

Humanitarian Related GA and ECOSOC Documents

2003-2009

Gender Language



Summary

This compilation is designed to provide an analytical overview of gender language in humanitarian related documents of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. The compilation is organized thematically as well as chronologically. It represents four specific themes (Gender Mainstreaming, Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sex/Age Disaggregated Data, and Gender Based Violence) of gender language with documents from 2003 to December of 2009. This compilation uses the precise language found in United Nations GA and ECOSOC resolutions, decisions and reports.

The compilation and analysis is intended for Member States and UN entities, so that their work can be better supported by these legislative decisions. It can also be used as a tool for interaction with concerned governments and other relevant parties in strengthening better understanding of and support for incorporation of gender into humanitarian action. It can also be useful for other humanitarian practitioners as well as Member States who are interested in a concise presentation of the gender framework in ECOSOC and GA documents.

Gender Based Violence

Gender Based Violence chronologically moved from being something that is included as one of many human rights abuses in humanitarian crises to becoming considered as a “defining characteristic of contemporary armed conflict” (A/64/330). Over time the descriptions of preventative measures have become more detailed. In earlier documents, the focus was placed on taking reactionary measures and mentioning the need for preventative measures. In more recent documents, the preventative measures have been described more specifically. For example, the Secretary-General’s report on the Central Emergency Response Fund, included the introduction of fuel-saving stoves into IDP camps so that women do not have to dangerously venture outside of the IDP camps in order to collect firewood as a preventative measure. (A/64/327)

Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

The fact that PSEA only became prominent on the global agenda around 2002 along with the establishment of the IASC Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises is reflected in the gender language of GA and ECOSOC documents. By 2004, there is a clear commitment to incorporating language regarding PSEA into the humanitarian coordination legislative framework.

Sex and Age disaggregated Data

The use of sex and age disaggregated data is a tool for gender mainstreaming. By taking sex and age disaggregated data on specific programs, it is possible to systematically pinpoint areas in which gender mainstreaming could be fortified. For the most part documents that refer to sex and age disaggregated data are referring to it for the purposes of using this data in order to make humanitarian aid more efficient and successful.

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender Mainstreaming is the largest section of the compilation and the theme that overlaps the most with other themes. Gender Mainstreaming is used to combat Gender Based Violence and to support Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Gender Mainstreaming crosses over most heavily with Sex and Age Disaggregated Data because Sex and Age Disaggregated Data is a tool for Gender Mainstreaming. Over time, there is a noticeably growing trend in the multi-disciplinary nature of the documents in which it is mentioned. This shows that Gender Mainstreaming is emerging normatively in the sense that it is being mentioned across multiple sectors represented in ECOSOC and GA documents.

General Assembly Secretary General's Reports

Symbol	Title
A/64/313	Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence
A/61/224	The New International Humanitarian Order
A/64/331	International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development
A/64/176	Implementation of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel
A/64/327	Central Emergency Response Fund
A/64/218	Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
A/64/214	Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons
A/64/176	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
A/64/330	Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

General Assembly Resolutions

Symbol	Title
A/63/L.48	Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel
A/63/L.49	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

General Assembly Report of the Second Committee

Symbol	Title
A/63/414/Add.3	Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

General Assembly/ECOSOC Secretary General's Reports

Symbol	Title
A/64/84-E/2009/87	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
A/62/87 - E/2007/70	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
A/59/_E/2004	Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
A/58/89_E/2003/85	Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.
2004/50	Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations
A/63/75-E/2008/52	Assistance to the Palestinian people

ECOSOC Secretary General's Reports

Symbol	Title
E/2009/14	Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008

ECOSOC Decisions

Symbol	Title
2008/235	Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women

ECOSOC Resolutions

Symbol	Title
2008/37	Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010
2008/34	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2008/33	Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons
2008/18	Promoting full employment and decent work for all
2008/17	Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
2008/11	Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women
2008/10	Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti
2008/3	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society
E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	16. The United Nations country team has established a good partnership with other development organizations and is undertaking activities across key sectors. The United Nations supports the non-governmental organization Sevota, which assists women and girl survivors of the 1994 genocide in the Kamonyi district (Southern Province) by conducting training and sensitization programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention, prevention of gender-based violence, rehabilitation of victims, gender and development, income-generating activities, sexual and reproductive health, and family planning . With United Nations support, Sevota has assisted 100 women genocide survivors to pay medical insurance fees and undertake income-generating activities such as production of handicrafts and small livestock farming.
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	Gender mainstreaming	24. Further areas of support include enhancing housing and associated amenities for vulnerable groups such as orphans, widows, returnees and the internally displaced. Assistance is also provided for livelihood initiatives, for orphans and vulnerable children, for protection against gender-based violence, and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive social and economic policies in favour of the poor and disadvantaged
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	23. Within the overall framework of support, interventions for genocide survivors include improving access to justice and witness protection programmes; promoting the participation of children, young people and women in the democratic process, including in decision-making at the national and local levels; providing alternative and complementary education for out-of-school children; enhancing the retention rates at primary, secondary and tertiary levels; expanding the school feeding system in food insecure areas; improving access to quality preventive, curative, promotional and rehabilitative services, especially to victims of sexual violence , HIV-positive persons, children and women; enhancing trauma and psychological programmes; and promoting effective safety nets for the protection of the most vulnerable groups.
The New International Humanitarian Order A/61/224	GA	2006	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	2. IBHI is preparing a number of reports concerning the proposed agenda for humanitarian action and related humanitarian issues, as mentioned in its last contribution to the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/554). The Bureau is also determined to bring basic human rights instruments relating to subjects such as women , children and minorities to the knowledge of the general public through the translation, publication and dissemination of such documentation in local and national languages, in view of the fact that more than half of the world's population cannot read documents in most of the official United Nations languages. If people know what their human rights and freedoms are recognized to be, the spirit of democracy would have an additional chance of gaining ground, and vulnerable groups, such as women and minorities, would get a powerful weapon in their struggle for a better life .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	disasters also exacerbate existing gender inequalities and reinforce the disparity between women and men in terms of their vulnerability to disasters and a changing climate and their ability to cope with them . The majority of those who die as a result of natural disasters are women . Women often have less access to essential resources for disaster preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation . In poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, the responsibilities of women in the family make them more vulnerable to environmental change, which can be exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The contribution of women to disaster risk reduction has also been underestimated. Due to their traditional roles and relevant knowledge of the environment, the participation of women in decision-making is invaluable in developing disaster risk reduction strategies. The International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2009 in Beijing, resulted in an increased understanding of the link between gender and dis
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.
Implementation of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel A/64/176	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	Summary The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 62/214, and provides an update on action taken and progress to implement the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel receive appropriate assistance and support in a timely manner, in the form of medical care, legal services, support for psychological and social care and immediate material care, including food, clothing and shelter, as necessary. The report provides information on the approach adopted to implement the Strategy, discusses ongoing activities at country and agency levels, identifies challenges and lessons learned and recommends the way forward to fully achieve the goals of the Strategy.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	11. The humanitarian situation of Nepal, one of the most vulnerable countries in the Asian and Pacific region, deteriorated in October 2008 when conflict, displacement and chronic poverty were exacerbated by rising food insecurity and severe flooding. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) intervened in the acute emergency phase to provide essential reproductive health services, genderbased violence screening and HIV/AIDS awareness for internally displaced persons and refugees in the flood-affected areas . In addition to establishing a mobile clinic, UNFPA distributed reproductive health equipment, drugs and supplies, as well as hygiene kits. Approximately 5,000 individuals, 70 per cent of them women, received medical and reproductive health services and gender-based violence counselling. Activities provided under projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund were supplemented by UNFPA core resources and programmes. All relief activities were guided by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's gender handbook and guidelines on gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	13. In August 2008, an influx of Somali refugees into the eastern part of Ethiopia strained that country's ability to provide safe refuge. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) received \$1.5 million from the Fund to address vital needs of newly arriving refugees, including support to open two new camps (Aw Barre and Shedder). Approximately 1,700 new shelters were constructed and, since most refugees had crossed the border without any belongings, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, soap, sanitary napkins, cooking stoves and fuel, blankets, nets and jerrycans were distributed. The provision of fuel-saving stoves had a special impact on the lives of women and girls, as they no longer had to travel outside of the camp to collect firewood, which previously had exposed them to harmful situations, such as sexual and gender-based violence.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	44. The importance of gender mainstreaming is increasingly acknowledged within the humanitarian community and is prioritized in the context of the Central Emergency Response Fund. Gender mainstreaming is encouraged with all humanitarian agencies that receive funding from, and in all Central Emergency Response Fund projects funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines and tools on mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action have been used in implementing many projects. In order to promote greater gender equity in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund, the 2008 reporting requirements were updated to include, among other things, gender disaggregated data and information on how gender mainstreaming was incorporated in each project at the country level. Information provided in the reports will enable a more comprehensive effort to be made to mainstream gender in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	Summary The present report, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/159, provides information on the extent to which intergovernmental bodies paid attention to gender perspectives . As requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/9, the report also contains an assessment of the impact of the input of the Commission on the Status of Women on discussions within the United Nations system.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	66. The review of documentation before, and outcomes of, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council indicated that attention to gender equality was incorporated across a wide range of policy areas, although coverage was not systematic and content varied widely in terms of depth of attention . Systematic attention to the gender dimensions of all issues under consideration by the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, including in outcomes, is critical to move the global policy agenda on gender equality forward and guide implementation .
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and GBV	67. A number of important issues concerning gender equality, women's rights and the empowerment of women and girls were addressed by the General Assembly , the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies during the past year and contributed to a strengthening of the global policy framework on gender equality. The issue most consistently addressed across different agenda items was violence against women, including trafficking in women and girls . Other areas, in which attention was more systematically drawn to gender equality and women's rights included decent work, and peace, security and humanitarian assistance . Intergovernmental bodies expressed concern that, owing to discrimination and gender inequality, women continue to be disproportionately affected by poverty, hunger, food insecurity, disasters and crisis .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	68. The need to improve mainstreaming of gender equality in policy development, programme planning and monitoring and reporting was stressed across agenda items, including through improved use of sex-disaggregated data, gender-sensitive indicators and gender-responsive budgeting . 69. In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, concerns were raised about the limited progress made on Goal 5. It was also noted that progress on Goal 3 is dependent on the extent to which the actions taken to achieve the other Millennium Development Goals are designed to promote the equality of women and men . A review proposed for 2010 to assess progress towards the targets and goals of the Millennium Development Goals set for 2015 provides an opportunity to address gaps in implementation.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	70. A number of other intergovernmental events in 2010 will provide opportunities to assess progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and in accelerating actions to address outstanding challenges . At its fifty-fourth session, the Commission on the Status of Women will conduct the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, focused on overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals. The theme of the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council is “Implementing the internationally agreed development goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women ”. The Economic and Social Council Development Cooperation Forum will also have a focus on gender equality. A high-level event for the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) will examine ways to further enhance implementation and accountability on women, peace and security .
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	71. Taking into account the critical role of intergovernmental bodies in promoting and monitoring progress in achievement of global commitments on gender equality, including through implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy , the General Assembly may wish to: (a) Request that reports submitted to the General Assembly, and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies facilitate gendersensitive policy development, through qualitative gender analysis, sexdisaggregated data, and concrete recommendations for further action ; (b) Ensure that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of all United Nations conferences, summits and high-level meetings, including in documentation, interactive events and outcomes ; (c) Request the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions to increase efforts to mainstream gender perspectives across agenda items and in their respective follow-ups to United Nations conferences and summits, including through the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum; (d) Encourage increased efforts to enhance accountability for implementation of gender-equality commitments (e) Encourage Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and other relevant

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

<p>Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87</p>	<p>ECOSOC</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>GBV and gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data</p>	<p>B. Improving coordination, harmonizing response and strengthening capacities for providing support to survivors of gender-based violence 60. Humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of women and girls — and occasionally that of men and boys — to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence. Improvements have been made in coordination and protection, addressing impunity and providing multi-sectoral support to survivors. Additional efforts are required to ensure that humanitarian actors mainstream gender into all operations, including improved collection and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data. A review of projects in consolidated appeals for 23 post-conflict countries during the period 2006-2008 indicated that 2.3 per cent of them addressed gender issues — either by including women as major beneficiaries or by addressing gender-based violence. This figure suggests a significant shortfall and a need for more effective measures to track gender funding.</p>
<p>Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87</p>	<p>ECOSOC</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>GBV</p>	<p>61. While humanitarian actors have observed that gender-based violence coordination has improved, a further assessment of current gender-based violence coordination structures is ongoing. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations has developed a Comprehensive Strategy for Combating Sexual Violence, supported by United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. This strategy has helped to address gaps and maximize the use of resources and therefore should be replicated in similar situations. In Myanmar, the Women's Protection Working Group has coordinated programme planning in response to Cyclone Nargis. In the Sudan, the presence of senior-level gender-based violence coordinators in each Darfur state has strengthened gender-based violence programming, despite lack of cooperation from the Sudanese Government. A field guide on how to improve gender-based violence coordination is currently being developed.</p>
<p>Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87</p>	<p>ECOSOC</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters' capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data.</p>
<p>Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87</p>	<p>ECOSOC</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data</p>	<p>63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence, the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence, including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance.</p>

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	91. WFP's recent evaluation of its "Gender Policy (2003–2007): Enhanced Commitments to Women" confirmed that WFP has laid strong foundations for gender mainstreaming by enhancing the visibility and inclusion of women. In line with the recommendations, WFP is developing a new gender policy for Board approval in 2009 that builds on the strengths of the past policies and strategies, while addressing remaining challenges. These include gender-related protection issues in relation to food distributions , and the gender dimensions of HIV and AIDS. Priority actions also include capacity development and accountability in line with the United Nations system-wide policy and strategy on gender mainstreaming (CEB/2006/2).
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, GBV	93. WFP continues to participate in various United Nations task forces as part of inter-agency efforts to respond to gender issues, including gender-based violence. Through the United Nations Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , ⁶ WFP has contributed to the development of the General Assembly resolution on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) ⁷ and to the SEA tools repository. WFP also participates in the United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict ("UN Action") and was co-chair with UNHCR and the Women's Commission of the Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings (SAFE). The SAFE Task Force has developed guidance on fuel efficiency and a matrix on agency roles and responsibilities regarding fuel in humanitarian settings.
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	94. At the launch in February 2008 of the Secretary-General's intensified campaign to end violence against women , WFP made a commitment to increase capacity-building in protection in WFP operations. Training, which targets WFP staff and partners, including governments, has been given in ten country offices; it will be rolled out to another 20 in 2009.
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	46. Based on their assessment of the situation, the seven thematic special procedures formulated eight priority objectives and identified technical assistance needs in that regard 4. Protecting women's rights and ensuring gender equality;
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	50. The Representative is concerned about the recruitment of displaced children and instances of gender-based violence at internally displaced person sites, and the high level of crime that occurs with complete impunity and which is perpetrated against internally displaced persons as well as humanitarian actors. The Government of Chad needs to do everything necessary to restore and reinforce without delay a State presence at all levels in the areas affected by displacement, in particular a judicial system, a police presence and basic services, such as education, health care and economic reintegration. Mechanisms for conflict resolution and reconciliation among local communities also need to be strengthened.
Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel A/63/L.48	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	<i>Strongly condemning</i> acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children , and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	6. The Commission also reaffirms that States have primary responsibility for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, that gender mainstreaming and national machineries are necessary and play a critical role in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and that, in order for national machineries to be effective, a strong institutional framework with clear mandates, location at the highest possible level, accountability mechanisms, partnership with civil society, a transparent political process, adequate financial and human resources and continued strong political commitment are crucial
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	8. The Commission also recognizes the importance of gender mainstreaming as a tool for achieving gender equality and, to that end, the need to promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender.
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	9. The Commission reaffirms that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential for advancing development, peace and security, and stresses that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development.
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	19. The Commission expresses its concern about the under-resourcing in the area of gender equality in the United Nations system, including at the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women, and stresses the need for more effective tracking of resources allocated to and spent on enhancing gender equality and the empowerment of women across the United Nations system, including on gender mainstreaming.
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	21. (m) Improve, systematize and fund the collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated and gender-related data, including data disaggregated by age and other factors and data on women's contribution to the care economy, and develop necessary input, output and outcome indicators at all levels to measure progress in financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women, in particular in introducing and implementing gender-responsive approaches to public finance;
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	21. (t) Encourage the integration of gender perspectives in aid modalities and efforts to enhance aid delivery mechanisms;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	21. (v) Encourage international financial institutions to continue to take gender perspectives into account in the design of loans, grants, projects, programmes and strategies;
Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 2008/37	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 7. <i>Expresses its deep concern</i> that the number of people living in extreme poverty remains significantly high in the least developed countries, while an increasing number of people are at risk of malnutrition, in particular children and women, and recognizes that there are important linkages between development, poverty eradication and gender equality ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP6: Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner , and taking note of the updated policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 14. Urges Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies , calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence , and also calls for a more effective response in this regard;
Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system 2008/34	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 4. (g) To enhance collaboration and coordination in the work of gender specialists and gender focal points working, inter alia, in the areas of peace and security, humanitarian affairs and economic and social development;
Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons 2008/33	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	OP 5. Calls upon Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons ;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 19. <i>Stresses</i> that policies and strategies for achieving full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration of social groups, such as youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 20. Also stresses that these policies and strategies should promote gender equality, empowerment of women and better possibilities for all to reconcile work and private and family life;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 21. Encourages Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers , to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work , and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value ;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. Stresses the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices such as those promoted by the Global Compact, and invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings ; and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development 2008/17	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. Further welcomes the efforts made by African countries and regional and sub regional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership ;
Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women 2008/11	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 6. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women , ¹⁸ in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action ¹⁹ and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti 2008/10	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Notes</i> the progress made by the Government of Haiti in terms of gender equality , and also notes the importance of gender equality as a necessary dimension of any strategy for development ;
Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 4. Notes that the gender divide still persists in respect of the quality and variety of means of access to the Internet and information and communications technologies in the building of the information society in both developed and developing countries;

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Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 12. Recommends that all States strive for gender equality in access to the Internet and in building the information society in both developed and developing countries, by ensuring the inclusion of the gender approach in information and communications technology policies in national strategies;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	PP. 8 <i>Noting with grave concern</i> that violence, including gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 23. <i>Urges</i> all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity in support services to victims of such violence;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. As the cluster approach continues to be implemented in new and ongoing emergencies, it will require strengthened accountability and expertise, improved working arrangements and streamlined tools that integrate gender, HIV/AIDS and environment into overall response. An external evaluation of the clusters currently under way aims to evaluate cluster performance based on its ultimate aim: delivering more timely, predictable and effective humanitarian response to populations in need.
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. A number of United Nations agencies and programmes dedicated some of their resources to issues related to HIV/AIDS. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) focused on women's and girls' vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases, conducting intensive awareness training on issues of gender and HIV/AIDS. UNFPA worked on strengthening the National AIDS Committee to spearhead and guide the response to HIV/AIDS in the West Bank and Gaza; it also focused on national capacity-building in the areas of reproductive health, population, gender and psychosocial care. UNFPA sought to make reproductive health services accessible to all through the provision of emergency obstetric care and outreach services to isolated communities.

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Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	38. UNIFEM focused its activities on documenting and advocating against abuses of Palestinian women's human rights; providing forums for discussion; supporting toll-free help lines operated by qualified counsellors; and promoting legal literacy and aid for rural women. The agency supported a programme of legal aid and health assistance to Palestinian female prisoners in Israeli detention . UNIFEM focused on the mobilization of 18 community-based women's centres in rural areas, directly benefiting 25,000 women. UNFPA, together with its national partners, complemented these activities by working towards creating community-based initiatives that enable women to protect themselves from gender-based violence . Its activities in that regard included a national conference on combating gender-based violence in cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs. UNFPA arranged training and psychosocial services provided at mobile health clinics, community sessions on gender-based violence , campaigns and the distribution of information materials and female hygiene kits .
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	40. A gender adviser was deployed through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Capacity Standby Project to make recommendations to humanitarian agencies on improving humanitarian assistance to Palestinian women . This mission was supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, with assistance from UNFPA and UNIFEM. The World Food Programme (WFP) targeted food delivery to women wherever possible and also provided human rights training within its food-for-training initiative in the Gaza Strip.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. Beyond Gaza, UNICEF, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, focused on improving enrolment and achievement, ensuring equity in terms of gender , geographical location and special needs.....UNIFEM conducted a pilot academic counselling initiative, targeting rural girls and women .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	43. During the reporting period, the cluster approach has been implemented in 12 out of 26 countries where resident and humanitarian coordinators are in place. This number will increase in 2008 as more coordinators introduce the cluster approach to improve coordination in preparedness exercises and ongoing emergency response operations. In Pakistan and Mozambique the approach was used for the second time in response to floods. The cluster approach was immediately implemented in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis. An independent evaluation conducted in 2007 indicated that clusters have successfully addressed response gaps and improved strategic planning and preparedness at the field level. The evaluation, however, identified the need to better mainstream gender , HIV/AIDS, environmental concerns and early recovery and to strengthen the clusters' accountability to stakeholders, including national Governments and beneficiaries. To further support the global humanitarian response capacity, an appeal was launched in 2007 requesting \$63 million. To date, only 53 per cent of that amount has been raised.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	60. The significance of mainstreaming gender equality in humanitarian operations to ensure a more effective response has been increasingly recognized by policymakers and practitioners. In 2006, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee launched a five-point strategic plan guided by its 1999 gender policy statement, subsequently leading to an updated Committee policy on gender equality in humanitarian action which was endorsed in May 2008. Additionally, the coalition " United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Crisis " was launched in 2007 to harmonize the United Nations system's response to sexual violence in emergencies . It comprises 12 United Nations entities and supports field-level activities in several countries, including the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. The 2007 IASC gender policy review indicated that progress has been achieved. For example, a gender handbook was published to guide humanitarian actors in ensuring that the different needs of women, girls, boys and men are addressed. Eleven gender advisors have been deployed to the field as part of a newly created gender capacity roster to support gender mainstreaming in countrylevel programming. Preliminary evaluations indicate that gender capacity rosters can significantly improve humanitarian response.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	62. The policy review called for enhanced coordination among humanitarian actors in gender equality programming , including ensuring the equal participation of women , girls, boys and men in all aspects of humanitarian response. It is also fundamental to gender equality to ensure that women and girls are provided with equal opportunities for capacity-building and employment. It is imperative that humanitarian actors report sex- and age-disaggregated data to better inform decision-making, and that accountability mechanisms for mainstreaming gender equality be strengthened.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	PSEA and GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors .
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	"16. Recognizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes;

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Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	"Recognizing also the need to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk reduction management, with a view to reducing vulnerability,
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	17. Recognizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes, and encourages the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue to increase the promotion of gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women ;
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	24. Chad is host to some 325,000 refugees, including 12,000 new arrivals from Darfur in the east of the country and some 10,000 more from the Central African Republic in the south of the country, during 2008. The number of IDPs in eastern Chad stood at 166,000. Eastern Chad has a resource-scarce environment. As a result, most refugees and IDPs were entirely dependent on international aid, while host communities also needed support. The security situation remained volatile. The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons voiced his concern about the grave human rights violations committed against displaced people, including forced recruitment of children by armed groups and sexual and gender-based violence . Armed groups compromised the civilian character of the refugee and IDP camps, while violence and insecurity hampered aid operations and led to the temporary evacuation of humanitarian staff
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	29. Despite these challenges, United Nations organizations endeavoured to deliver assistance and improve protection. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) forces were deployed and community watch systems were set up to ensure the civilian character of IDP camps. UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence , offering psychosocial, legal and medical assistance to affected women and girls . In the east, the health cluster mobilized 37 humanitarian organizations to reactivate and re-equip some 1,400 health facilities, with the support of almost 5,000 national health staff and community workers.

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Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. Sexual and gender-based violence is one of the defining characteristics of contemporary armed conflict. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been subjected to this particular form of violence, which is often aimed at destroying the social fabric of a community. According to a recent study of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in the Central African Republic 15 per cent of the women and girls living in the crisis zones have been subjected to sexual violence , with new cases of rape being reported each week. In Burundi, WHO has reported that 9 per cent of returnee women who responded to a survey on sexual violence had been sexually abused . This type of violence is often higher in refugee and IDP camps. UNHCR and many other United Nations agencies working in Africa have taken steps to prevent and counter sexual and gender-based violence , including by setting up referral systems to ensure an adequate response to help survivors.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	62. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and OHCHR supported a comprehensive programme to provide victims with medical and psychosocial assistance. The programme also seeks to end the impunity of perpetrators by strengthening prosecutions and the rule of law. UNFPA distributed life-saving post-rape treatment kits in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and the Sudan. In Somalia, UNICEF has helped set up a confidential caseworker referral system for women and children .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	63. In several countries, the United Nations sought to engage men and boys in the struggle against sexual and gender-based violence . Special workshops, training and awareness campaigns were organized to emphasize the positive role men and boys could play in preventing and countering sexual and gender-based violence .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	21. Fighting between Government forces and irregular armed groups, combined with widespread banditry, has severely affected civilians in the north of the Central African Republic, where populations have been subject to human rights abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence , forced recruitment, kidnapping and looting of property. The number of IDPs rose to 197,000 and tens of thousands of civilians sought asylum in neighbouring Chad, Cameroon and the Sudan. The total number of Central African refugees now stands at 104,000.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	23. The situation in eastern Chad has worsened markedly along the volatile border with Darfur where cross-border movements of armed groups, militia clashes, acts of banditry and general impunity affected the safety and security of 250,000 refugees from Darfur, 186,000 Chadian IDPs and the host communities. The presence of armed elements in and around refugee camps and IDP sites, forced recruitment of adults and children, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence , food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty are all pressing humanitarian concerns. Compounding this situation, the depletion of natural resources continued to be a serious source of tension between displaced populations and local communities.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	59. United Nations entities and their partners took steps to coordinate their actions to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence , notably through the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict joint initiative. In Darfur, much of the work of OHCHR involved documenting cases of gender-based violence against women and girls who had been sexually assaulted by State and non-State actors. In the Congo, UNHCR maintained 51 drop-in centres and conducted awareness sessions for about 3,000 individuals in Loukolela and Betou areas. United Nations entities, including UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Human Rights/United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and their partners reinforced activities to combat sexual and gender-based violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where shocking incidents occurred with impunity. Activities included a major sensitization campaign, reinforced health response and the training of legal officers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	60. The establishment of sexual and gender-based violence standard operating procedures, which ensure that systems are maintained for effective prevention and response, has brought tangible results. In Burundi, 96 per cent of the 300 survivors who reported sexual and gender-based violence in returnee areas received adequate medical, legal and psychosocial support.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. UNFPA has provided essential life-saving post-rape treatment kits in numerous displacement settings and undertaken training for the clinical management of rape victims in several African countries. Despite these efforts, the problem of sexual and gender-based violence is still widespread in many conflict zones.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2007	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	44. United Nations humanitarian organizations are also seeking to improve standby capacities through the clusters, by staffing and training emergency staff and by working with existing Government standby arrangements, such as United Nations Disaster and Coordination, to provide support to country teams for initiating clusters in a sudden-onset emergency. (...) A gender standby capacity has been established to deploy experts to work with clusters on gender equality programming .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	52. Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Sexual violence, a form of gender-based violence that includes any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature , is the most common type of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and is often life-threatening . Non-sexual forms of gender-based violence , such as female genital mutilation; forced early marriage; honour killings; and domestic violence are also prevalent. Women and girls of all ages make up the majority of the victims; however, men and boys are also both direct and indirect victims.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	53. Ending gender-based violence is the primary responsibility of States, as enshrined in national and international legal instruments. However, gender-based violence in humanitarian crises remains a significant and growing concern. Gender-based violence has reached epidemic proportions in conflict settings, where it is commonly used as a deliberate tactic of war to destabilize populations, destroy community bonds and humiliate victims and their families. Gender-based violence is also prevalent in the aftermath of disasters, where mass displacement disrupts government and community structures, and where a breakdown in the rule of law often ensues. In situations of armed conflict, The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols provide specific protections for women and girls. ¹² With respect to other humanitarian emergency situations, gender-based violence is covered by human rights law ¹³ and may fall within the framework of several statutes, conventions and declarations. ¹⁴ Many, but not all, forms of GBV are codified as illegal and criminal acts in national laws and policies.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	54. Ending gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies requires efforts that prevent and deter its use in settings of war and displacement, mitigate the collateral effects within communities in post-crisis situations and provide appropriate support to survivors. Prevention activities include ensuring that physical protection measures are in place and enforced. Such measures may include police training, community implementation of safe food distribution, camp management and fuel collection strategies and public awareness campaigns. Support to survivors includes assistance and protection initiatives such as the establishment of women's community support centres in Western Darfur; the training of national health staff in clinical management of rape survivors in Kenya, Uganda and West Africa; and the implementation of a multi-sectoral programme supporting 10,000 rape survivors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Such initiatives require the participation of government, when possible, United Nations, international and national NGOs and donors. Using the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	55. Despite repeated condemnations of such violence in numerous international forums, gender-based violence persists virtually unchallenged in many areas. Some governments fail to acknowledge the magnitude of the problem, provide effective physical protection or allow access to treatment. Victims are publicly shamed or imprisoned, survivors and staff providing assistance are harassed and intimidated and perpetrators go unpunished. The lack of a functioning police or judicial system in some humanitarian emergency settings, combined with fears of social reprisals, allow such crimes to take place without consequence. Fighting such impunity should begin with State efforts to review, strengthen and enforce effective legal, judicial and community mechanisms that recognize, report and punish such acts as crimes and that ensure the compensation, protection and support to survivors.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	56. Fighting impunity also includes ending the sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by some UN personnel. A recent study on the exploitation of children in Liberia sadly reported abuses by UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers . ¹⁵ The United Nations has taken a number of steps to address the problem. These include developing and disseminating standards of conduct, conducting training, introducing clearer reporting mechanisms and developing a policy for assistance to victims. Contracts have been changed for different categories of personnel to incorporate required standards of behaviour. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has been working closely with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to improve investigative capacity, the recording and tracking of cases and follow-up with Member States for allegations involving troops or police. Work has also started on improving mechanisms for managerial accountability. While different policies and measures have been introduced, implementation is still slow.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	56. Sexual and gender-based violence continues to be used as a weapon of war as women, girls — and some men and boys — are beaten, raped and humiliated as a means of asserting power, breaking community ties and degrading human dignity. The prevailing culture of impunity in many situations further reinforces these developments. Survivors and victims of such attacks often suffer from serious health consequences and rejection by the community; economic exclusion and social constraints often dissuade victims from seeking or receiving help. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by peacekeeping or humanitarian personnel in crises is also an issue of grave concern, but one where allegations of such conduct have prompted action by the United Nations and the humanitarian community.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	57. The Economic and Social Council has consistently raised these issues, although with varying impact. Though the Council called upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to sexual violence and to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice, such a directive has not translated into either preventive or punitive measures on the part of States. The role the Council has played on the issue of sexual exploitation on the part of United Nations humanitarian and military staff , however, has been a positive one, reinforcing the specific actions already under way and lending support and momentum to important policy processes. For example, when efforts were under way to implement the standards developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, it was important to have the strong language in Council resolutions when developing the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures against sexual exploitation and abuse and when following up with the United Nations system and with NGOs on adopting standards developed by the Standing Committee as part of their own codes of conduct.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	58. The use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon of war is a worrying, enduring problem that should remain firmly on the intergovernmental humanitarian agenda. Ending the culture of impunity that allows such violence to occur should be consistently reinforced by Member States. There is also a need for the more determined engagement of Government with civil society and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to help societies mitigate the effects of such violence, including in the field of health education. Keeping the issue of sexual exploitation of humanitarian staff on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council will continue to be important in continually reinforcing ongoing efforts being undertaken by the system.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs. They can also mobilize or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence the capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advances made in the needs assessment process.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men, and on girls and boys, need to continually inform programme design.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the United Nations has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the United Nations and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff. ³ The bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries of assistance, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse, and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The United Nations will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the Democratic Republic of the Congo suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations . To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's bulletin in the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel. Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	7. The protection of civilians in armed conflict continues to be a priority issue across the United Nations system. To a large extent, humanitarian crises are in fact crises of protection. Effective implementation of the principles of protection and international human rights and humanitarian standards requires strengthened coordination on a wide range of issues, including the proliferation of small arms and landmines, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, security, law and order, sexual exploitation of women and children in conflict , the rights and special needs of refugees and internally displaced persons and the restorative justice issues of impunity and property rights.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	14. [...] Inadequate property rights and insecure access to land can exacerbate a returnee's level of vulnerability . Women in traditional societies are particularly affected. The fact that they are often discriminated against in terms of inheritance rights and access to property and as a result are deprived of an economic base, leads to poverty for themselves and their children.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	18. The need for greater integration of a gender perspective into emergency humanitarian assistance continues to be an important challenge confronting the United Nations, its humanitarian partners and Member States. IASC and its constituent members have developed a range of policies, strategies and guidelines aimed at ensuring that the issue of gender perspectives and the needs, priorities and experience of women and girls are consistently addressed by all personnel involved in humanitarian operations. The challenge remains of ensuring full implementation and utilization of those methods and tools. Concrete measures aimed at systematically integrating a gender perspective into the full range of emergency operations, from their initial stages, are critical to the effective targeting of emergency humanitarian assistance on the ground. Of particular concern is the need for enhanced protection capacities for women and girls in refugee and IDP camps. Integration of a gender perspective is equally vital to the effectiveness of postconflict reconstruction processes. It is essential that efforts to mainstream gender recognize women not only as victims of complex emergencies, but
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	19. The problem of sexual exploitation and abuse remains one of the most pressing issues arising in complex emergencies and armed conflicts. In July 2002, IASC adopted the Plan of Action prepared by the Task Force on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in humanitarian Crises , which established six core principles representing minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff members. A draft Secretary-General's bulletin that will further institutionalize the six core principles through their incorporation into the codes of conduct and staff rules and regulations of all member organizations is currently being finalized. The Task Force is continuing to work on appropriate disciplinary procedures to be followed in the event of a breach of these principles. Several Member States are formally adopting policies requiring incorporation of the core principles into their own agreements with operational partners, as encouraged by the Plan of Action. Humanitarian agencies outside the United Nations system are engaged in similar efforts to adopt or revise their
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	20. Efforts to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises need to be reinforced by concrete action on the part of Member States if they are to be truly effective. The incorporation of the core principles into standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces, and the insistence by donor countries that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding, would facilitate this goal considerably. Another important measure for Member States would be to apply appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and to report to the Security Council on the action taken.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	30. For those countries affected by the combination of famine and HIV/AIDS, sustainable recovery is undermined owing to the breakdown of family support networks, decline in production and loss of income leading to greater impoverishment. Of particular concern is the fact that HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women and girls, who globally account for more than 50 per cent of new HIV infections. In Africa, women also account for 70 per cent of the agricultural labour force and are responsible for 80 per cent of the food production.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Encourage humanitarian agencies to coordinate, consolidate and promote a gender perspective in all humanitarian assistance activities and to implement existing policies, tools and guidelines on gender mainstreaming;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	(f) Urge Member States to use the “core principles” in their standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces and to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation and, similarly, urge donor countries to insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection , taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 10. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of existing policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective in the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 11. <i>Welcomes</i> the establishment by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the six core principles in the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , representing minimum standards of behaviour required of all United Nations civilian staff members, and urges the United Nations to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation by humanitarian workers;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 12. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, PSEA	<i>Summary</i> This report addresses the theme of “Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges”. It examines some of the key humanitarian developments and challenges of the last year. Some of the key issues addressed relate to natural disaster management and the challenges of obtaining sustainable humanitarian access to populations affected by conflict. Developments on key humanitarian policy initiatives are also highlighted. They include updates on efforts to strengthen policies and actions related to the transition from relief to development, gender and humanitarian action, humanitarian financing and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises .
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	10. There is serious cause for concern that sexual abuse and sexual violence are increasingly becoming weapons of war . In the eastern DRC, sexual violence against women and minors continues to be widespread. A network of local and international structures has been formed to address this problem through legal and therapeutic means as well as through advocacy with both military and civil authorities. In Burundi, many women and girls have been subjected to rape and appalling acts of sexual violence , with many of the victims infected by HIV/AIDS. In northern Uganda, the persistent abduction of children and adolescents adds a further tragic dimension to what has become a forgotten conflict. Among those abducted are teenage girls, who are beaten and forced to be sexual slaves and fighters . It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 abductees are being held by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs . They can also mobilise or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans (CHAPs) and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP , gender issues were integrated in the new CAP NAFM with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advancements made in the needs assessment process.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men as well as girls and boys need to continually inform programme design.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the UN has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the UN and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all UN civilian staff. The Bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the Bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse , and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The UN will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the Bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the DRC suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations. To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's Bulletin into the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel . Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Humanitarian organisations should strengthen their efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian activities.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	(g) Member States should consider ways to ensure that efforts within the UN system to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in armed conflict are reinforced by concrete actions to promote similar standards of behaviour for uniformed personnel serving under UN auspices.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	PP 16. <i>Gravely concerned</i> that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys , continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance , and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance ;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	GBV	OP 33. <i>Strongly condemns</i> all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse , and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 36. <i>Encourages</i> the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement internal tools and to take effective measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and, in this respect, notes with interest the Secretary- General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 37. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;
Gender Mainstreaming					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	Gender mainstreaming	24. Further areas of support include enhancing housing and associated amenities for vulnerable groups such as orphans, widows, returnees and the internally displaced. Assistance is also provided for livelihood initiatives, for orphans and vulnerable children, for protection against gender-based violence, and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive social and economic policies in favour of the poor and disadvantaged

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

<p>The New International Humanitarian Order A/61/224</p>	<p>GA</p>	<p>2006</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>2. IBHI is preparing a number of reports concerning the proposed agenda for humanitarian action and related humanitarian issues, as mentioned in its last contribution to the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/554). The Bureau is also determined to bring basic human rights instruments relating to subjects such as women, children and minorities to the knowledge of the general public through the translation, publication and dissemination of such documentation in local and national languages, in view of the fact that more than half of the world's population cannot read documents in most of the official United Nations languages. If people know what their human rights and freedoms are recognized to be, the spirit of democracy would have an additional chance of gaining ground, and vulnerable groups, such as women and minorities, would get a powerful weapon in their struggle for a better life.</p>
<p>International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331</p>	<p>GA</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>9. While poor populations generally suffer the greatest losses during and after natural disasters, the effects of disasters also exacerbate existing gender inequalities and reinforce the disparity between women and men in terms of their vulnerability to disasters and a changing climate and their ability to cope with them. The majority of those who die as a result of natural disasters are women. Women often have less access to essential resources for disaster preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation. In poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, the responsibilities of women in the family make them more vulnerable to environmental change, which can be exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The contribution of women to disaster risk reduction has also been underestimated. Due to their traditional roles and relevant knowledge of the environment, the participation of women in decision-making is invaluable in developing disaster risk reduction strategies. The International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2009 in Beijing, resulted in an increased understanding of the link between gender and disaster risk reduction.</p>
<p>Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327</p>	<p>GA</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data</p>	<p>44. The importance of gender mainstreaming is increasingly acknowledged within the humanitarian community and is prioritized in the context of the Central Emergency Response Fund. Gender mainstreaming is encouraged with all humanitarian agencies that receive funding from, and in all Central Emergency Response Fund projects funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines and tools on mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action have been used in implementing many projects. In order to promote greater gender equity in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund, the 2008 reporting requirements were updated to include, among other things, gender disaggregated data and information on how gender mainstreaming was incorporated in each project at the country level. Information provided in the reports will enable a more comprehensive effort to be made to mainstream gender in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund.</p>

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	Summary The present report, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/159, provides information on the extent to which intergovernmental bodies paid attention to gender perspectives . As requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/9, the report also contains an assessment of the impact of the input of the Commission on the Status of Women on discussions within the United Nations system.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	66. The review of documentation before, and outcomes of, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council indicated that attention to gender equality was incorporated across a wide range of policy areas, although coverage was not systematic and content varied widely in terms of depth of attention . Systematic attention to the gender dimensions of all issues under consideration by the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, including in outcomes, is critical to move the global policy agenda on gender equality forward and guide implementation .
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and GBV	67. A number of important issues concerning gender equality, women's rights and the empowerment of women and girls were addressed by the General Assembly , the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies during the past year and contributed to a strengthening of the global policy framework on gender equality. The issue most consistently addressed across different agenda items was violence against women, including trafficking in women and girls . Other areas, in which attention was more systematically drawn to gender equality and women's rights included decent work, and peace, security and humanitarian assistance . Intergovernmental bodies expressed concern that, owing to discrimination and gender inequality, women continue to be disproportionately affected by poverty, hunger, food insecurity, disasters and crisis .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	68. The need to improve mainstreaming of gender equality in policy development, programme planning and monitoring and reporting was stressed across agenda items, including through improved use of sex-disaggregated data, gender-sensitive indicators and gender-responsive budgeting . 69. In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, concerns were raised about the limited progress made on Goal 5. It was also noted that progress on Goal 3 is dependent on the extent to which the actions taken to achieve the other Millennium Development Goals are designed to promote the equality of women and men . A review proposed for 2010 to assess progress towards the targets and goals of the Millennium Development Goals set for 2015 provides an opportunity to address gaps in implementation.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	70. A number of other intergovernmental events in 2010 will provide opportunities to assess progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and in accelerating actions to address outstanding challenges . At its fifty-fourth session, the Commission on the Status of Women will conduct the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, focused on overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals. The theme of the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council is “Implementing the internationally agreed development goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women ”. The Economic and Social Council Development Cooperation Forum will also have a focus on gender equality. A high-level event for the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) will examine ways to further enhance implementation and accountability on women, peace and security .
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	71. Taking into account the critical role of intergovernmental bodies in promoting and monitoring progress in achievement of global commitments on gender equality, including through implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy , the General Assembly may wish to: (a) Request that reports submitted to the General Assembly, and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies facilitate gendersensitive policy development, through qualitative gender analysis, sexdisaggregated data, and concrete recommendations for further action ; (b) Ensure that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of all United Nations conferences, summits and high-level meetings, including in documentation, interactive events and outcomes ; (c) Request the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions to increase efforts to mainstream gender perspectives across agenda items and in their respective follow-ups to United Nations conferences and summits, including through the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum; (d) Encourage increased efforts to enhance accountability for implementation of gender-equality commitments (e) Encourage Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and other relevant

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	B. Improving coordination, harmonizing response and strengthening capacities for providing support to survivors of gender-based violence 60. Humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of women and girls — and occasionally that of men and boys — to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence . Improvements have been made in coordination and protection, addressing impunity and providing multi-sectoral support to survivors . Additional efforts are required to ensure that humanitarian actors mainstream gender into all operations, including improved collection and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data . A review of projects in consolidated appeals for 23 post-conflict countries during the period 2006-2008 indicated that 2.3 per cent of them addressed gender issues — either by including women as major beneficiaries or by addressing gender-based violence. This figure suggests a significant shortfall and a need for more effective measures to track gender funding.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming	62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters' capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data	63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence , the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict ; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence , including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence ; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance .
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	91. WFP's recent evaluation of its "Gender Policy (2003–2007): Enhanced Commitments to Women" confirmed that WFP has laid strong foundations for gender mainstreaming by enhancing the visibility and inclusion of women. In line with the recommendations, WFP is developing a new gender policy for Board approval in 2009 that builds on the strengths of the past policies and strategies, while addressing remaining challenges. These include gender-related protection issues in relation to food distributions, and the gender dimensions of HIV and AIDS . Priority actions also include capacity development and accountability in line with the United Nations system-wide policy and strategy on gender mainstreaming (CEB/2006/2) .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, GBV	93. WFP continues to participate in various United Nations task forces as part of inter-agency efforts to respond to gender issues, including gender-based violence . Through the United Nations Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , ⁶ WFP has contributed to the development of the General Assembly resolution on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) ⁷ and to the SEA tools repository . WFP also participates in the United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (“UN Action”) and was co-chair with UNHCR and the Women’s Commission of the Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings (SAFE). The SAFE Task Force has developed guidance on fuel efficiency and a matrix on agency roles and responsibilities regarding fuel in humanitarian settings.
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	46. Based on their assessment of the situation, the seven thematic special procedures formulated eight priority objectives and identified technical assistance needs in that regard 4. Protecting women’s rights and ensuring gender equality;
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	6. The Commission also reaffirms that States have primary responsibility for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, that gender mainstreaming and national machineries are necessary and play a critical role in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and that, in order for national machineries to be effective, a strong institutional framework with clear mandates, location at the highest possible level, accountability mechanisms, partnership with civil society, a transparent political process, adequate financial and human resources and continued strong political commitment are crucial
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	8. The Commission also recognizes the importance of gender mainstreaming as a tool for achieving gender equality and, to that end, the need to promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender .
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	9. The Commission reaffirms that gender equality and the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all are essential for advancing development, peace and security, and stresses that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development .
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	19. The Commission expresses its concern about the under-resourcing in the area of gender equality in the United Nations system, including at the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women, and stresses the need for more effective tracking of resources allocated to and spent on enhancing gender equality and the empowerment of women across the United Nations system, including on gender mainstreaming .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	21. (m) Improve, systematize and fund the collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated and gender-related data, including data disaggregated by age and other factors and data on women's contribution to the care economy, and develop necessary input, output and outcome indicators at all levels to measure progress in financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women, in particular in introducing and implementing gender-responsive approaches to public finance ;
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	21. (t) Encourage the integration of gender perspectives in aid modalities and efforts to enhance aid delivery mechanisms ;
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming	21. (v) Encourage international financial institutions to continue to take gender perspectives into account in the design of loans, grants, projects, programmes and strategies;
Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 2008/37	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 7. <i>Expresses its deep concern</i> that the number of people living in extreme poverty remains significantly high in the least developed countries, while an increasing number of people are at risk of malnutrition, in particular children and women, and recognizes that there are important linkages between development, poverty eradication and gender equality ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP6: Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner , and taking note of the updated policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,
Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system 2008/34	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 4. (g) To enhance collaboration and coordination in the work of gender specialists and gender focal points working, inter alia, in the areas of peace and security, humanitarian affairs and economic and social development;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons 2008/33	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	OP 5. Calls upon Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 19. <i>Stresses</i> that policies and strategies for achieving full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration of social groups, such as youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 20. Also stresses that these policies and strategies should promote gender equality, empowerment of women and better possibilities for all to reconcile work and private and family life;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 21. Encourages Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers , to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work , and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. Stresses the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices such as those promoted by the Global Compact, and invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings ; and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development 2008/17	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. Further welcomes the efforts made by African countries and regional and sub regional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;
Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women 2008/11	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 6. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women , 18 in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action 19 and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti 2008/10	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Notes</i> the progress made by the Government of Haiti in terms of gender equality , and also notes the importance of gender equality as a necessary dimension of any strategy for development;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 4. Notes that the gender divide still persists in respect of the quality and variety of means of access to the Internet and information and communications technologies in the building of the information society in both developed and developing countries;
Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 12. Recommends that all States strive for gender equality in access to the Internet and in building the information society in both developed and developing countries, by ensuring the inclusion of the gender approach in information and communications technology policies in national strategies ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. As the cluster approach continues to be implemented in new and ongoing emergencies, it will require strengthened accountability and expertise, improved working arrangements and streamlined tools that integrate gender , HIV/AIDS and environment into overall response. An external evaluation of the clusters currently under way aims to evaluate cluster performance based on its ultimate aim: delivering more timely, predictable and effective humanitarian response to populations in need.
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. A number of United Nations agencies and programmes dedicated some of their resources to issues related to HIV/AIDS. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) focused on women's and girls' vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases , conducting intensive awareness training on issues of gender and HIV/AIDS . UNFPA worked on strengthening the National AIDS Committee to spearhead and guide the response to HIV/AIDS in the West Bank and Gaza; it also focused on national capacity-building in the areas of reproductive health, population, gender and psychosocial care. UNFPA sought to make reproductive health services accessible to all through the provision of emergency obstetric care and outreach services to isolated communities.
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	40. A gender adviser was deployed through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Capacity Standby Project to make recommendations to humanitarian agencies on improving humanitarian assistance to Palestinian women . This mission was supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, with assistance from UNFPA and UNIFEM. The World Food Programme (WFP) targeted food delivery to women wherever possible and also provided human rights training within its food-for-training initiative in the Gaza Strip.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. Beyond Gaza, UNICEF, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, focused on improving enrolment and achievement, ensuring equity in terms of gender , geographical location and special needs.....UNIFEM conducted a pilot academic counselling initiative, targeting rural girls and women .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	43. During the reporting period, the cluster approach has been implemented in 12 out of 26 countries where resident and humanitarian coordinators are in place. This number will increase in 2008 as more coordinators introduce the cluster approach to improve coordination in preparedness exercises and ongoing emergency response operations. In Pakistan and Mozambique the approach was used for the second time in response to floods. The cluster approach was immediately implemented in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis. An independent evaluation conducted in 2007 indicated that clusters have successfully addressed response gaps and improved strategic planning and preparedness at the field level. The evaluation, however, identified the need to better mainstream gender , HIV/AIDS, environmental concerns and early recovery and to strengthen the clusters' accountability to stakeholders, including national Governments and beneficiaries. To further support the global humanitarian response capacity, an appeal was launched in 2007 requesting \$63 million. To date, only 53 per cent of that amount has been raised.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	60. The significance of mainstreaming gender equality in humanitarian operations to ensure a more effective response has been increasingly recognized by policymakers and practitioners. In 2006, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee launched a five-point strategic plan guided by its 1999 gender policy statement, subsequently leading to an updated Committee policy on gender equality in humanitarian action which was endorsed in May 2008. Additionally, the coalition " United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Crisis " was launched in 2007 to harmonize the United Nations system's response to sexual violence in emergencies . It comprises 12 United Nations entities and supports field-level activities in several countries, including the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. The 2007 IASC gender policy review indicated that progress has been achieved. For example, a gender handbook was published to guide humanitarian actors in ensuring that the different needs of women, girls, boys and men are addressed. Eleven gender advisors have been deployed to the field as part of a newly created gender capacity roster to support gender mainstreaming in countrylevel programming. Preliminary evaluations indicate that gender capacity rosters can significantly improve humanitarian response .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	62. The policy review called for enhanced coordination among humanitarian actors in gender equality programming , including ensuring the equal participation of women , girls, boys and men in all aspects of humanitarian response. It is also fundamental to gender equality to ensure that women and girls are provided with equal opportunities for capacity-building and employment. It is imperative that humanitarian actors report sex- and age-disaggregated data to better inform decision-making, and that accountability mechanisms for mainstreaming gender equality be strengthened.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	"16. Recognizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes;
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	"Recognizing also the need to integrate a gender perspective in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster risk reduction management, with a view to reducing vulnerability,
Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction A/63/414/Add.3	GA	2008	Report of the Second committee	gender mainstreaming	17. Recognizes the importance of integrating a gender perspective and empowering and engaging women in the design and implementation of all phases of disaster management, as well as in risk reduction strategies and programmes, and encourages the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to continue to increase the promotion of gender mainstreaming and empowerment of women ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2007	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	44. United Nations humanitarian organizations are also seeking to improve standby capacities through the clusters, by staffing and training emergency staff and by working with existing Government standby arrangements, such as United Nations Disaster and Coordination, to provide support to country teams for initiating clusters in a sudden-onset emergency. (...) A gender standby capacity has been established to deploy experts to work with clusters on gender equality programming .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs. They can also mobilize or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence the capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advances made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, PSEA	<i>Summary</i> This report addresses the theme of "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges". It examines some of the key humanitarian developments and challenges of the last year. Some of the key issues addressed relate to natural disaster management and the challenges of obtaining sustainable humanitarian access to populations affected by conflict. Developments on key humanitarian policy initiatives are also highlighted. They include updates on efforts to strengthen policies and actions related to the transition from relief to development, gender and humanitarian action, humanitarian financing and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises .
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs . They can also mobilise or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans (CHAPs) and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP , gender issues were integrated in the new CAP NAFM with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advancements made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men as well as girls and boys need to continually inform programme design.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Humanitarian organisations should strengthen their efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian activities.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities , and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance ;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	14. [...] Inadequate property rights and insecure access to land can exacerbate a returnee's level of vulnerability. Women in traditional societies are particularly affected. The fact that they are often discriminated against in terms of inheritance rights and access to property and as a result are deprived of an economic base, leads to poverty for themselves and their children.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	18. The need for greater integration of a gender perspective into emergency humanitarian assistance continues to be an important challenge confronting the United Nations, its humanitarian partners and Member States. IASC and its constituent members have developed a range of policies, strategies and guidelines aimed at ensuring that the issue of gender perspectives and the needs, priorities and experience of women and girls are consistently addressed by all personnel involved in humanitarian operations. The challenge remains of ensuring full implementation and utilization of those methods and tools. Concrete measures aimed at systematically integrating a gender perspective into the full range of emergency operations, from their initial stages, are critical to the effective targeting of emergency humanitarian assistance on the ground. Of particular concern is the need for enhanced protection capacities for women and girls in refugee and IDP camps. Integration of a gender perspective is equally vital to the effectiveness of postconflict reconstruction processes. It is essential that efforts to mainstream gender recognize women not only as victims of complex emergencies, but

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Encourage humanitarian agencies to coordinate, consolidate and promote a gender perspective in all humanitarian assistance activities and to implement existing policies, tools and guidelines on gender mainstreaming;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 10. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of existing policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective in the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities ;
Sex and Age Disaggregated Data					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	44. The importance of gender mainstreaming is increasingly acknowledged within the humanitarian community and is prioritized in the context of the Central Emergency Response Fund. Gender mainstreaming is encouraged with all humanitarian agencies that receive funding from, and in all Central Emergency Response Fund projects funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines and tools on mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action have been used in implementing many projects. In order to promote greater gender equity in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund, the 2008 reporting requirements were updated to include, among other things, gender disaggregated data and information on how gender mainstreaming was incorporated in each project at the country level. Information provided in the reports will enable a more comprehensive effort to be made to mainstream gender in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	68. The need to improve mainstreaming of gender equality in policy development, programme planning and monitoring and reporting was stressed across agenda items, including through improved use of sex-disaggregated data, gender-sensitive indicators and gender-responsive budgeting. 69. In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, concerns were raised about the limited progress made on Goal 5. It was also noted that progress on Goal 3 is dependent on the extent to which the actions taken to achieve the other Millennium Development Goals are designed to promote the equality of women and men. A review proposed for 2010 to assess progress towards the targets and goals of the Millennium Development Goals set for 2015 provides an opportunity to address gaps in implementation.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	71. Taking into account the critical role of intergovernmental bodies in promoting and monitoring progress in achievement of global commitments on gender equality, including through implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy, the General Assembly may wish to: (a) Request that reports submitted to the General Assembly, and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies facilitate gendersensitive policy development, through qualitative gender analysis, sexdisaggregated data, and concrete recommendations for further action; (b) Ensure that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of all United Nations conferences, summits and high-level meetings, including in documentation, interactive events and outcomes; (c) Request the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions to increase efforts to mainstream gender perspectives across agenda items and in their respective follow-ups to United Nations conferences and summits, including through the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum; (d) Encourage increased efforts to enhance accountability for implementation of gender-equality commitments (e) Encourage Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and other relevant

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	B. Improving coordination, harmonizing response and strengthening capacities for providing support to survivors of gender-based violence 60. Humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of women and girls — and occasionally that of men and boys — to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence . Improvements have been made in coordination and protection, addressing impunity and providing multi-sectoral support to survivors . Additional efforts are required to ensure that humanitarian actors mainstream gender into all operations, including improved collection and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data . A review of projects in consolidated appeals for 23 post-conflict countries during the period 2006-2008 indicated that 2.3 per cent of them addressed gender issues — either by including women as major beneficiaries or by addressing gender-based violence. This figure suggests a significant shortfall and a need for more effective measures to track gender funding.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming	62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters' capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data	63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence , the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict ; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence , including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence ; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance .
Agreed conclusions on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women 2008/235	ECOSOC	2008	Decision	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	21. (m) Improve, systematize and fund the collection, analysis and dissemination of sex-disaggregated and gender-related data, including data disaggregated by age and other factors and data on women's contribution to the care economy, and develop necessary input, output and outcome indicators at all levels to measure progress in financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women, in particular in introducing and implementing gender-responsive approaches to public finance ;
Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons 2008/33	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	OP 5. Calls upon Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons ;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	62. The policy review called for enhanced coordination among humanitarian actors in gender equality programming , including ensuring the equal participation of women , girls, boys and men in all aspects of humanitarian response. It is also fundamental to gender equality to ensure that women and girls are provided with equal opportunities for capacity-building and employment. It is imperative that humanitarian actors report sex- and age-disaggregated data to better inform decision-making, and that accountability mechanisms for mainstreaming gender equality be strengthened.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs. They can also mobilize or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence the capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advances made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men, and on girls and boys, need to continually inform programme design.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men as well as girls and boys need to continually inform programme design.
Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse - PSEA					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	23. Within the overall framework of support, interventions for genocide survivors include improving access to justice and witness protection programmes; promoting the participation of children, young people and women in the democratic process, including in decision-making at the national and local levels; providing alternative and complementary education for out-of-school children; enhancing the retention rates at primary, secondary and tertiary levels; expanding the school feeding system in food insecure areas; improving access to quality preventive, curative, promotional and rehabilitative services, e specially to victims of sexual violence , HIV-positive persons, children and women; enhancing trauma and psychological programmes; and promoting effective safety nets for the protection of the most vulnerable groups.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	52. Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Sexual violence, a form of gender-based violence that includes any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature , is the most common type of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and is often life-threatening. Non-sexual forms of gender-based violence , such as female genital mutilation; forced early marriage; honour killings; and domestic violence are also prevalent. Women and girls of all ages make up the majority of the victims; however, men and boys are also both direct and indirect victims.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	56. Fighting impunity also includes ending the sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by some UN personnel. A recent study on the exploitation of children in Liberia sadly reported abuses by UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers . ¹⁵ The United Nations has taken a number of steps to address the problem. These include developing and disseminating standards of conduct, conducting training, introducing clearer reporting mechanisms and developing a policy for assistance to victims. Contracts have been changed for different categories of personnel to incorporate required standards of behaviour. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has been working closely with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to improve investigative capacity, the recording and tracking of cases and follow-up with Member States for allegations involving troops or police. Work has also started on improving mechanisms for managerial accountability. While different policies and measures have been introduced, implementation is still slow.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the United Nations has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the United Nations and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff. ³ The bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries of assistance, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse, and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The United Nations will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the Democratic Republic of the Congo suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations . To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's bulletin in the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel. Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, PSEA	<i>Summary</i> This report addresses the theme of "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges". It examines some of the key humanitarian developments and challenges of the last year. Some of the key issues addressed relate to natural disaster management and the challenges of obtaining sustainable humanitarian access to populations affected by conflict. Developments on key humanitarian policy initiatives are also highlighted. They include updates on efforts to strengthen policies and actions related to the transition from relief to development, gender and humanitarian action, humanitarian financing and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises .
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	10. There is serious cause for concern that sexual abuse and sexual violence are increasingly becoming weapons of war . In the eastern DRC, sexual violence against women and minors continues to be widespread. A network of local and international structures has been formed to address this problem through legal and therapeutic means as well as through advocacy with both military and civil authorities. In Burundi, many women and girls have been subjected to rape and appalling acts of sexual violence , with many of the victims infected by HIV/AIDS. In northern Uganda, the persistent abduction of children and adolescents adds a further tragic dimension to what has become a forgotten conflict. Among those abducted are teenage girls, who are beaten and forced to be sexual slaves and fighters . It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 abductees are being held by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the UN has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the UN and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all UN civilian staff. The Bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the Bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse , and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The UN will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the Bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the DRC suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations. To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's Bulletin into the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel . Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	(g) Member States should consider ways to ensure that efforts within the UN system to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in armed conflict are reinforced by concrete actions to promote similar standards of behaviour for uniformed personnel serving under UN auspices.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	PP 16. <i>Gravely concerned</i> that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys , continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 36. <i>Encourages</i> the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement internal tools and to take effective measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and, in this respect, notes with interest the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 37. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 12. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	7. The protection of civilians in armed conflict continues to be a priority issue across the United Nations system. To a large extent, humanitarian crises are in fact crises of protection. Effective implementation of the principles of protection and international human rights and humanitarian standards requires strengthened coordination on a wide range of issues, including the proliferation of small arms and landmines, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, security, law and order, sexual exploitation of women and children in conflict , the rights and special needs of refugees and internally displaced persons and the restorative justice issues of impunity and property rights.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	19. The problem of sexual exploitation and abuse remains one of the most pressing issues arising in complex emergencies and armed conflicts. In July 2002, IASC adopted the Plan of Action prepared by the Task Force on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in humanitarian Crises , which established six core principles representing minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff members. A draft Secretary-General's bulletin that will further institutionalize the six core principles through their incorporation into the codes of conduct and staff rules and regulations of all member organizations is currently being finalized. The Task Force is continuing to work on appropriate disciplinary procedures to be followed in the event of a breach of these principles. Several Member States are formally adopting policies requiring incorporation of the core principles into their own agreements with operational partners, as encouraged by the Plan of Action. Humanitarian agencies outside the United Nations system are engaged in similar efforts to adopt or revise their

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	20. Efforts to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises need to be reinforced by concrete action on the part of Member States if they are to be truly effective. The incorporation of the core principles into standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces, and the insistence by donor countries that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding, would facilitate this goal considerably. Another important measure for Member States would be to apply appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and to report to the Security Council on the action taken.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	30. For those countries affected by the combination of famine and HIV/AIDS, sustainable recovery is undermined owing to the breakdown of family support networks, decline in production and loss of income leading to greater impoverishment. Of particular concern is the fact that HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women and girls, who globally account for more than 50 per cent of new HIV infections. In Africa, women also account for 70 per cent of the agricultural labour force and are responsible for 80 per cent of the food production.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	(f) Urge Member States to use the "core principles" in their standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces and to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation and, similarly, urge donor countries to insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 11. <i>Welcomes</i> the establishment by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the six core principles in the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , representing minimum standards of behaviour required of all United Nations civilian staff members, and urges the United Nations to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation by humanitarian workers ;
Gender-Based Violence - GBV					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	16. The United Nations country team has established a good partnership with other development organizations and is undertaking activities across key sectors. The United Nations supports the non-governmental organization Sevota, which assists women and girl survivors of the 1994 genocide in the Kamonyi district (Southern Province) by conducting training and sensitization programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention, prevention of gender-based violence, rehabilitation of victims, gender and development, income-generating activities, sexual and reproductive health, and family planning . With United Nations support, Sevota has assisted 100 women genocide survivors to pay medical insurance fees and undertake income-generating activities such as production of handicrafts and small livestock farming.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	11. The humanitarian situation of Nepal, one of the most vulnerable countries in the Asian and Pacific region, deteriorated in October 2008 when conflict, displacement and chronic poverty were exacerbated by rising food insecurity and severe flooding. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) intervened in the acute emergency phase to provide essential reproductive health services, genderbased violence screening and HIV/AIDS awareness for internally displaced persons and refugees in the flood-affected areas . In addition to establishing a mobile clinic, UNFPA distributed reproductive health equipment, drugs and supplies, as well as hygiene kits. Approximately 5,000 individuals, 70 per cent of them women, received medical and reproductive health services and gender-based violence counselling. Activities provided under projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund were supplemented by UNFPA core resources and programmes. All relief activities were guided by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's gender handbook and guidelines on gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	13. In August 2008, an influx of Somali refugees into the eastern part of Ethiopia strained that country's ability to provide safe refuge. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) received \$1.5 million from the Fund to address vital needs of newly arriving refugees, including support to open two new camps (Aw Barre and Shedder). Approximately 1,700 new shelters were constructed and, since most refugees had crossed the border without any belongings, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, soap, sanitary napkins, cooking stoves and fuel, blankets, nets and jerrycans were distributed. The provision of fuel-saving stoves had a special impact on the lives of women and girls, as they no longer had to travel outside of the camp to collect firewood, which previously had exposed them to harmful situations, such as sexual and gender-based violence.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and GBV	67. A number of important issues concerning gender equality, women's rights and the empowerment of women and girls were addressed by the General Assembly , the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies during the past year and contributed to a strengthening of the global policy framework on gender equality. The issue most consistently addressed across different agenda items was violence against women, including trafficking in women and girls . Other areas, in which attention was more systematically drawn to gender equality and women's rights included decent work, and peace, security and humanitarian assistance . Intergovernmental bodies expressed concern that, owing to discrimination and gender inequality, women continue to be disproportionately affected by poverty, hunger, food insecurity, disasters and crisis.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	B. Improving coordination, harmonizing response and strengthening capacities for providing support to survivors of gender-based violence 60. Humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of women and girls — and occasionally that of men and boys — to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence . Improvements have been made in coordination and protection, addressing impunity and providing multi-sectoral support to survivors . Additional efforts are required to ensure that humanitarian actors mainstream gender into all operations, including improved collection and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data . A review of projects in consolidated appeals for 23 post-conflict countries during the period 2006-2008 indicated that 2.3 per cent of them addressed gender issues — either by including women as major beneficiaries or by addressing gender-based violence. This figure suggests a significant shortfall and a need for more effective measures to track gender funding.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	61. While humanitarian actors have observed that gender-based violence coordination has improved, a further assessment of current gender-based violence coordination structures is ongoing . In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations has developed a Comprehensive Strategy for Combating Sexual Violence , supported by United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. This strategy has helped to address gaps and maximize the use of resources and therefore should be replicated in similar situations. In Myanmar, the Women’s Protection Working Group has coordinated programme planning in response to Cyclone Nargis. In the Sudan, the presence of senior-level gender-based violence coordinators in each Darfur state has strengthened gender-based violence programming , despite lack of cooperation from the Sudanese Government. A field guide on how to improve gender-based violence coordination is currently being developed .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming	62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters’ capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data	63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence , the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict ; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence , including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence ; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, GBV	93. WFP continues to participate in various United Nations task forces as part of inter-agency efforts to respond to gender issues, including gender-based violence . Through the United Nations Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , ⁶ WFP has contributed to the development of the General Assembly resolution on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) ⁷ and to the SEA tools repository . WFP also participates in the United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (“UN Action”) and was co-chair with UNHCR and the Women’s Commission of the Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings (SAFE). The SAFE Task Force has developed guidance on fuel efficiency and a matrix on agency roles and responsibilities regarding fuel in humanitarian settings.
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	94. At the launch in February 2008 of the Secretary-General’s intensified campaign to end violence against women , WFP made a commitment to increase capacity-building in protection in WFP operations. Training, which targets WFP staff and partners, including governments, has been given in ten country offices; it will be rolled out to another 20 in 2009.
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	50. The Representative is concerned about the recruitment of displaced children and instances of gender-based violence at internally displaced person sites, and the high level of crime that occurs with complete impunity and which is perpetrated against internally displaced persons as well as humanitarian actors. The Government of Chad needs to do everything necessary to restore and reinforce without delay a State presence at all levels in the areas affected by displacement, in particular a judicial system, a police presence and basic services, such as education, health care and economic reintegration. Mechanisms for conflict resolution and reconciliation among local communities also need to be strengthened.
Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel A/63/L.48	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	<i>Strongly condemning</i> acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children , and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 14. Urges Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies , calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence , and also calls for a more effective response in this regard;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	PP. 8 <i>Noting with grave concern</i> that violence, including gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 23. <i>Urges</i> all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence , and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity in support services to victims of such violence ;
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75–E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	38. UNIFEM focused its activities on documenting and advocating against abuses of Palestinian women's human rights; providing forums for discussion; supporting toll-free help lines operated by qualified counsellors; and promoting legal literacy and aid for rural women. The agency supported a programme of legal aid and health assistance to Palestinian female prisoners in Israeli detention . UNIFEM focused on the mobilization of 18 community-based women's centres in rural areas, directly benefiting 25,000 women. UNFPA, together with its national partners, complemented these activities by working towards creating community-based initiatives that enable women to protect themselves from gender-based violence . Its activities in that regard included a national conference on combating gender-based violence in cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs. UNFPA arranged training and psychosocial services provided at mobile health clinics, community sessions on gender-based violence , campaigns and the distribution of information materials and female hygiene kits .
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	PSEA and GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	24. Chad is host to some 325,000 refugees, including 12,000 new arrivals from Darfur in the east of the country and some 10,000 more from the Central African Republic in the south of the country, during 2008. The number of IDPs in eastern Chad stood at 166,000. Eastern Chad has a resource-scarce environment. As a result, most refugees and IDPs were entirely dependent on international aid, while host communities also needed support. The security situation remained volatile. The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons voiced his concern about the grave human rights violations committed against displaced people, including forced recruitment of children by armed groups and sexual and gender-based violence . Armed groups compromised the civilian character of the refugee and IDP camps, while violence and insecurity hampered aid operations and led to the temporary evacuation of humanitarian staff

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	29. Despite these challenges, United Nations organizations endeavoured to deliver assistance and improve protection. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) forces were deployed and community watch systems were set up to ensure the civilian character of IDP camps. UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence , offering psychosocial, legal and medical assistance to affected women and girls . In the east, the health cluster mobilized 37 humanitarian organizations to reactivate and re-equip some 1,400 health facilities, with the support of almost 5,000 national health staff and community workers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. Sexual and gender-based violence is one of the defining characteristics of contemporary armed conflict. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been subjected to this particular form of violence, which is often aimed at destroying the social fabric of a community. According to a recent study of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in the Central African Republic 15 per cent of the women and girls living in the crisis zones have been subjected to sexual violence , with new cases of rape being reported each week. In Burundi, WHO has reported that 9 per cent of returnee women who responded to a survey on sexual violence had been sexually abused . This type of violence is often higher in refugee and IDP camps. UNHCR and many other United Nations agencies working in Africa have taken steps to prevent and counter sexual and gender-based violence , including by setting up referral systems to ensure an adequate response to help survivors.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	62. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and OHCHR supported a comprehensive programme to provide victims with medical and psychosocial assistance. The programme also seeks to end the impunity of perpetrators by strengthening prosecutions and the rule of law. UNFPA distributed life-saving post-rape treatment kits in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and the Sudan. In Somalia, UNICEF has helped set up a confidential caseworker referral system for women and children .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	63. In several countries, the United Nations sought to engage men and boys in the struggle against sexual and gender-based violence . Special workshops, training and awareness campaigns were organized to emphasize the positive role men and boys could play in preventing and countering sexual and gender-based violence .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	21. Fighting between Government forces and irregular armed groups, combined with widespread banditry, has severely affected civilians in the north of the Central African Republic, where populations have been subject to human rights abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence , forced recruitment, kidnapping and looting of property. The number of IDPs rose to 197,000 and tens of thousands of civilians sought asylum in neighbouring Chad, Cameroon and the Sudan. The total number of Central African refugees now stands at 104,000.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	23. The situation in eastern Chad has worsened markedly along the volatile border with Darfur where cross-border movements of armed groups, militia clashes, acts of banditry and general impunity affected the safety and security of 250,000 refugees from Darfur, 186,000 Chadian IDPs and the host communities. The presence of armed elements in and around refugee camps and IDP sites, forced recruitment of adults and children, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence , food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty are all pressing humanitarian concerns. Compounding this situation, the depletion of natural resources continued to be a serious source of tension between displaced populations and local communities.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	59. United Nations entities and their partners took steps to coordinate their actions to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence , notably through the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict joint initiative. In Darfur, much of the work of OHCHR involved documenting cases of gender-based violence against women and girls who had been sexually assaulted by State and non-State actors. In the Congo, UNHCR maintained 51 drop-in centres and conducted awareness sessions for about 3,000 individuals in Loukolela and Betou areas. United Nations entities, including UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Human Rights/United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and their partners reinforced activities to combat sexual and gender-based violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where shocking incidents occurred with impunity. Activities included a major sensitization campaign, reinforced health response and the training of legal officers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	60. The establishment of sexual and gender-based violence standard operating procedures, which ensure that systems are maintained for effective prevention and response, has brought tangible results. In Burundi, 96 per cent of the 300 survivors who reported sexual and gender-based violence in returnee areas received adequate medical, legal and psychosocial support.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. UNFPA has provided essential life-saving post-rape treatment kits in numerous displacement settings and undertaken training for the clinical management of rape victims in several African countries. Despite these efforts, the problem of sexual and gender-based violence is still widespread in many conflict zones.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	52. Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Sexual violence, a form of gender-based violence that includes any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature , is the most common type of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and is often life-threatening. Non-sexual forms of gender-based violence , such as female genital mutilation; forced early marriage; honour killings; and domestic violence are also prevalent. Women and girls of all ages make up the majority of the victims; however, men and boys are also both direct and indirect victims.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	53. Ending gender-based violence is the primary responsibility of States, as enshrined in national and international legal instruments. However, gender-based violence in humanitarian crises remains a significant and growing concern. Gender-based violence has reached epidemic proportions in conflict settings, where it is commonly used as a deliberate tactic of war to destabilize populations, destroy community bonds and humiliate victims and their families. Gender-based violence is also prevalent in the aftermath of disasters, where mass displacement disrupts government and community structures, and where a breakdown in the rule of law often ensues. In situations of armed conflict, The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols provide specific protections for women and girls. ¹² With respect to other humanitarian emergency situations, gender-based violence is covered by human rights law ¹³ and may fall within the framework of several statutes, conventions and declarations. ¹⁴ Many, but not all, forms of GBV are codified as illegal and criminal acts in national laws and policies.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	54. Ending gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies requires efforts that prevent and deter its use in settings of war and displacement, mitigate the collateral effects within communities in post-crisis situations and provide appropriate support to survivors. Prevention activities include ensuring that physical protection measures are in place and enforced. Such measures may include police training, community implementation of safe food distribution, camp management and fuel collection strategies and public awareness campaigns. Support to survivors includes assistance and protection initiatives such as the establishment of women's community support centres in Western Darfur; the training of national health staff in clinical management of rape survivors in Kenya, Uganda and West Africa; and the implementation of a multi-sectoral programme supporting 10,000 rape survivors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Such initiatives require the participation of government, when possible, United Nations, international and national NGOs and donors. Using the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	55. Despite repeated condemnations of such violence in numerous international forums, gender-based violence persists virtually unchallenged in many areas. Some governments fail to acknowledge the magnitude of the problem, provide effective physical protection or allow access to treatment. Victims are publicly shamed or imprisoned, survivors and staff providing assistance are harassed and intimidated and perpetrators go unpunished. The lack of a functioning police or judicial system in some humanitarian emergency settings, combined with fears of social reprisals, allow such crimes to take place without consequence. Fighting such impunity should begin with State efforts to review, strengthen and enforce effective legal, judicial and community mechanisms that recognize, report and punish such acts as crimes and that ensure the compensation, protection and support to survivors.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	56. Fighting impunity also includes ending the sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by some UN personnel. A recent study on the exploitation of children in Liberia sadly reported abuses by UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers . ¹⁵ The United Nations has taken a number of steps to address the problem. These include developing and disseminating standards of conduct, conducting training, introducing clearer reporting mechanisms and developing a policy for assistance to victims. Contracts have been changed for different categories of personnel to incorporate required standards of behaviour. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has been working closely with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to improve investigative capacity, the recording and tracking of cases and follow-up with Member States for allegations involving troops or police. Work has also started on improving mechanisms for managerial accountability. While different policies and measures have been introduced, implementation is still slow.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	56. Sexual and gender-based violence continues to be used as a weapon of war as women, girls — and some men and boys — are beaten, raped and humiliated as a means of asserting power, breaking community ties and degrading human dignity. The prevailing culture of impunity in many situations further reinforces these developments. Survivors and victims of such attacks often suffer from serious health consequences and rejection by the community; economic exclusion and social constraints often dissuade victims from seeking or receiving help. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by peacekeeping or humanitarian personnel in crises is also an issue of grave concern, but one where allegations of such conduct have prompted action by the United Nations and the humanitarian community.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	57. The Economic and Social Council has consistently raised these issues, although with varying impact. Though the Council called upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to sexual violence and to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice, such a directive has not translated into either preventive or punitive measures on the part of States. The role the Council has played on the issue of sexual exploitation on the part of United Nations humanitarian and military staff , however, has been a positive one, reinforcing the specific actions already under way and lending support and momentum to important policy processes. For example, when efforts were under way to implement the standards developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, it was important to have the strong language in Council resolutions when developing the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures against sexual exploitation and abuse and when following up with the United Nations system and with NGOs on adopting standards developed by the Standing Committee as part of their own codes of conduct .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	58. The use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon of war is a worrying, enduring problem that should remain firmly on the intergovernmental humanitarian agenda. Ending the culture of impunity that allows such violence to occur should be consistently reinforced by Member States. There is also a need for the more determined engagement of Government with civil society and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to help societies mitigate the effects of such violence, including in the field of health education. Keeping the issue of sexual exploitation of humanitarian staff on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council will continue to be important in continually reinforcing ongoing efforts being undertaken by the system.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	10. There is serious cause for concern that sexual abuse and sexual violence are increasingly becoming weapons of war . In the eastern DRC, sexual violence against women and minors continues to be widespread. A network of local and international structures has been formed to address this problem through legal and therapeutic means as well as through advocacy with both military and civil authorities. In Burundi, many women and girls have been subjected to rape and appalling acts of sexual violence , with many of the victims infected by HIV/AIDS. In northern Uganda, the persistent abduction of children and adolescents adds a further tragic dimension to what has become a forgotten conflict. Among those abducted are teenage girls, who are beaten and forced to be sexual slaves and fighters . It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 abductees are being held by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	PP 16. <i>Gravely concerned</i> that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys , continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	GBV	OP 33. <i>Strongly condemns</i> all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse , and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;

Strengthening the Coordination of Emergency Humanitarian Assistance of the United Nations

Document #	Type	Year	Report/Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	61. While humanitarian actors have observed that gender-based violence coordination has improved , a further assessment of current gender-based violence coordination structures is ongoing . In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations has developed a Comprehensive Strategy for Combating Sexual Violence , supported by United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. This strategy has helped to address gaps and maximize the use of resources and therefore should be replicated in similar situations. In Myanmar, the Women's Protection Working Group has coordinated programme planning in response to Cyclone Nargis. In the Sudan, the presence of senior-level gender-based violence coordinators in each Darfur state has strengthened gender-based violence programming , despite lack of cooperation from the Sudanese Government. A field guide on how to improve gender-based violence coordination is currently being developed.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming	62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters' capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data	63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence , the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict ; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence , including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence ; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP6: Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner , and taking note of the updated policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 14. Urges Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies , calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence , and also calls for a more effective response in this regard;
Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system 2008/34	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 4. (g) To enhance collaboration and coordination in the work of gender specialists and gender focal points working, inter alia, in the areas of peace and security, humanitarian affairs and economic and social development;
Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons 2008/33	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	OP 5. Calls upon Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	PP. 8 <i>Noting with grave concern</i> that violence, including gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 23. <i>Urges</i> all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence , and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity in support services to victims of such violence ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. As the cluster approach continues to be implemented in new and ongoing emergencies, it will require strengthened accountability and expertise, improved working arrangements and streamlined tools that integrate gender , HIV/AIDS and environment into overall response. An external evaluation of the clusters currently under way aims to evaluate cluster performance based on its ultimate aim: delivering more timely, predictable and effective humanitarian response to populations in need.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. Beyond Gaza, UNICEF, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, focused on improving enrolment and achievement, ensuring equity in terms of gender , geographical location and special needs.....UNIFEM conducted a pilot academic counselling initiative, targeting rural girls and women .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	43. During the reporting period, the cluster approach has been implemented in 12 out of 26 countries where resident and humanitarian coordinators are in place. This number will increase in 2008 as more coordinators introduce the cluster approach to improve coordination in preparedness exercises and ongoing emergency response operations. In Pakistan and Mozambique the approach was used for the second time in response to floods. The cluster approach was immediately implemented in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis. An independent evaluation conducted in 2007 indicated that clusters have successfully addressed response gaps and improved strategic planning and preparedness at the field level. The evaluation, however, identified the need to better mainstream gender , HIV/AIDS, environmental concerns and early recovery and to strengthen the clusters' accountability to stakeholders, including national Governments and beneficiaries. To further support the global humanitarian response capacity, an appeal was launched in 2007 requesting \$63 million. To date, only 53 per cent of that amount has been raised.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	60. The significance of mainstreaming gender equality in humanitarian operations to ensure a more effective response has been increasingly recognized by policymakers and practitioners. In 2006, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee launched a five-point strategic plan guided by its 1999 gender policy statement, subsequently leading to an updated Committee policy on gender equality in humanitarian action which was endorsed in May 2008. Additionally, the coalition " United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Crisis " was launched in 2007 to harmonize the United Nations system's response to sexual violence in emergencies . It comprises 12 United Nations entities and supports field-level activities in several countries, including the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. The 2007 IASC gender policy review indicated that progress has been achieved. For example, a gender handbook was published to guide humanitarian actors in ensuring that the different needs of women, girls, boys and men are addressed. Eleven gender advisors have been deployed to the field as part of a newly created gender capacity roster to support gender mainstreaming in country-level programming. Preliminary evaluations indicate that gender capacity rosters can significantly improve humanitarian response.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	62. The policy review called for enhanced coordination among humanitarian actors in gender equality programming , including ensuring the equal participation of women, girls, boys and men in all aspects of humanitarian response. It is also fundamental to gender equality to ensure that women and girls are provided with equal opportunities for capacity-building and employment. It is imperative that humanitarian actors report sex- and age-disaggregated data to better inform decision-making, and that accountability mechanisms for mainstreaming gender equality be strengthened.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2007	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	44. United Nations humanitarian organizations are also seeking to improve standby capacities through the clusters, by staffing and training emergency staff and by working with existing Government standby arrangements, such as United Nations Disaster and Coordination, to provide support to country teams for initiating clusters in a sudden-onset emergency. (...) A gender standby capacity has been established to deploy experts to work with clusters on gender equality programming.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	52. Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Sexual violence, a form of gender-based violence that includes any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature , is the most common type of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and is often life-threatening. Non-sexual forms of gender-based violence , such as female genital mutilation; forced early marriage; honour killings; and domestic violence are also prevalent. Women and girls of all ages make up the majority of the victims; however, men and boys are also both direct and indirect victims.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	53. Ending gender-based violence is the primary responsibility of States, as enshrined in national and international legal instruments. However, gender-based violence in humanitarian crises remains a significant and growing concern. Gender-based violence has reached epidemic proportions in conflict settings, where it is commonly used as a deliberate tactic of war to destabilize populations, destroy community bonds and humiliate victims and their families. Gender-based violence is also prevalent in the aftermath of disasters, where mass displacement disrupts government and community structures, and where a breakdown in the rule of law often ensues. In situations of armed conflict, The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols provide specific protections for women and girls. ¹² With respect to other humanitarian emergency situations, gender-based violence is covered by human rights law ¹³ and may fall within the framework of several statutes, conventions and declarations. ¹⁴ Many, but not all, forms of GBV are codified as illegal and criminal acts in national laws and policies.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	54. Ending gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies requires efforts that prevent and deter its use in settings of war and displacement, mitigate the collateral effects within communities in post-crisis situations and provide appropriate support to survivors. Prevention activities include ensuring that physical protection measures are in place and enforced. Such measures may include police training, community implementation of safe food distribution, camp management and fuel collection strategies and public awareness campaigns. Support to survivors includes assistance and protection initiatives such as the establishment of women's community support centres in Western Darfur; the training of national health staff in clinical management of rape survivors in Kenya, Uganda and West Africa; and the implementation of a multi-sectoral programme supporting 10,000 rape survivors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Such initiatives require the participation of government, when possible, United Nations, international and national NGOs and donors. <u>Using the Inter-Agency Standing Committee</u>
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	55. Despite repeated condemnations of such violence in numerous international forums, gender-based violence persists virtually unchallenged in many areas. Some governments fail to acknowledge the magnitude of the problem, provide effective physical protection or allow access to treatment. Victims are publicly shamed or imprisoned, survivors and staff providing assistance are harassed and intimidated and perpetrators go unpunished. The lack of a functioning police or judicial system in some humanitarian emergency settings, combined with fears of social reprisals, allow such crimes to take place without consequence. Fighting such impunity should begin with State efforts to review, strengthen and enforce effective legal, judicial and community mechanisms that recognize, report and punish such acts as crimes and that ensure the compensation, protection and support to survivors.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	56. Fighting impunity also includes ending the sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by some UN personnel. A recent study on the exploitation of children in Liberia sadly reported abuses by UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers . ¹⁵ The United Nations has taken a number of steps to address the problem. These include developing and disseminating standards of conduct, conducting training, introducing clearer reporting mechanisms and developing a policy for assistance to victims. Contracts have been changed for different categories of personnel to incorporate required standards of behaviour. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has been working closely with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to improve investigative capacity, the recording and tracking of cases and follow-up with Member States for allegations involving troops or police. Work has also started on improving mechanisms for managerial accountability. While different policies and measures have been introduced, implementation is still slow.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	56. Sexual and gender-based violence continues to be used as a weapon of war as women, girls — and some men and boys — are beaten, raped and humiliated as a means of asserting power, breaking community ties and degrading human dignity. The prevailing culture of impunity in many situations further reinforces these developments. Survivors and victims of such attacks often suffer from serious health consequences and rejection by the community; economic exclusion and social constraints often dissuade victims from seeking or receiving help. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by peacekeeping or humanitarian personnel in crises is also an issue of grave concern, but one where allegations of such conduct have prompted action by the United Nations and the humanitarian community.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	57. The Economic and Social Council has consistently raised these issues, although with varying impact. Though the Council called upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to sexual violence and to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice, such a directive has not translated into either preventive or punitive measures on the part of States. The role the Council has played on the issue of sexual exploitation on the part of United Nations humanitarian and military staff , however, has been a positive one, reinforcing the specific actions already under way and lending support and momentum to important policy processes. For example, when efforts were under way to implement the standards developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, it was important to have the strong language in Council resolutions when developing the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures against sexual exploitation and abuse and when following up with the United Nations system and with NGOs on adopting standards developed by the Standing Committee as part of their own codes of conduct.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	58. The use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon of war is a worrying, enduring problem that should remain firmly on the intergovernmental humanitarian agenda. Ending the culture of impunity that allows such violence to occur should be consistently reinforced by Member States. There is also a need for the more determined engagement of Government with civil society and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to help societies mitigate the effects of such violence, including in the field of health education. Keeping the issue of sexual exploitation of humanitarian staff on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council will continue to be important in continually reinforcing ongoing efforts being undertaken by the system.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs. They can also mobilize or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence the capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advances made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men, and on girls and boys, need to continually inform programme design.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the United Nations has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the United Nations and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff. ³ The bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries of assistance, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse, and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The United Nations will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the Democratic Republic of the Congo suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations . To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's bulletin in the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel. Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	7. The protection of civilians in armed conflict continues to be a priority issue across the United Nations system. To a large extent, humanitarian crises are in fact crises of protection. Effective implementation of the principles of protection and international human rights and humanitarian standards requires strengthened coordination on a wide range of issues, including the proliferation of small arms and landmines, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, security, law and order, sexual exploitation of women and children in conflict , the rights and special needs of refugees and internally displaced persons and the restorative justice issues of impunity and property rights.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	14. [...] Inadequate property rights and insecure access to land can exacerbate a returnee's level of vulnerability . Women in traditional societies are particularly affected . The fact that they are often discriminated against in terms of inheritance rights and access to property and as a result are deprived of an economic base, leads to poverty for themselves and their children.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

<p>Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85</p>	<p>ECOSOC/GA</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>18. The need for greater integration of a gender perspective into emergency humanitarian assistance continues to be an important challenge confronting the United Nations, its humanitarian partners and Member States. IASC and its constituent members have developed a range of policies, strategies and guidelines aimed at ensuring that the issue of gender perspectives and the needs, priorities and experience of women and girls are consistently addressed by all personnel involved in humanitarian operations. The challenge remains of ensuring full implementation and utilization of those methods and tools. Concrete measures aimed at systematically integrating a gender perspective into the full range of emergency operations, from their initial stages, are critical to the effective targeting of emergency humanitarian assistance on the ground. Of particular concern is the need for enhanced protection capacities for women and girls in refugee and IDP camps. Integration of a gender perspective is equally vital to the effectiveness of postconflict reconstruction processes. It is essential that efforts to mainstream gender recognize women not only as victims of complex emergencies, but</p>
<p>Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85</p>	<p>ECOSOC/GA</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>PSEA</p>	<p>19. The problem of sexual exploitation and abuse remains one of the most pressing issues arising in complex emergencies and armed conflicts. In July 2002, IASC adopted the Plan of Action prepared by the Task Force on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in humanitarian Crises, which established six core principles representing minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff members. A draft Secretary-General's bulletin that will further institutionalize the six core principles through their incorporation into the codes of conduct and staff rules and regulations of all member organizations is currently being finalized. The Task Force is continuing to work on appropriate disciplinary procedures to be followed in the event of a breach of these principles. Several Member States are formally adopting policies requiring incorporation of the core principles into their own agreements with operational partners, as encouraged by the Plan of Action. Humanitarian agencies outside the United Nations system are engaged in similar efforts to adopt or revise their</p>
<p>Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85</p>	<p>ECOSOC/GA</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>PSEA</p>	<p>20. Efforts to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises need to be reinforced by concrete action on the part of Member States if they are to be truly effective. The incorporation of the core principles into standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces, and the insistence by donor countries that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding, would facilitate this goal considerably. Another important measure for Member States would be to apply appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and to report to the Security Council on the action taken.</p>
<p>Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85</p>	<p>ECOSOC/GA</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>PSEA</p>	<p>30. For those countries affected by the combination of famine and HIV/AIDS, sustainable recovery is undermined owing to the breakdown of family support networks, decline in production and loss of income leading to greater impoverishment. Of particular concern is the fact that HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women and girls, who globally account for more than 50 per cent of new HIV infections. In Africa, women also account for 70 per cent of the agricultural labour force and are responsible for 80 per cent of the food production.</p>
<p>Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85</p>	<p>ECOSOC/GA</p>	<p>2003</p>	<p>SG Report</p>	<p>gender mainstreaming</p>	<p>(e) Encourage humanitarian agencies to coordinate, consolidate and promote a gender perspective in all humanitarian assistance activities and to implement existing policies, tools and guidelines on gender mainstreaming;</p>

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	(f) Urge Member States to use the “core principles” in their standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces and to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation and, similarly, urge donor countries to insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 10. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of existing policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective in the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities ;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 11. <i>Welcomes</i> the establishment by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the six core principles in the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , representing minimum standards of behaviour required of all United Nations civilian staff members, and urges the United Nations to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation by humanitarian workers ;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 12. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, PSEA	<i>Summary</i> This report addresses the theme of “Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges”. It examines some of the key humanitarian developments and challenges of the last year. Some of the key issues addressed relate to natural disaster management and the challenges of obtaining sustainable humanitarian access to populations affected by conflict. Developments on key humanitarian policy initiatives are also highlighted. They include updates on efforts to strengthen policies and actions related to the transition from relief to development, gender and humanitarian action, humanitarian financing and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises .
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	10. There is serious cause for concern that sexual abuse and sexual violence are increasingly becoming weapons of war . In the eastern DRC, sexual violence against women and minors continues to be widespread. A network of local and international structures has been formed to address this problem through legal and therapeutic means as well as through advocacy with both military and civil authorities. In Burundi, many women and girls have been subjected to rape and appalling acts of sexual violence , with many of the victims infected by HIV/AIDS. In northern Uganda, the persistent abduction of children and adolescents adds a further tragic dimension to what has become a forgotten conflict. Among those abducted are teenage girls, who are beaten and forced to be sexual slaves and fighters . It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 abductees are being held by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs . They can also mobilise or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans (CHAPs) and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP , gender issues were integrated in the new CAP NAFM with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advancements made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men as well as girls and boys need to continually inform programme design.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the UN has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the UN and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all UN civilian staff. The Bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the Bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse , and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The UN will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the Bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the DRC suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations. To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's Bulletin into the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel . Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Humanitarian organisations should strengthen their efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian activities.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	(g) Member States should consider ways to ensure that efforts within the UN system to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in armed conflict are reinforced by concrete actions to promote similar standards of behaviour for uniformed personnel serving under UN auspices.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	PP 16. <i>Gravely concerned</i> that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys , continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities , and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	GBV	OP 33. <i>Strongly condemns</i> all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse , and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 36. <i>Encourages</i> the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement internal tools and to take effective measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and, in this respect, notes with interest the Secretary- General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 37. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;

International Cooperation on Humanitarian Assistance in the Field of Natural Disasters, from Relief to Development

Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	disasters also exacerbate existing gender inequalities and reinforce the disparity between women and men in terms of their vulnerability to disasters and a changing climate and their ability to cope with them . The majority of those who die as a result of natural disasters are women . Women often have less access to essential resources for disaster preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation . In poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, the responsibilities of women in the family make them more vulnerable to environmental change, which can be exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The contribution of women to disaster risk reduction has also been underestimated. Due to their traditional roles and relevant knowledge of the environment, the participation of women in decision-making is invaluable in developing disaster risk reduction strategies. The International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2009 in Beijing, resulted in an increased understanding of the link between gender and dis
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	PSEA and GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.
Non-Annual Reports					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/133	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	16. The United Nations country team has established a good partnership with other development organizations and is undertaking activities across key sectors. The United Nations supports the non-governmental organization Sevota, which assists women and girl survivors of the 1994 genocide in the Kamonyi district (Southern Province) by conducting training and sensitization programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention, prevention of gender-based violence, rehabilitation of victims, gender and development, income-generating activities, sexual and reproductive health, and family planning . With United Nations support, Sevota has assisted 100 women genocide survivors to pay medical insurance fees and undertake income-generating activities such as production of handicrafts and small livestock farming.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	Gender mainstreaming	24. Further areas of support include enhancing housing and associated amenities for vulnerable groups such as orphans, widows, returnees and the internally displaced. Assistance is also provided for livelihood initiatives, for orphans and vulnerable children, for protection against gender-based violence, and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive social and economic policies in favour of the poor and disadvantaged
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	23. Within the overall framework of support, interventions for genocide survivors include improving access to justice and witness protection programmes; promoting the participation of children, young people and women in the democratic process, including in decision-making at the national and local levels; providing alternative and complementary education for out-of-school children; enhancing the retention rates at primary, secondary and tertiary levels; expanding the school feeding system in food insecure areas; improving access to quality preventive, curative, promotional and rehabilitative services, e specially to victims of sexual violence , HIV-positive persons, children and women; enhancing trauma and psychological programmes; and promoting effective safety nets for the protection of the most vulnerable groups.
The New International Humanitarian Order A/61/224	GA	2006	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	2. IBHI is preparing a number of reports concerning the proposed agenda for humanitarian action and related humanitarian issues, as mentioned in its last contribution to the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/554). The Bureau is also determined to bring basic human rights instruments relating to subjects such as women , children and minorities to the knowledge of the general public through the translation, publication and dissemination of such documentation in local and national languages, in view of the fact that more than half of the world's population cannot read documents in most of the official United Nations languages. If people know what their human rights and freedoms are recognized to be, the spirit of democracy would have an additional chance of gaining ground, and vulnerable groups, such as women and minorities, would get a powerful weapon in their struggle for a better life.
Regional Reports					
Document #	Type	Year	Report/Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development 2008/17	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. Further welcomes the efforts made by African countries and regional and sub regional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership;
Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women 2008/11	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 6. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women , 18 in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action 19 and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti 2008/10	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Notes</i> the progress made by the Government of Haiti in terms of gender equality , and also notes the importance of gender equality as a necessary dimension of any strategy for development;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. A number of United Nations agencies and programmes dedicated some of their resources to issues related to HIV/AIDS. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) focused on women's and girls' vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases , conducting intensive awareness training on issues of gender and HIV/AIDS . UNFPA worked on strengthening the National AIDS Committee to spearhead and guide the response to HIV/AIDS in the West Bank and Gaza; it also focused on national capacity-building in the areas of reproductive health, population, gender and psychosocial care. UNFPA sought to make reproductive health services accessible to all through the provision of emergency obstetric care and outreach services to isolated communities.
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	38. UNIFEM focused its activities on documenting and advocating against abuses of Palestinian women's human rights; providing forums for discussion; supporting toll-free help lines operated by qualified counsellors; and promoting legal literacy and aid for rural women. The agency supported a programme of legal aid and health assistance to Palestinian female prisoners in Israeli detention . UNIFEM focused on the mobilization of 18 community-based women's centres in rural areas, directly benefiting 25,000 women. UNFPA, together with its national partners, complemented these activities by working towards creating community-based initiatives that enable women to protect themselves from gender-based violence . Its activities in that regard included a national conference on combating gender-based violence in cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs. UNFPA arranged training and psychosocial services provided at mobile health clinics, community sessions on gender-based violence , campaigns and the distribution of information materials and female hygiene kits .
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	40. A gender adviser was deployed through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Capacity Standby Project to make recommendations to humanitarian agencies on improving humanitarian assistance to Palestinian women . This mission was supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, with assistance from UNFPA and UNIFEM. The World Food Programme (WFP) targeted food delivery to women wherever possible and also provided human rights training within its food-for-training initiative in the Gaza Strip.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	24. Chad is host to some 325,000 refugees, including 12,000 new arrivals from Darfur in the east of the country and some 10,000 more from the Central African Republic in the south of the country, during 2008. The number of IDPs in eastern Chad stood at 166,000. Eastern Chad has a resource-scarce environment. As a result, most refugees and IDPs were entirely dependent on international aid, while host communities also needed support. The security situation remained volatile. The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons voiced his concern about the grave human rights violations committed against displaced people, including forced recruitment of children by armed groups and sexual and gender-based violence . Armed groups compromised the civilian character of the refugee and IDP camps, while violence and insecurity hampered aid operations and led to the temporary evacuation of humanitarian staff

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	29. Despite these challenges, United Nations organizations endeavoured to deliver assistance and improve protection. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) forces were deployed and community watch systems were set up to ensure the civilian character of IDP camps. UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence , offering psychosocial, legal and medical assistance to affected women and girls . In the east, the health cluster mobilized 37 humanitarian organizations to reactivate and re-equip some 1,400 health facilities, with the support of almost 5,000 national health staff and community workers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. Sexual and gender-based violence is one of the defining characteristics of contemporary armed conflict. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been subjected to this particular form of violence, which is often aimed at destroying the social fabric of a community. According to a recent study of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in the Central African Republic 15 per cent of the women and girls living in the crisis zones have been subjected to sexual violence , with new cases of rape being reported each week. In Burundi, WHO has reported that 9 per cent of returnee women who responded to a survey on sexual violence had been sexually abused . This type of violence is often higher in refugee and IDP camps. UNHCR and many other United Nations agencies working in Africa have taken steps to prevent and counter sexual and gender-based violence , including by setting up referral systems to ensure an adequate response to help survivors.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	62. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and OHCHR supported a comprehensive programme to provide victims with medical and psychosocial assistance. The programme also seeks to end the impunity of perpetrators by strengthening prosecutions and the rule of law. UNFPA distributed life-saving post-rape treatment kits in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and the Sudan. In Somalia, UNICEF has helped set up a confidential caseworker referral system for women and children .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	63. In several countries, the United Nations sought to engage men and boys in the struggle against sexual and gender-based violence . Special workshops, training and awareness campaigns were organized to emphasize the positive role men and boys could play in preventing and countering sexual and gender-based violence .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	21. Fighting between Government forces and irregular armed groups, combined with widespread banditry, has severely affected civilians in the north of the Central African Republic, where populations have been subject to human rights abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence , forced recruitment, kidnapping and looting of property. The number of IDPs rose to 197,000 and tens of thousands of civilians sought asylum in neighbouring Chad, Cameroon and the Sudan. The total number of Central African refugees now stands at 104,000.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	23. The situation in eastern Chad has worsened markedly along the volatile border with Darfur where cross-border movements of armed groups, militia clashes, acts of banditry and general impunity affected the safety and security of 250,000 refugees from Darfur, 186,000 Chadian IDPs and the host communities. The presence of armed elements in and around refugee camps and IDP sites, forced recruitment of adults and children, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence , food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty are all pressing humanitarian concerns. Compounding this situation, the depletion of natural resources continued to be a serious source of tension between displaced populations and local communities.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	59. United Nations entities and their partners took steps to coordinate their actions to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence , notably through the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict joint initiative. In Darfur, much of the work of OHCHR involved documenting cases of gender-based violence against women and girls who had been sexually assaulted by State and non-State actors. In the Congo, UNHCR maintained 51 drop-in centres and conducted awareness sessions for about 3,000 individuals in Loukolela and Betou areas. United Nations entities, including UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Human Rights/United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and their partners reinforced activities to combat sexual and gender-based violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where shocking incidents occurred with impunity. Activities included a major sensitization campaign, reinforced health response and the training of legal officers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	60. The establishment of sexual and gender-based violence standard operating procedures, which ensure that systems are maintained for effective prevention and response, has brought tangible results. In Burundi, 96 per cent of the 300 survivors who reported sexual and gender-based violence in returnee areas received adequate medical, legal and psychosocial support.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. UNFPA has provided essential life-saving post-rape treatment kits in numerous displacement settings and undertaken training for the clinical management of rape victims in several African countries. Despite these efforts, the problem of sexual and gender-based violence is still widespread in many conflict zones.

Secretary General's Reports

Document #	Type	Year	Report/Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	16. The United Nations country team has established a good partnership with other development organizations and is undertaking activities across key sectors. The United Nations supports the non-governmental organization Sevota, which assists women and girl survivors of the 1994 genocide in the Kamonyi district (Southern Province) by conducting training and sensitization programmes on HIV/AIDS prevention, prevention of gender-based violence, rehabilitation of victims, gender and development, income-generating activities, sexual and reproductive health, and family planning . With United Nations support, Sevota has assisted 100 women genocide survivors to pay medical insurance fees and undertake income-generating activities such as production of handicrafts and small livestock farming.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	Gender mainstreaming	24. Further areas of support include enhancing housing and associated amenities for vulnerable groups such as orphans, widows, returnees and the internally displaced. Assistance is also provided for livelihood initiatives, for orphans and vulnerable children, for protection against gender-based violence, and the formulation and implementation of gender-sensitive social and economic policies in favour of the poor and disadvantaged
Assistance to survivors of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, particularly orphans, widows and victims of sexual violence A/64/313	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	23. Within the overall framework of support, interventions for genocide survivors include improving access to justice and witness protection programmes; promoting the participation of children, young people and women in the democratic process, including in decision-making at the national and local levels; providing alternative and complementary education for out-of-school children; enhancing the retention rates at primary, secondary and tertiary levels; expanding the school feeding system in food insecure areas; improving access to quality preventive, curative, promotional and rehabilitative services, especially to victims of sexual violence , HIV-positive persons, children and women; enhancing trauma and psychological programmes; and promoting effective safety nets for the protection of the most vulnerable groups.
The New International Humanitarian Order A/61/224	GA	2006	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	2. IBHI is preparing a number of reports concerning the proposed agenda for humanitarian action and related humanitarian issues, as mentioned in its last contribution to the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/554). The Bureau is also determined to bring basic human rights instruments relating to subjects such as women , children and minorities to the knowledge of the general public through the translation, publication and dissemination of such documentation in local and national languages, in view of the fact that more than half of the world's population cannot read documents in most of the official United Nations languages. If people know what their human rights and freedoms are recognized to be, the spirit of democracy would have an additional chance of gaining ground, and vulnerable groups, such as women and minorities, would get a powerful weapon in their struggle for a better life.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	disasters also exacerbate existing gender inequalities and reinforce the disparity between women and men in terms of their vulnerability to disasters and a changing climate and their ability to cope with them . The majority of those who die as a result of natural disasters are women . Women often have less access to essential resources for disaster preparedness, mitigation and rehabilitation . In poor communities that are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood, the responsibilities of women in the family make them more vulnerable to environmental change, which can be exacerbated by the effects of climate change. The contribution of women to disaster risk reduction has also been underestimated. Due to their traditional roles and relevant knowledge of the environment, the participation of women in decision-making is invaluable in developing disaster risk reduction strategies. The International Conference on Gender and Disaster Risk Reduction, held in 2009 in Beijing, resulted in an increased understanding of the link between gender and dis

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2009	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.
Implementation of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel A/64/176	GA	2009	SG Report	PSEA	Summary The present report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 62/214, and provides an update on action taken and progress to implement the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that victims of sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff and related personnel receive appropriate assistance and support in a timely manner, in the form of medical care, legal services, support for psychological and social care and immediate material care, including food, clothing and shelter, as necessary. The report provides information on the approach adopted to implement the Strategy, discusses ongoing activities at country and agency levels, identifies challenges and lessons learned and recommends the way forward to fully achieve the goals of the Strategy.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	11. The humanitarian situation of Nepal, one of the most vulnerable countries in the Asian and Pacific region, deteriorated in October 2008 when conflict, displacement and chronic poverty were exacerbated by rising food insecurity and severe flooding. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) intervened in the acute emergency phase to provide essential reproductive health services, genderbased violence screening and HIV/AIDS awareness for internally displaced persons and refugees in the flood-affected areas . In addition to establishing a mobile clinic, UNFPA distributed reproductive health equipment, drugs and supplies, as well as hygiene kits. Approximately 5,000 individuals, 70 per cent of them women, received medical and reproductive health services and gender-based violence counselling. Activities provided under projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund were supplemented by UNFPA core resources and programmes. All relief activities were guided by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee's gender handbook and guidelines on gender-based violence interventions in humanitarian settings.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	13. In August 2008, an influx of Somali refugees into the eastern part of Ethiopia strained that country's ability to provide safe refuge. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) received \$1.5 million from the Fund to address vital needs of newly arriving refugees, including support to open two new camps (Aw Barre and Shedder). Approximately 1,700 new shelters were constructed and, since most refugees had crossed the border without any belongings, plastic sheeting, kitchen sets, soap, sanitary napkins, cooking stoves and fuel, blankets, nets and jerrycans were distributed. The provision of fuel-saving stoves had a special impact on the lives of women and girls, as they no longer had to travel outside of the camp to collect firewood, which previously had exposed them to harmful situations, such as sexual and gender-based violence.
Central Emergency Response Fund A/64/327	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	44. The importance of gender mainstreaming is increasingly acknowledged within the humanitarian community and is prioritized in the context of the Central Emergency Response Fund. Gender mainstreaming is encouraged with all humanitarian agencies that receive funding from, and in all Central Emergency Response Fund projects funded by the Central Emergency Response Fund. The Inter-Agency Standing Committee guidelines and tools on mainstreaming gender in humanitarian action have been used in implementing many projects. In order to promote greater gender equity in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund, the 2008 reporting requirements were updated to include, among other things, gender disaggregated data and information on how gender mainstreaming was incorporated in each project at the country level. Information provided in the reports will enable a more comprehensive effort to be made to mainstream gender in projects funded from the Central Emergency Response Fund.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	Summary The present report, submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/159, provides information on the extent to which intergovernmental bodies paid attention to gender perspectives . As requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/9, the report also contains an assessment of the impact of the input of the Commission on the Status of Women on discussions within the United Nations system.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	66. The review of documentation before, and outcomes of, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council indicated that attention to gender equality was incorporated across a wide range of policy areas, although coverage was not systematic and content varied widely in terms of depth of attention. Systematic attention to the gender dimensions of all issues under consideration by the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, including in outcomes, is critical to move the global policy agenda on gender equality forward and guide implementation.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and GBV	67. A number of important issues concerning gender equality, women's rights and the empowerment of women and girls were addressed by the General Assembly , the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies during the past year and contributed to a strengthening of the global policy framework on gender equality. The issue most consistently addressed across different agenda items was violence against women, including trafficking in women and girls . Other areas, in which attention was more systematically drawn to gender equality and women's rights included decent work, and peace, security and humanitarian assistance. Intergovernmental bodies expressed concern that, owing to discrimination and gender inequality, women continue to be disproportionately affected by poverty, hunger, food insecurity, disasters and crisis.
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	68. The need to improve mainstreaming of gender equality in policy development, programme planning and monitoring and reporting was stressed across agenda items, including through improved use of sex-disaggregated data, gender-sensitive indicators and gender-responsive budgeting. 69. In the context of the Millennium Development Goals, concerns were raised about the limited progress made on Goal 5. It was also noted that progress on Goal 3 is dependent on the extent to which the actions taken to achieve the other Millennium Development Goals are designed to promote the equality of women and men. A review proposed for 2010 to assess progress towards the targets and goals of the Millennium Development Goals set for 2015 provides an opportunity to address gaps in implementation.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	70. A number of other intergovernmental events in 2010 will provide opportunities to assess progress in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women and in accelerating actions to address outstanding challenges . At its fifty-fourth session, the Commission on the Status of Women will conduct the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, focused on overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the Millennium Development Goals. The theme of the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council is “Implementing the internationally agreed development goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and the empowerment of women ”. The Economic and Social Council Development Cooperation Forum will also have a focus on gender equality. A high-level event for the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) will examine ways to further enhance implementation and accountability on women, peace and security .
Measures taken and progress achieved in follow-up to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly A/64/218	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	71. Taking into account the critical role of intergovernmental bodies in promoting and monitoring progress in achievement of global commitments on gender equality, including through implementation of the gender mainstreaming strategy , the General Assembly may wish to: (a) Request that reports submitted to the General Assembly, and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies facilitate gendersensitive policy development, through qualitative gender analysis, sexdisaggregated data, and concrete recommendations for further action; (b) Ensure that gender perspectives are mainstreamed in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of all United Nations conferences, summits and high-level meetings, including in documentation, interactive events and outcomes; (c) Request the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions to increase efforts to mainstream gender perspectives across agenda items and in their respective follow-ups to United Nations conferences and summits, including through the annual ministerial review and the Development Cooperation Forum; (d) Encourage increased efforts to enhance accountability for implementation of gender-equality commitments (e) Encourage Member States, United Nations entities, international and regional organizations and other relevant
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	B. Improving coordination, harmonizing response and strengthening capacities for providing support to survivors of gender-based violence 60. Humanitarian crises increase the vulnerability of women and girls — and occasionally that of men and boys — to sexual and other forms of gender-based violence . Improvements have been made in coordination and protection, addressing impunity and providing multi-sectoral support to survivors . Additional efforts are required to ensure that humanitarian actors mainstream gender into all operations, including improved collection and use of sex- and age-disaggregated data . A review of projects in consolidated appeals for 23 post-conflict countries during the period 2006-2008 indicated that 2.3 per cent of them addressed gender issues — either by including women as major beneficiaries or by addressing gender-based violence. This figure suggests a significant shortfall and a need for more effective measures to track gender funding.

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Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	61. While humanitarian actors have observed that gender-based violence coordination has improved , a further assessment of current gender-based violence coordination structures is ongoing . In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the United Nations has developed a Comprehensive Strategy for Combating Sexual Violence , supported by United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict. This strategy has helped to address gaps and maximize the use of resources and therefore should be replicated in similar situations. In Myanmar, the Women's Protection Working Group has coordinated programme planning in response to Cyclone Nargis. In the Sudan, the presence of senior-level gender-based violence coordinators in each Darfur state has strengthened gender-based violence programming , despite lack of cooperation from the Sudanese Government. A field guide on how to improve gender-based violence coordination is currently being developed.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data and gender mainstreaming	62. United Nations entities have intensified capacity development efforts to ensure that well-trained professionals with gender and gender-based violence expertise are deployed to humanitarian operations. The IASC Gender Standby Capacity project has deployed 29 advisers to 18 humanitarian crises, including one at the global level, to strengthen the clusters' capacity to address gender-based violence, improve gender analysis and mainstreaming, and strengthen the use of sex- and agedisaggregated data.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/84–E/2009/87	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV and Sex/Age disaggregated data	63. To address gaps in knowledge about gender-based violence , the United Nations has reviewed the jurisprudence of international tribunals and courts on sexual violence during conflict ; examined methodologies for data collection and analysed motivations for sexual violence , including against men and boys, in conflict. Additionally, the United Nations has developed systems for collecting and sharing data on gender-based violence ; rolled out standard operating procedures for gender-based violence; piloted gender-based violence coordination training and completed an inter-agency e-learning programme to enhance the skills of humanitarian workers to ensure that women, girls, boys and men have safe access to and equally benefit from humanitarian assistance.
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	91. WFP's recent evaluation of its "Gender Policy (2003–2007): Enhanced Commitments to Women" confirmed that WFP has laid strong foundations for gender mainstreaming by enhancing the visibility and inclusion of women. In line with the recommendations, WFP is developing a new gender policy for Board approval in 2009 that builds on the strengths of the past policies and strategies, while addressing remaining challenges. These include gender-related protection issues in relation to food distributions, and the gender dimensions of HIV and AIDS. Priority actions also include capacity development and accountability in line with the United Nations system-wide policy and strategy on gender mainstreaming (CEB/2006/2).

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, GBV	93. WFP continues to participate in various United Nations task forces as part of inter-agency efforts to respond to gender issues, including gender-based violence . Through the United Nations Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , ⁶ WFP has contributed to the development of the General Assembly resolution on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) ⁷ and to the SEA tools repository . WFP also participates in the United Nations Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict (“UN Action”) and was co-chair with UNHCR and the Women’s Commission of the Task Force on Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy in Humanitarian Settings (SAFE). The SAFE Task Force has developed guidance on fuel efficiency and a matrix on agency roles and responsibilities regarding fuel in humanitarian settings.
Annual report of the World Food Programme for 2008 E/2009/14	ECOSOC	2009	SG Report	GBV	94. At the launch in February 2008 of the Secretary-General’s intensified campaign to end violence against women , WFP made a commitment to increase capacity-building in protection in WFP operations. Training, which targets WFP staff and partners, including governments, has been given in ten country offices; it will be rolled out to another 20 in 2009.
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	46. Based on their assessment of the situation, the seven thematic special procedures formulated eight priority objectives and identified technical assistance needs in that regard 4. Protecting women’s rights and ensuring gender equality;
Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons A/64/214	GA	2009	SG Report	GBV	50. The Representative is concerned about the recruitment of displaced children and instances of gender-based violence at internally displaced person sites, and the high level of crime that occurs with complete impunity and which is perpetrated against internally displaced persons as well as humanitarian actors. The Government of Chad needs to do everything necessary to restore and reinforce without delay a State presence at all levels in the areas affected by displacement, in particular a judicial system, a police presence and basic services, such as education, health care and economic reintegration. Mechanisms for conflict resolution and reconciliation among local communities also need to be strengthened.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. As the cluster approach continues to be implemented in new and ongoing emergencies, it will require strengthened accountability and expertise, improved working arrangements and streamlined tools that integrate gender , HIV/AIDS and environment into overall response. An external evaluation of the clusters currently under way aims to evaluate cluster performance based on its ultimate aim: delivering more timely, predictable and effective humanitarian response to populations in need.
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75–E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	33. A number of United Nations agencies and programmes dedicated some of their resources to issues related to HIV/AIDS. The United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) focused on women’s and girls’ vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases , conducting intensive awareness training on issues of gender and HIV/AIDS . UNFPA worked on strengthening the National AIDS Committee to spearhead and guide the response to HIV/AIDS in the West Bank and Gaza; it also focused on national capacity-building in the areas of reproductive health, population, gender and psychosocial care. UNFPA sought to make reproductive health services accessible to all through the provision of emergency obstetric care and outreach services to isolated communities.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	38. UNIFEM focused its activities on documenting and advocating against abuses of Palestinian women's human rights; providing forums for discussion; supporting toll-free help lines operated by qualified counsellors; and promoting legal literacy and aid for rural women. The agency supported a programme of legal aid and health assistance to Palestinian female prisoners in Israeli detention . UNIFEM focused on the mobilization of 18 community-based women's centres in rural areas, directly benefiting 25,000 women. UNFPA, together with its national partners, complemented these activities by working towards creating community-based initiatives that enable women to protect themselves from gender-based violence . Its activities in that regard included a national conference on combating gender-based violence in cooperation with the Ministry of Women's Affairs. UNFPA arranged training and psychosocial services provided at mobile health clinics, community sessions on gender-based violence , campaigns and the distribution of information materials and female hygiene kits .
Assistance to the Palestinian people A/63/75-E/2008/52	ECOSOC, GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	40. A gender adviser was deployed through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Gender Capacity Standby Project to make recommendations to humanitarian agencies on improving humanitarian assistance to Palestinian women . This mission was supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, with assistance from UNFPA and UNIFEM. The World Food Programme (WFP) targeted food delivery to women wherever possible and also provided human rights training within its food-for-training initiative in the Gaza Strip.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. Beyond Gaza, UNICEF, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, focused on improving enrolment and achievement, ensuring equity in terms of gender , geographical location and special needs.....UNIFEM conducted a pilot academic counselling initiative, targeting rural girls and women .
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	43. During the reporting period, the cluster approach has been implemented in 12 out of 26 countries where resident and humanitarian coordinators are in place. This number will increase in 2008 as more coordinators introduce the cluster approach to improve coordination in preparedness exercises and ongoing emergency response operations. In Pakistan and Mozambique the approach was used for the second time in response to floods. The cluster approach was immediately implemented in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis. An independent evaluation conducted in 2007 indicated that clusters have successfully addressed response gaps and improved strategic planning and preparedness at the field level. The evaluation, however, identified the need to better mainstream gender , HIV/AIDS, environmental concerns and early recovery and to strengthen the clusters' accountability to stakeholders, including national Governments and beneficiaries. To further support the global humanitarian response capacity, an appeal was launched in 2007 requesting \$63 million. To date, only 53 per cent of that amount has been raised.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	60. The significance of mainstreaming gender equality in humanitarian operations to ensure a more effective response has been increasingly recognized by policymakers and practitioners. In 2006, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee launched a five-point strategic plan guided by its 1999 gender policy statement, subsequently leading to an updated Committee policy on gender equality in humanitarian action which was endorsed in May 2008. Additionally, the coalition " United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Crisis " was launched in 2007 to harmonize the United Nations system's response to sexual violence in emergencies . It comprises 12 United Nations entities and supports field-level activities in several countries, including the Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	61. The 2007 IASC gender policy review indicated that progress has been achieved. For example, a gender handbook was published to guide humanitarian actors in ensuring that the different needs of women, girls, boys and men are addressed. Eleven gender advisors have been deployed to the field as part of a newly created gender capacity roster to support gender mainstreaming in countrylevel programming. Preliminary evaluations indicate that gender capacity rosters can significantly improve humanitarian response.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/64/176	GA	2008	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age Disaggregated Data	62. The policy review called for enhanced coordination among humanitarian actors in gender equality programming , including ensuring the equal participation of women , girls, boys and men in all aspects of humanitarian response. It is also fundamental to gender equality to ensure that women and girls are provided with equal opportunities for capacity-building and employment. It is imperative that humanitarian actors report sex- and age-disaggregated data to better inform decision-making, and that accountability mechanisms for mainstreaming gender equality be strengthened.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	PSEA and GBV	10. Pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of discrimination are often exacerbated in post-disaster situations, as illustrated through a reported increase in human rights violations in disaster contexts. These violations include: gender-based violence (including sexual violence) , violations of housing, land and property rights and personal documentation and status rights; discrimination in access to assistance and its distribution; and violations of the right to education and the right to access work and livelihoods in the aftermath of a disaster.
International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development A/64/331	GA	2008	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	80. Member States and the United Nations system are encouraged to support initiatives that address the different impacts of natural disasters on individuals and groups, including through the collection and analysis of data disaggregated by gender, age and other relevant factors.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	24. Chad is host to some 325,000 refugees, including 12,000 new arrivals from Darfur in the east of the country and some 10,000 more from the Central African Republic in the south of the country, during 2008. The number of IDPs in eastern Chad stood at 166,000. Eastern Chad has a resource-scarce environment. As a result, most refugees and IDPs were entirely dependent on international aid, while host communities also needed support. The security situation remained volatile. The Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons voiced his concern about the grave human rights violations committed against displaced people, including forced recruitment of children by armed groups and sexual and gender-based violence . Armed groups compromised the civilian character of the refugee and IDP camps, while violence and insecurity hampered aid operations and led to the temporary evacuation of humanitarian staff
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	29. Despite these challenges, United Nations organizations endeavoured to deliver assistance and improve protection. The United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) forces were deployed and community watch systems were set up to ensure the civilian character of IDP camps. UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) supported programmes to prevent and respond to gender-based violence , offering psychosocial, legal and medical assistance to affected women and girls . In the east, the health cluster mobilized 37 humanitarian organizations to reactivate and re-equip some 1,400 health facilities, with the support of almost 5,000 national health staff and community workers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. Sexual and gender-based violence is one of the defining characteristics of contemporary armed conflict. Hundreds of thousands of women and girls have been subjected to this particular form of violence, which is often aimed at destroying the social fabric of a community. According to a recent study of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, in the Central African Republic 15 per cent of the women and girls living in the crisis zones have been subjected to sexual violence , with new cases of rape being reported each week. In Burundi, WHO has reported that 9 per cent of returnee women who responded to a survey on sexual violence had been sexually abused . This type of violence is often higher in refugee and IDP camps. UNHCR and many other United Nations agencies working in Africa have taken steps to prevent and counter sexual and gender-based violence , including by setting up referral systems to ensure an adequate response to help survivors.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	62. In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNHCR and OHCHR supported a comprehensive programme to provide victims with medical and psychosocial assistance. The programme also seeks to end the impunity of perpetrators by strengthening prosecutions and the rule of law. UNFPA distributed life-saving post-rape treatment kits in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and the Sudan. In Somalia, UNICEF has helped set up a confidential caseworker referral system for women and children .
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	63. In several countries, the United Nations sought to engage men and boys in the struggle against sexual and gender-based violence . Special workshops, training and awareness campaigns were organized to emphasize the positive role men and boys could play in preventing and countering sexual and gender-based violence .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	21. Fighting between Government forces and irregular armed groups, combined with widespread banditry, has severely affected civilians in the north of the Central African Republic, where populations have been subject to human rights abuses, including sexual and gender-based violence , forced recruitment, kidnapping and looting of property. The number of IDPs rose to 197,000 and tens of thousands of civilians sought asylum in neighbouring Chad, Cameroon and the Sudan. The total number of Central African refugees now stands at 104,000.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	23. The situation in eastern Chad has worsened markedly along the volatile border with Darfur where cross-border movements of armed groups, militia clashes, acts of banditry and general impunity affected the safety and security of 250,000 refugees from Darfur, 186,000 Chadian IDPs and the host communities. The presence of armed elements in and around refugee camps and IDP sites, forced recruitment of adults and children, incidents of sexual and gender-based violence , food insecurity, malnutrition and poverty are all pressing humanitarian concerns. Compounding this situation, the depletion of natural resources continued to be a serious source of tension between displaced populations and local communities.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	59. United Nations entities and their partners took steps to coordinate their actions to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence , notably through the United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict joint initiative. In Darfur, much of the work of OHCHR involved documenting cases of gender-based violence against women and girls who had been sexually assaulted by State and non-State actors. In the Congo, UNHCR maintained 51 drop-in centres and conducted awareness sessions for about 3,000 individuals in Loukolela and Betou areas. United Nations entities, including UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Human Rights/United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and their partners reinforced activities to combat sexual and gender-based violence in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where shocking incidents occurred with impunity. Activities included a major sensitization campaign, reinforced health response and the training of legal officers.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	60. The establishment of sexual and gender-based violence standard operating procedures, which ensure that systems are maintained for effective prevention and response, has brought tangible results. In Burundi, 96 per cent of the 300 survivors who reported sexual and gender-based violence in returnee areas received adequate medical, legal and psychosocial support.
Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa A/64/330	GA	2008	SG Report	GBV	61. UNFPA has provided essential life-saving post-rape treatment kits in numerous displacement settings and undertaken training for the clinical management of rape victims in several African countries. Despite these efforts, the problem of sexual and gender-based violence is still widespread in many conflict zones.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/62/87 - E/2007/70	ECOSOC	2007	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	44. United Nations humanitarian organizations are also seeking to improve standby capacities through the clusters, by staffing and training emergency staff and by working with existing Government standby arrangements, such as United Nations Disaster and Coordination, to provide support to country teams for initiating clusters in a sudden-onset emergency. (...) A gender standby capacity has been established to deploy experts to work with clusters on gender equality programming .

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	52. Gender-based violence is an umbrella term for any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females. Sexual violence, a form of gender-based violence that includes any act, attempt, or threat of a sexual nature , is the most common type of gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and is often life-threatening . Non-sexual forms of gender-based violence , such as female genital mutilation; forced early marriage; honour killings; and domestic violence are also prevalent. Women and girls of all ages make up the majority of the victims; however, men and boys are also both direct and indirect victims.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	53. Ending gender-based violence is the primary responsibility of States, as enshrined in national and international legal instruments. However, gender-based violence in humanitarian crises remains a significant and growing concern. Gender-based violence has reached epidemic proportions in conflict settings, where it is commonly used as a deliberate tactic of war to destabilize populations, destroy community bonds and humiliate victims and their families. Gender-based violence is also prevalent in the aftermath of disasters, where mass displacement disrupts government and community structures, and where a breakdown in the rule of law often ensues. In situations of armed conflict, The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols provide specific protections for women and girls. ¹² With respect to other humanitarian emergency situations, gender-based violence is covered by human rights law ¹³ and may fall within the framework of several statutes, conventions and declarations. ¹⁴ Many, but not all, forms of GBV are codified as illegal and criminal acts in national laws and policies.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	54. Ending gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies requires efforts that prevent and deter its use in settings of war and displacement, mitigate the collateral effects within communities in post-crisis situations and provide appropriate support to survivors. Prevention activities include ensuring that physical protection measures are in place and enforced. Such measures may include police training, community implementation of safe food distribution, camp management and fuel collection strategies and public awareness campaigns. Support to survivors includes assistance and protection initiatives such as the establishment of women's community support centres in Western Darfur; the training of national health staff in clinical management of rape survivors in Kenya, Uganda and West Africa; and the implementation of a multi-sectoral programme supporting 10,000 rape survivors in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Such initiatives require the participation of government, when possible, United Nations, international and national NGOs and donors. Using the Inter-Agency Standing Committee
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV	55. Despite repeated condemnations of such violence in numerous international forums, gender-based violence persists virtually unchallenged in many areas. Some governments fail to acknowledge the magnitude of the problem, provide effective physical protection or allow access to treatment. Victims are publicly shamed or imprisoned, survivors and staff providing assistance are harassed and intimidated and perpetrators go unpunished. The lack of a functioning police or judicial system in some humanitarian emergency settings, combined with fears of social reprisals, allow such crimes to take place without consequence. Fighting such impunity should begin with State efforts to review, strengthen and enforce effective legal, judicial and community mechanisms that recognize, report and punish such acts as crimes and that ensure the compensation, protection and support to survivors.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2006	SG Report	GBV and PSEA	56. Fighting impunity also includes ending the sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by some UN personnel. A recent study on the exploitation of children in Liberia sadly reported abuses by UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers . ¹⁵ The United Nations has taken a number of steps to address the problem. These include developing and disseminating standards of conduct, conducting training, introducing clearer reporting mechanisms and developing a policy for assistance to victims. Contracts have been changed for different categories of personnel to incorporate required standards of behaviour. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) has been working closely with Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to improve investigative capacity, the recording and tracking of cases and follow-up with Member States for allegations involving troops or police. Work has also started on improving mechanisms for managerial accountability. While different policies and measures have been introduced, implementation is still slow.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	56. Sexual and gender-based violence continues to be used as a weapon of war as women, girls — and some men and boys — are beaten, raped and humiliated as a means of asserting power, breaking community ties and degrading human dignity. The prevailing culture of impunity in many situations further reinforces these developments. Survivors and victims of such attacks often suffer from serious health consequences and rejection by the community; economic exclusion and social constraints often dissuade victims from seeking or receiving help. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians by peacekeeping or humanitarian personnel in crises is also an issue of grave concern, but one where allegations of such conduct have prompted action by the United Nations and the humanitarian community.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	57. The Economic and Social Council has consistently raised these issues, although with varying impact. Though the Council called upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to sexual violence and to ensure that those responsible are brought to justice, such a directive has not translated into either preventive or punitive measures on the part of States. The role the Council has played on the issue of sexual exploitation on the part of United Nations humanitarian and military staff , however, has been a positive one, reinforcing the specific actions already under way and lending support and momentum to important policy processes. For example, when efforts were under way to implement the standards developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, it was important to have the strong language in Council resolutions when developing the Secretary-General's bulletin on special measures against sexual exploitation and abuse and when following up with the United Nations system and with NGOs on adopting standards developed by the Standing Committee as part of their own codes of conduct.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2005	SG Report	GBV	58. The use of sexual and gender-based violence as a weapon of war is a worrying, enduring problem that should remain firmly on the intergovernmental humanitarian agenda. Ending the culture of impunity that allows such violence to occur should be consistently reinforced by Member States. There is also a need for the more determined engagement of Government with civil society and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to help societies mitigate the effects of such violence, including in the field of health education. Keeping the issue of sexual exploitation of humanitarian staff on the agenda of the Economic and Social Council will continue to be important in continually reinforcing ongoing efforts being undertaken by the system.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs. They can also mobilize or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence the capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/Age disaggregated data, gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advances made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	Sex/age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men, and on girls and boys, need to continually inform programme design.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the United Nations has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the United Nations and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff. ³ The bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries of assistance, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse, and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The United Nations will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the Democratic Republic of the Congo suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations . To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's bulletin in the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel. Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding.

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	7. The protection of civilians in armed conflict continues to be a priority issue across the United Nations system. To a large extent, humanitarian crises are in fact crises of protection. Effective implementation of the principles of protection and international human rights and humanitarian standards requires strengthened coordination on a wide range of issues, including the proliferation of small arms and landmines, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of combatants, security, law and order, sexual exploitation of women and children in conflict , the rights and special needs of refugees and internally displaced persons and the restorative justice issues of impunity and property rights.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	14. [...] Inadequate property rights and insecure access to land can exacerbate a returnee's level of vulnerability . Women in traditional societies are particularly affected. The fact that they are often discriminated against in terms of inheritance rights and access to property and as a result are deprived of an economic base, leads to poverty for themselves and their children.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	18. The need for greater integration of a gender perspective into emergency humanitarian assistance continues to be an important challenge confronting the United Nations, its humanitarian partners and Member States. IASC and its constituent members have developed a range of policies, strategies and guidelines aimed at ensuring that the issue of gender perspectives and the needs, priorities and experience of women and girls are consistently addressed by all personnel involved in humanitarian operations. The challenge remains of ensuring full implementation and utilization of those methods and tools. Concrete measures aimed at systematically integrating a gender perspective into the full range of emergency operations, from their initial stages, are critical to the effective targeting of emergency humanitarian assistance on the ground. Of particular concern is the need for enhanced protection capacities for women and girls in refugee and IDP camps. Integration of a gender perspective is equally vital to the effectiveness of postconflict reconstruction processes. <u>It is essential that efforts to mainstream gender recognize women not only as victims of complex emergencies, but</u>
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	19. The problem of sexual exploitation and abuse remains one of the most pressing issues arising in complex emergencies and armed conflicts. In July 2002, IASC adopted the Plan of Action prepared by the Task Force on the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in humanitarian Crises , which established six core principles representing minimum standards of behaviour expected of all United Nations civilian staff members. A draft Secretary-General's bulletin that will further institutionalize the six core principles through their incorporation into the codes of conduct and staff rules and regulations of all member organizations is currently being finalized. The Task Force is continuing to work on appropriate disciplinary procedures to be followed in the event of a breach of these principles. Several Member States are formally adopting policies requiring incorporation of the core principles into their own agreements with operational partners, as encouraged by the Plan of Action. <u>Humanitarian agencies outside the United Nations system are engaged in similar efforts to adopt or revise their</u>
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	20. Efforts to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises need to be reinforced by concrete action on the part of Member States if they are to be truly effective. The incorporation of the core principles into standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces, and the insistence by donor countries that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding, would facilitate this goal considerably. Another important measure for Member States would be to apply appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and to report to the Security Council on the action taken.

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Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	30. For those countries affected by the combination of famine and HIV/AIDS, sustainable recovery is undermined owing to the breakdown of family support networks, decline in production and loss of income leading to greater impoverishment. Of particular concern is the fact that HIV/AIDS disproportionately affects women and girls, who globally account for more than 50 per cent of new HIV infections. In Africa, women also account for 70 per cent of the agricultural labour force and are responsible for 80 per cent of the food production.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Encourage humanitarian agencies to coordinate, consolidate and promote a gender perspective in all humanitarian assistance activities and to implement existing policies, tools and guidelines on gender mainstreaming;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations. A/58/89_E/2003/85	ECOSOC/GA	2003	SG Report	PSEA	(f) Urge Member States to use the "core principles" in their standards and codes of conduct for national armed forces and police forces and to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation and, similarly, urge donor countries to insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to the release of donor funding;
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming, PSEA	<i>Summary</i> This report addresses the theme of "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges". It examines some of the key humanitarian developments and challenges of the last year. Some of the key issues addressed relate to natural disaster management and the challenges of obtaining sustainable humanitarian access to populations affected by conflict. Developments on key humanitarian policy initiatives are also highlighted. They include updates on efforts to strengthen policies and actions related to the transition from relief to development, gender and humanitarian action, humanitarian financing and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises .
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	10. There is serious cause for concern that sexual abuse and sexual violence are increasingly becoming weapons of war . In the eastern DRC, sexual violence against women and minors continues to be widespread. A network of local and international structures has been formed to address this problem through legal and therapeutic means as well as through advocacy with both military and civil authorities. In Burundi, many women and girls have been subjected to rape and appalling acts of sexual violence , with many of the victims infected by HIV/AIDS. In northern Uganda, the persistent abduction of children and adolescents adds a further tragic dimension to what has become a forgotten conflict. Among those abducted are teenage girls, who are beaten and forced to be sexual slaves and fighters . It is estimated that between 10,000 and 15,000 abductees are being held by the Lords Resistance Army (LRA).

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Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	24. Women and men experience war, displacement, floods and earthquakes differently and may have different priorities, responsibilities and protection needs . They can also mobilise or draw on different resources to protect themselves. There is growing recognition that a better analysis of how gender differences and inequalities influence capacities and vulnerabilities of affected populations in emergencies contributes to the overall effectiveness of humanitarian response. Such analysis can also ensure that the planning and programming of humanitarian agencies build on existing capacities to respond to priority needs.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	25. To this end, renewed efforts have been made to strengthen gender analysis in the common humanitarian action plans (CHAPs) and to ensure that projects included in the CAP are in line with agreed analysis of priority needs and response. Following an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the CAP, gender issues were integrated in the new CAP NAFM with the aim of ensuring that organizations carrying out programmes within the CAP break down needs, capacities and vulnerabilities by gender and age when assessing needs and planning and implementing programmes. The CAP technical guidelines and workshop facilitation materials have been updated to reflect advancements made in the needs assessment process.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming and Sex/Age disaggregated data	26. Notwithstanding the progress that has been made, there continue to be serious gaps in integrating gender concerns into the humanitarian response. The systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming guidelines in field operations remains weak. The planning of humanitarian assistance can be further improved by the incorporation in each key sector of gender- and age-disaggregated data . Further analysis on the way programmes impact on women and men as well as girls and boys need to continually inform programme design.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	27. Sexual exploitation and abuse of civilians in humanitarian crises remains an issue of grave concern. A key challenge confronting the UN has been the prevention of and response to incidents of abuse perpetrated by personnel working for or affiliated with the UN and its partners, including both civilian staff and uniformed peacekeeping personnel. The Secretary-General's Bulletin of 9 October 2003 on Special Measures for Protection From Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse sets out minimum standards of behaviour expected of all UN civilian staff. The Bulletin defines sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and clarifies that such acts, particularly when perpetrated against beneficiaries, constitute serious misconduct and are grounds for disciplinary measures, including summary dismissal. In addition, the Bulletin obliges all staff to report concerns or suspicions of sexual exploitation and abuse , and places the onus on managers at all levels to support and develop systems that maintain an environment that prevents such incidents.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	28. The establishment of a complaints system at field level is the first step in ensuring a system of accountability. The UN will receive regular annual reports on all incidents and on the measures being adopted at country level to protect from sexual exploitation and abuse . A number of tools to assist in the implementation of the Bulletin, such as guidance on investigative procedures, are in development. Follow-up measures will continue throughout the year.

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Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	29. Recent events in the DRC suggest that there is a systemic problem in addressing the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse by uniformed personnel participating in peacekeeping operations. To facilitate efforts to prevent and respond to such incidents, Member States should incorporate the core principles enshrined in the Secretary-General's Bulletin into the standards and codes of conduct for their national armed forces and police forces. Member States should also be urged to ensure that appropriate action is taken in response to allegations of sexual abuse and exploitation by their troops and personnel . Finally, donor countries should insist that all of their implementing partners include the core principles in their codes of conduct prior to release of donor funding.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	(e) Humanitarian organisations should strengthen their efforts to integrate a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian activities.
Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/59/ E/2004	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	(g) Member States should consider ways to ensure that efforts within the UN system to address the problem of sexual exploitation and abuse in armed conflict are reinforced by concrete actions to promote similar standards of behaviour for uniformed personnel serving under UN auspices.
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA/GBV	PP 16. <i>Gravely concerned</i> that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys , continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities , and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	GBV	OP 33. <i>Strongly condemns</i> all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse , and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 36. <i>Encourages</i> the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement internal tools and to take effective measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and, in this respect, notes with interest the Secretary- General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2004/INF/2/Add. 2 2004/50	ECOSOC/GA	2004	SG Report	PSEA	OP 37. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;

Resolutions

Document #	Type	Year	Report/ Resolution	Subject of Language	Actual Text
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Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel A/63/L.48	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	<i>Strongly condemning</i> acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault and all forms of violence committed in particular against women and children , and intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of property,
Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 2008/37	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 7. <i>Expresses its deep concern</i> that the number of people living in extreme poverty remains significantly high in the least developed countries, while an increasing number of people are at risk of malnutrition, in particular children and women, and recognizes that there are important linkages between development, poverty eradication and gender equality ;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP6: Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner , and taking note of the updated policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 14. Urges Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies , calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence , and also calls for a more effective response in this regard;
Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system 2008/34	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 4. (g) To enhance collaboration and coordination in the work of gender specialists and gender focal points working, inter alia, in the areas of peace and security, humanitarian affairs and economic and social development;
Strengthening coordination of the United Nations and other efforts in fighting trafficking in persons 2008/33	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming, Sex/Age disaggregated data	OP 5. Calls upon Governments and relevant actors from the international community to take into account the age, gender and special needs of victims of trafficking in persons ;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 19. <i>Stresses</i> that policies and strategies for achieving full employment and decent work for all should include specific measures to promote gender equality and foster social integration of social groups, such as youth, persons with disabilities, and older persons, as well as migrants and indigenous peoples;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 20. Also stresses that these policies and strategies should promote gender equality, empowerment of women and better possibilities for all to reconcile work and private and family life;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 21. Encourages Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers , to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work , and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value ;
Promoting full employment and decent work for all 2008/18	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 32. Stresses the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices such as those promoted by the Global Compact, and invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings ; and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;
Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development 2008/17	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 3. Further welcomes the efforts made by African countries and regional and sub regional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of women in the implementation of the New Partnership ;
Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women 2008/11	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 6. Requests the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women , ¹⁸ in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action ¹⁹ and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti 2008/10	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Notes</i> the progress made by the Government of Haiti in terms of gender equality , and also notes the importance of gender equality as a necessary dimension of any strategy for development ;
Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 4. Notes that the gender divide still persists in respect of the quality and variety of means of access to the Internet and information and communications technologies in the building of the information society in both developed and developing countries;

Compilation of Language: ECOSOC and GA Reports on Gender Equality Programming

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society 2008/3	ECOSOC	2008	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	OP 12. Recommends that all States strive for gender equality in access to the Internet and in building the information society in both developed and developing countries, by ensuring the inclusion of the gender approach in information and communications technology policies in national strategies;
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	PP. 8 <i>Noting with grave concern</i> that violence, including gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and violence against children, continues to be deliberately directed against civilian populations in many emergency situations,
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations A/63/L.49	GA	2008	Resolution	GBV	OP 23. <i>Urges</i> all Member States to address gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies and to ensure that their laws and institutions are adequate to prevent, promptly investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, and calls upon States, the United Nations and all relevant humanitarian organizations to improve coordination, harmonize response and strengthen capacity in support services to victims of such violence;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 3. <i>Reaffirms</i> the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection , taking into account the particular needs of women , children, older persons and persons with disabilities;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add. 4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	gender mainstreaming	PP 10. <i>Stresses</i> the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of existing policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective in the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities;

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strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 11. <i>Welcomes</i> the establishment by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee of the six core principles in the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises , representing minimum standards of behaviour required of all United Nations civilian staff members, and urges the United Nations to take appropriate follow-up action in response to allegations of sexual violence and exploitation by humanitarian workers ;
strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations E/2003/INF/2/Add.4	ECOSOC	2003	Resolution	PSEA	PP 12. <i>Encourages</i> Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies , and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;