functions of Social Security Fund)

Since 2011, social security coverage has covered all Macao residents, allowing them to receive basic retirement protection. Macao residents (including those who do housework) who meet the legal requirements can make contributions to the Social Security Fund. The SAR Government grants pensions, disability pensions, unemployment benefits, funeral allowances, marriage allowances, birth allowances, and compensation for respiratory system and occupational diseases to eligible beneficiaries to provide basic social security, especially endowment insurance, to improve residents' quality of life.

8. Has your country introduced austerity/fiscal consolidation measures, such as cuts in public expenditure or public sector downsizing, over the past five years?

No.

9. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to reduce/eradicated poverty among women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened social protection programs for women and girls
- Introduced/strengthened low-cost legal services for women living in poverty

Introduced or strengthened social protection programs for women and girls

Through various assistance projects, the Macao SAR Government provides care and support to individuals and families whose lives are in distress or have difficulties adapting due to social changes. It continuously optimizes various support measures, rationally allocates social resources, expands appropriate services, and builds a harmonious society.

Introduced/strengthened low-cost legal services for women living in poverty

(Functions of Legal Aid Commission)

Legal aid system aims to ensure that all persons who meet the legal requirement but have insufficient financial capacity can assert or defend their rights and interests protected in law through juridical litigation. In accordance with the provisions of Law no. 13/2012 “Legal Aid System”, the Legal Aid Commission is the authority to approve legal aid and make decision on other related matters.

10. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve access to social protection for women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened social protection for unemployed women

(Functions of the Labor Affairs Bureau)

Regarding gender equality in employment, Act No. 52/95/M, “Equal Opportunities and Equal Treatment Act” and Law 4/98/M, “Legal Framework for Employment and Labor Rights”, remain in force. “The Labor Relations Law” stipulates that all Macao residents have equal employment opportunities without discrimination. No employee or job seeker may, without reasonable excuse, be harmed, denied of any rights, or exempted from any obligation due to nationality, skin color, gender, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or ideological beliefs.

In Macao SAR, women enjoy the same rights as men in economic and cultural life, especially the right to receive family allowances, the right to obtain bank loans, mortgages and other forms of financial credit. It is the same for participation in all aspects of recreational activities, sport and cultural life.

11. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve health outcomes for women and girls in your country?

- Promoted women's access to health services through expansion of universal health coverage or public health services
- Provided refugee women and girls as well as women and girls in humanitarian settings with access to sexual and reproductive health services

Promoted women's access to health services through expansion of universal health coverage or public health services

(Functions of Health Bureau)

Act No. 24/86/M, as amended, sets out the rules for all Macao residents to obtain health care.

The Macao SAR government's medical system also provides special medical services to women, such as family planning projects and free primary health care services, as well as drugs and equipment for family planning. Family planning programs include routine health checks, gynecological care, Pap smear, guidance on genetic issues between premarital and couples, pregnancy control methods, breastfeeding, infertility treatment, genetic disease and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

Provided refugee women and girls as well as women and girls in humanitarian settings with access to sexual and reproductive health services

The Social Welfare Bureau provides basic living such as meals, accommodation and financial assistance to individuals or families who are refugees or seeking refugee status, as well as other special support services such as counselling services, referral to medical services, assistance to minors in school, etc. in accordance with Law No. 1/2004 "Recognition and Loss of Refugee Status System".

The Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region is committed to combating violence against women and girls. The Social Welfare Bureau (SWB) plays a supportive role in helping victims of human trafficking. To combat human trafficking and protect the rights and interests of the victims, where law permits, the SWB renders assistance and shelter to the victims until all procedures are completed and the victims are escorted back to their original places.

12. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve education outcomes and skills for women and girls?

- Promoted safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls.

(Functions of the Legal Affairs Bureau and Higher Education Bureau)

Law No. 8/2017, “Modification of the Criminal Code” introduces “Sexual Harassment” (Article 164-A), which is established in the form of a semi-public crime and criminalizes “indecent acts” involving physical contact and harassment of others.

In the prevention and treatment of sexual harassment in institutions of higher learning, the “Macao Higher Education Gender Equality Promotion Committee” has set the “Gender Equality and Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy Framework” and the “Macao Universities to Handle Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure Framework” in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

13. In the last five years, which forms of violence against women and girls, and in which specific contexts or settings, have you prioritized for action?

- Intimate partner violence/domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape
- Trafficking in women and girls

Intimate partner violence/domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape

In October 2016, the Government of the Macao Special Administrative Region set up a communication mechanism for suspected domestic violence; immediately responds to the family crisis cases within emergency deals, provides counseling, medical service, shelter and accommodation, and legal advisory services, etc, for the persons in need. Also, if the perpetrator requests, counseling service are provided to help the perpetrator restrain from committing violence again.

Trafficking in women and girls

Since July 2008, where law requests and permits, the SWB has been working closely to combat human trafficking and assist the victims, including accommodation, medical referral, financial aid (covering living expenses, transportation expenses of the return trip and certificate-making fees), individual case counseling, detoxification treatment, legal advisory services, and skills training, etc, the related services are not varied by genders. Meanwhile, related announcements are widely promoted to increase people's awareness on prevention and against human trafficking.

14. What actions has your country prioritized in the last five years to address violence against women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened violence against women laws, and their enforcement and implementation
- Introduced or strengthened services for survivors of violence
- Introduced or strengthened strategies to prevent violence against women and girls

Sex discrimination is prohibited in the Macao SAR, which Article 25 of the Basic Law has clearly stated. Article 38 specifically mentions that the legitimate rights and interests of women are protected by the Macao SAR. According to the Law on “Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence”, which came into effect on October 5, 2016, violence against family members (including women and girls) constitutes a crime of domestic violence.

For families experiencing violence, professionals from the Macao SAR Government will intervene to provide support and coordinate other relevant departments, including police units, to provide immediate protection measures. Services for victims of domestic violence include temporary resettlement, emergency financial assistance, emergency judicial assistance, free health care services, assistance to school or employment, personal and family counselling, provision of legal information and counselling services, and the need to ensure their safety and stability and all the other protection and assistance measures.

The Social Welfare Bureau publicises the Law on “Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence” through various channels every year to promote information on prevention and treatment of domestic violence, help and services. It also organizes various types of happy families and community activities of zero-tolerance series of domestic violence to promote the public's awareness of preventing domestic violence.

15. What strategies has your country used in the last five years to prevent violence against women and girls?

- Public awareness raising and changing of attitudes and behaviors
- Work in primary and secondary education, including comprehensive sexuality education

The Macao SAR Government has been paying attention to the prevention and combating of domestic violence. It has been holding various training courses for a long time, covering legal, social work and psychology. Participants are mainly social workers and psychological counselors. The education sector provides sex education in early childhood to high school education to help children and adolescents establish a sense of maintaining their own autonomy. They also understand that the two sexes should respect each other in the development of friendship and learn to prevent sexual harassment and sexual assault while respecting the body of others.

16. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology (online sexual harassment, online stalking, non-consensual sharing of intimate images)?

- Introduced or strengthened legislation and regulatory provisions
- Implemented awareness raising initiatives targeting the general public and young women and men in educational settings

(We have no related materials.)

17. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to address the portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/ or gender bias in the media?

- Introduced binding regulation for the media, including for advertising
- Support the media industry to develop voluntary codes of conduct
- Promoted the participation and leadership of women in the media

In 2018, the Women and Children Affairs Committee proposed a program of “Macao Women Development Goals” to Macao SAR Government——the program aimed to raise women’s situation, promote gender equality and protect female rights. The program worked out eight work priorities, namely, gender mainstreaming, women presence in decision-making, education and training, health care, social welfare, safety and law, economy, media and culture, along with 21 key policy goals and 79 execution measures. Among them, media and culture purposed to promote women participation in media and culture areas, in promotion of specific policies, enhance the genders-equal opportunities and participations in all areas of media and culture. Urge the media to establish self-regulatory mechanisms to promote gender equality continuously

18. Has your country taken any action in the last five years specifically tailored to address violence against specific groups of women facing multiple forms of discrimination?

(We have no related materials.)

19. What actions and measures has your country taken in the last five year to promote women’s participation in public life and decision-making?

- Encouraged the participation of minority and young women, including through sensitization and mentor-ship programs
- Collected and analyzed data on women’s political participation, including in appointed and elected positions

Encouraged the participation of minority and young women, including through sensitisation and mentor-ship programmes

Regarding the training of young women in political participation, many social organizations will hold various trainings, among which the more representative one is the “Women's Core Members Training Course”, co-organized by the China Women's Federation and the Macao Women's Organization, and the Central People's Government's Liaison Office in Macao SAR. The training will help in improving women's quality and professional knowledge , as well as nourishing women to understand public affairs.

Collected and analyzed data on women’s political participation, including in appointed and elected positions

Women and Children's Affairs Committee launched the “Macau Women's Data Database” in July 2015 to collect official data on women's information in various sectors of the SAR government (including women and population, family, health, education, economic and social security, violence, political participation and media transmission). In addition, the Macao SAR Government and the Women and Children's Affairs Committee have continued to conduct research on women's issues in Macao. In recent years, data on domestic violence have been regularly published. All these factors will help the public to understand the development of women.

20. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase women's access to expression and participation in decision-making in the media, including through information and communication technologies (ICT)?

- Strengthened the provision of formal and Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in media and ICTs, including in areas of management and leadership
- Take measures to enhance access, affordability and use of ICTs for women and girls (e.g. free Wi-Fi hubs, community technology centers)

Strengthened the provision of formal and technical vocational education and training (TVET) in media and ICTs, including in areas of management and leadership

(Functions of Education and Youth Affairs Bureau)

To encourage and support Macao residents' lifelong learning, to continuously enhance their personal qualities and skills, and to promote the sustainable development of the society, the Macao SAR Government has launched the "Continuing Education Development Plan" since 2011 to encourage residents to participate in continuing education, especially through participation in vocational training and achieving certifications to enhance personal literacy and skills. The relevant subsidy program is not differentiated by gender.

Take measures to enhance access, affordability and use of ICTs for women and girls (e.g. free Wi-Fi hubs, community technology centers)

(Functions of Post and Telecommunications Bureau)

The data shows that in 2017, the Internet access rate in Macao was 83.2%, and the Internet access rate for men and women was 83.2% and 83.1% respectively. In order to make it easier for Macao residents and visitors to enjoy free Wi-Fi service, the Macao SAR Government promotes free Wi-Fi service at "FreeWiFi.MO" in different locations in Macau and continues to expand the coverage of free Wi-Fi. In addition, telecommunications companies have launched the "Wi-Fi Bus + Internet" service, allowing passengers to enjoy free 30-minute wireless broadband service on the bus.

21. Do you track the proportion of national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

No

22. As a donor country, does your country track the proportion of official development assistance (ODA) that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

No

23. Does your country have a valid national strategy or action plan for gender equality?

Yes. In 2018, the Women and Children Affairs Committee proposed a program of “Macao Women Development Goals” to Macao SAR Government——the program aimed to raise women’ s situation, promote gender equality and protect female rights. The program worked out eight work priorities, namely, gender mainstreaming, women presence in decision-making, education and training, health care, social welfare, safety and law, economy, media and culture, along with 21 key policy goals and 79 execution measures.

24. Does your country have an action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (if a State party), or of the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review or other United Nations human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/ discrimination against women?

No

25. Is there a national human rights institution in your country?

No

26. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to build and sustain peace, promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implement the women, peace and security agenda?

- Adopted and/or implemented a National Action Plan on women, peace and security

In 2018, the Women and Children Affairs Committee proposed a program of “Macao Women Development Goals” to Macao SAR Government—the program aimed to raise women’s situation, promote gender equality and protect female rights. The program worked out eight work priorities, namely, gender mainstreaming, women presence in decision-making, education and training, health care, social welfare, safety and law, economy, media and culture, along with 21 key policy goals and 79 execution measures.

27. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase the leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response, at decision-making levels in situations of armed and other conflicts, and in fragile or crisis settings?

In the past 50 years, there was no war or conflict in Macao.

28. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to enhance judicial and non-judicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action and crisis response?

(We have no related materials)

29. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to eliminate discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child?

- Strengthened girls' access to quality education, skill development and training
- Implemented policies and programs to reduce and eradicate child, early and forced marriage

Strengthened girls' access to quality education, skill development and training
(Functions of Education and Youth Affairs Bureau)

Law No. 9/2006 on the "Non-Higher Education System Outline Law" establishes a legal framework for non-higher education systems, which clarifies equal access to education without discrimination and equal opportunities for pupils to enroll and learn successfully as government responsibility and establishes the general principles of the education system.

On the basis of the principle of equality between men and women, Macao implements compulsory, universal and free education. Since the school year of 2007/2008, 15 years of free non-higher education has been implemented, including formal education (children, primary and secondary education) and continuing education.

Implemented policies and programs to reduce and eradicate child, early and forced marriage
(Functions of the Legal Affairs Bureau)

According to the provisions of the Macao Civil Code, an adult who is at least 18 years of age can be married in accordance with the law. Minors who are under the age of 16 and under the age of 18 must be approved by the parent or guardian or approved by the court. The marriage depends on the wishes of both parties, and the meaning and marriage behavior made when in confusion is revocable. Under the law, there is no social problem causing by child marriage or forced marriage in Macao.

30. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives and concerns into environmental policies?

(Function of Environmental Protection Bureau)

31. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives into policies and programmers for disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation?

- Support women's participation and leadership, including those affected by disasters, in disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation policies, programs and projects

In 2018, the Macao SAR Government formulated the "Ten-year plan for disaster prevention and mitigation (2019-2028)" and established a civil defense structure. At the same time, various civil defense exercises were held to encourage residents to participate for better disaster prevention. On the other hand, government sets up a safe haven, facilities and materials, taking the needs of different genders into account.

32. What is your country's current national machinery for gender equality and the empowerment of women? Please name it and describe its location within the Government.

Women and Children's Affairs Committee was established under Administrative Regulation No. 27/2016, which serves as a monitoring and dialogue mechanism for policies and activities involving women and children. The chair of the committee is Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture and consists of eight government members and 20 representatives of non-governmental organizations from different sectors and outstanding members of the community.

33. Is the head of the national machinery a member of the institutional process for SDG implementation (e.g. inter-ministerial coordinating office, commission or committees)?

No.

34. Are there formal mechanisms in place for different stakeholders to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Yes.

- (1) Since 2018, the Macao SAR Government has joined the Chinese national delegation to participate in the annual meeting of the UN Women Status Commission.
- (2) The Women's Core Members Training Course, co-organized by the China Women's Federation and the Macao Women's Federation, and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macao SAR, will help women to participate in public affairs.
- (3) Many social groups often hold various training courses to train participants, including women, to understand current affairs and get involved.

a) *Which of the following stakeholders participate formally in national coordination mechanisms established to contribute to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?*

Beijing Declaration and PfA	2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's rights organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> Women's rights organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> Academia and think tanks	<input type="checkbox"/> Academia and think tanks
<input type="checkbox"/> Faith-based organizations	<input type="checkbox"/> Faith-based organizations
<input type="checkbox"/> Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/> Private sector

b) *Do you have mechanisms in place to ensure that women and girls from marginalized groups can participate and that their concerns are reflected in these processes?*

Yes.

(Functions of the Legal Affairs Bureau)

When the Macao SAR drafted a performance report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, it sought public opinions from the Macao residents. Any opinions submitted by any person, association or civil organization may be submitted to the government department for reference.

c) *Please describe how stakeholders have contributed to the preparation of the present national report.*

(We have no related materials)

35. Is gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls included as a key priority in the national plan/strategy for SDG implementation?

Yes.

The Macao SAR Government formulated the "Macao Special Administrative Region Five-Year Development Plan (2016-2020)", which has formulated strategies for environmental protection.

36. What are the top three areas in which your country has made the most progress over the past five years when it comes to gender statistics at a national level?

- Conducted new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- Developed a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics

Conducted new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)

Since 2008, the Committee for Women and Children Affairs had conducted the research on the “Status of Women in Macao”. In 2017, the fourth research of the “Status of Women in Macao” was conducted, which aimed to understand the status and development trends of women in Macao and to grasp their ways of life and values in a comprehensive and accurate manner.

In 2015, the Macao SAR Government commissioned an academic institution to conduct a survey on “Macau public attitudes towards the disabled and the knowledge on ‘Convention on the Rights of The Disabled’”.

Developed a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics

The Committee for Women and Children Affairs launched the “Macao Women's Database” in 2015, which collects official data on various departments of Macao SAR Government. The “Status of Women in Macao” was also conducted as mentioned above.

37. Out of the following, which are your country's top three priorities for strengthening national gender statistics over the next five years?

- Re-processing of existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- Production of knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)

Since 2008, the Committee for Women and Children Affairs had conducted the research on the “Status of Women in Macao”. In 2017, the fourth search of the “Status of Women in Macao” was conducted, which aimed to understand the status and development trends of women in Macao and to grasp their ways of life and values in a comprehensive and accurate manner.

Meanwhile, the “Macao Women's Database” was launched in 2015, which collects official data on various departments of Macao SAR Government; the preparation of “Macao Children’s Database” was started in 2018. The entire thematic database has covered seven basic areas related to children, including population, economics, health, crime, environment, educational development and protection.

38. Have you defined a national set of indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs?

No

If YES, how many indicators does it include and how many of those are gender-specific? (i.e., not part of the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework)?

If No, how many global gender-specific SDG indicators (list provided in Annex 1) are available in your country?

(There is no Annex 1 attached in the document)

39. Has data collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs begun?

Yes.

If YES, please describe which indicators have been prioritized

5.2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

Indicator 5.2.1: Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age

Indicator 5.2.2: Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence

5.5. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Indicator 5.5.1: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local governments

Indicator 5.5.2: Proportion of women in managerial positions

5.6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences

Indicator 5.6.2: Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15–49 access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education

Indicator 5.a.2: Proportion of countries where the legal framework (including customary law) guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control

5.b. Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

Indicator 5.b.1: Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

If NO, explain the main challenges for collecting and compiling data on these indicators

40. Which of the following disaggregation is routinely provided by major surveys in your country?

- Geographic location
- Income
- Sex age
- Education
- Marital status
- Disability