** POSITION PAPER**

**Committee- United Nations Commission on the Status of Women**

**Topic- Empowering women through Entrepreneurship**

**Country- Uganda**

**“There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women”.**

The famous quote stated by Kofi Annan who had served as the Secretary General of United Nations , clearly signifies the need and importance of women empowerment for achieving overall development.

On analyzing our past civilization, it clearly shows that whenever women came to power the nation rather to say our whole civilization had achieved glory,whether it was case of Queen of Britain or Queen of Egypt.

But certainly things are not a cakewalk for women today despite making nearly half of the workforce and does almost equal work as man but are still not completely independent. So many barriers, obstacles stop their path. Despite this fact, still steps for developing and improving women’s condition exist in pocket.Why?

One such country which took major steps for Empowering women is Uganda. Since 2002,in Uganda International Labour Organization’s(ILO)s Women’s Entrepreneurship Development Program had been started. Though many problems arises but Uganda didn’t stop. It basically focus on finding the deficiencies in the conditions affecting the emergence of women entrepreneurs and the ability of existing women owned enterprise to access the necessary resources and support for sustainability and growth on an equal opportunity basis. It continuously put its efforts to empower women through Entrepreneurship in order to meet’s developing goals and now ,it ranks in top 10 countries for Women Entrepreneurship. Our mission is to build the capacity of lower income women to become entrepreneurs and to overcome their obstacles. This kind of policies are required in every country because women can play a major role in rising any nation’s economy. Basically our strategy for women’s empowerment mainly focuses on supporting partners in government, civil society and the private sector to unlock institutional barriers to gender equality. Not only this,4 focus groups were organised which focus on women’s development. Along with this Women’s Entrepreneurs Survey was taken.Hence,emowering women through entrepreneurship, equipping them with skills, knowledge, resources is must. Policies, steps hence are needed to be undertake for women’s in the society.

But such kind of things can’t be achieved in one day. It requires a lot of planning as well as efforts . Uganda had prepared a report of women’s condition and then took the required steps. We had prepared a WED Framework in which we put the various problems, actions along with their outputs . If one lacks systematic way ,things can’t be achieved

One of the major reason why women are not empowered yet is the mentality of people who considered women as inferior other reasons includes lack of sustainability, resource scarcity social stigma, lack of experience in managing business and financial dependence. In my opinion if you want to empower women then the first step to be undertaken is bringing gender equality because it is one of the root cause why women are still not completely empowered.

But it doesn’t means that women are not supposed to get empowered they are and with our small efforts they will. To the people who are against this just answer my one thing how can you say that women’s are inferior despite the fact that you were given birth by a women only. Why don’t she have equal rights ?Why she is suppressed by men’s. She is having the right to be independent, to become whatever she wants and to be become educated and empowerment equally as men did.

Uganda recommend other countries to introduce some policies regarding women’s enterpreneurship,just some small efforts can truly lit someone’s life.

* The National Development Plan for any country recognizes the economic empowerment of women as a critical priority and should set goals for improving women’s access to property, skills, capacities and resources so that they may participate equally in generating wealth for the country(through enterprise activities).
* Also, the reports, datasets should be fully analysed from a gender perspective. This would be useful in terms of establishing gender specific differences and monitoring them over periods of time.
* Also, women’s should be made aware of their rights so that they can themselves demand and fight for it.

Prepare a systematic way and contribute in this field to make your mother, daughter empowered.

Hence, empowerment of women is must because women are the backbone of the society and their development as well as improvement in their qualities results in the growth of the society as well as economy. Empowering women is the way towards a brighter future. Once empowered, they are capable of doing all the things which men can do. And for those who are against it, remember that a woman is the companion of men gifted with equal mental capacity.