**DWPS GLENGAZE MUN**  

**“MODEL UNITED NATIONS”**

**POSITION PAPER**

## **COUNTRY: CHINA**

## **COMMITTEE: UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA)**

**AGENDA: STRENGTHENIG THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT**

**POPULATION: 1.4 BILLION**

**DELEGATE: SAGNIK MUKHERJEE**

**INTRODUCTION:** Generally, women are viewed as victims of conflict, which hides their role, as women play as leaders, and active participants in peace efforts. Any attempt to undermine and ignore this role is not likely to bring about any lasting peace in the conflict zones. As such the Women's participation and empowerment are considered to be crucial components of the maintenance of peace and security as well as the encouragement of disarmament at national and international level.The United nations and other international organisations are always emphasising the need for strengthening the role of women in international peace and security, especially in political decision-making and peace processes.

**TRADITIONAL CULTURE**

As regards the role of Chinese women, it can be seen from the ancient time during which the strict rules of **Confucian ideology** were imposed upon the women to restrict them from doing what they had wanted. However, this situation had changed and these women excelled in their life like Empress Wu Zetian, the **only female emperor** who ruled China during the **Tang Dynasty** or like Lin Siniang, one amazing woman who broke with social conventions at a time when women did not hold such important, or dangerous, positions. Further, one cannot forget those turbulent times – famine caused the **Taiping Rebellion** in 1850 and in 1856 France and Britain invaded China, causing the **Second** **Opium War** and the role of Empress Dowager Cixi to modernise China and boost its economy. The new government of the People’s Republic made a firm commitment to guarantee the equality between women and men. The provisions in their basic law ensure women equal rights with men in political, economic, cultural, educational and social life and also abolish the feudal system which holds women in bondage.

**PRESENT SCENERIO**

Placing the advancement of women's human rights at the centre of our work, UN Women China focuses on:

**Violence against Women** This fundamental violation of women’s rights remains widespread. Women need strong laws, backed by implementation and services for protection and prevention.

**Leadership and Political Participation** Whether in political bodies or corporate boardrooms, women have a limited say in the decisions that affect them. Measures are needed to open more space for women’s participation and help women realize their full leadership potential.

**Economic Empowerment Women** lag far behind men in access to land, credit and decent jobs, even though a growing body of research shows that enhancing women’s economic options boosts national economies.

**National Planning and Budgeting** Public planning often overlooks women’s specific needs and priorities. Gender equality should be a stated objective of all plans, backed by specific actions for implementation and sufficient funding.

**UN Women China's programmes are guided by:**

* The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979
* The Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), 1995
* The Millennium Declaration and Development Goals (MDGs), 2005
* The Paris Declaration, 2005

**NEWLY GUIDED POLICIES IN STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF WOMEN IN CHINA**

1) Representation and rights-based arguments

Since women constitute half of the world’s population, they should be equally engaged in nuclear policy discussions as in any other discussion that affects their lives. Currently, on the international level, nuclear disarmament negotiations are predominantly conducted by men. In the First Committee of the United Nations that deals with disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control issues, women constitute only 32% of all delegates – the smallest proportion among all UN Committees. As the UN Institute for Disarmament Research found, the proportion of women is negatively correlated with the increase in the importance of the position, moving from diplomatic personnel to ambassadors, posts in the foreign ministry, and heads of governments. This correlation, however, has its own exceptions. In addition, the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs has been headed by women twice, namely by Izumi Nakamitsu since 2017 and by Angela Kane from 2012 until 2015.

(2) Diversity fosters innovation -With the growing tensions in international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation negotiations and the eroding legal basis of this regime, the field is increasingly in need of new ideas. As studies show, diversity leads to innovation and prevents groupthink.  Therefore, greater participation of women in nuclear policy might pave the path for new perspectives and ways to make progress

61% of all self-made female billionaires in the world are Chinese, including nine out of the top 10, as well as the world's richest self-made female billionaire Zhong Huijuan.

3) EMPLOYMENT -In 2019 a government directive was released banning employers in China from posting "men preferred" or "men only" job advertising, and banning companies from asking women seeking jobs about their childbearing and marriage plans or requiring applicants to take pregnancy tests

* During the 2020 National People’s Congress a civil code was adopted which contained a number of significant changes for China’s laws on marriage and family. A 30 day “cooling off period” was added to divorce proceedings which undermines the personal freedom of Chinese women.
* The new civil code continues to define marriage as only between a man and a woman. The state mouthpiece Xinhua described the new civil code as guarantying “a harmonious family and society.”
* This completes a transition from the women hold up half of the sky era in which, at least rhetorically,
* China is one of the most progressive nations in the world in terms of women’s rights

(4) Feminism offers a shift in thinking about nuclear weapons

As the feminist argument about nuclear weapons goes, one of the biggest obstacles to nuclear disarmament is the association of nuclear weapons with power. ‘These weapons are perceived as an ultimate guarantor of state security, as a deterrent against an external enemy. It is, however, neglected that if a nuclear weapon is detonated, it will be detrimental to all, including those who pushed the button. The current global crisis, as argued by advocates of antimilitarism, supports this line of thinking: because the healthcare sector in many countries has been underinvested in, human lives are now lost, while trillions of dollars are still being poured into weapons manufacturing and trade. The calls to implement a ceasefire to all conflicts in the time of COVID-19 pandemics, stop weapons production, and invest more in healthcare are the best ways to provide security for today. China supports a bigger role for women in good offices and dispute mediation. They appreciate the leading role of UN women and look forward to its greater contribution for the implementation of UN resolutions on empowerment of women

**CONCLUSION**:

**WOMENS ARE VERY MUCH SAFE IN CHINA AND CHINA WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE THEM FEEL SO IN EACH POSSIBLE WAY**

* Providing equal rights in each perspective of life.
* Making them feel safe and secure.
* Actually make them feel that women hold up half sky.

**SUGGESTIONS**

(1)Conflict Preventions:- To ensure the safeguard of women's rights and interests in China, all possible measures are to be taken to prevent war and reducing conflicts. The Council should engage a proportionate number of women in their preventive diplomacy and, promote them to use various means such as dialogue, consultations and negotiations for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

(2) Reconstruction and Peace Building:- Efforts are to be continued for ensuring the participation of women in conflict resolution and prevention as well as in rehabilitation and reconstruction in safeguarding the rights and interests of women and enhancing their role in peace and security, specific national conditions and historical and cultural differences must also be taken into account.

(3) Economic Development:- Economic disparity is always interlinked to peace and security. Hence, economic issues need to be addressed at appropriate level, both regionally and internationally.

**“THE EMPOWERED WOMEN IS POWERFUL BEYOND MEASURE AND BEAUTIFUL BEYOND DESCRIPTION”**.