

## **Answering the UN Secretary-General's Call on Gender-Based Violence and COVID-19**

*Statement by 124 UN Member States and Observers*

We strongly support the appeal by United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Gender-Based Violence and COVID-19.

As more countries report infection and lockdown, domestic violence helplines and shelters across the world are reporting rising calls for help. Victims and survivors have no means of escape when violence occurs in the place they are being told to take shelter: at home.

More than ever, there needs to be zero tolerance for domestic violence. We commit to making prevention and redress of gender-based violence a key part of our national and global responses, including ensuring that information is available and that services are safely accessible.

We pay tribute to social and health workers, civil society organisations, as well as UN Women and other UN agencies for their important efforts to tackle this crisis.

Women are not just victims. They play a major role in the response against COVID-19. Nearly 70 per cent of frontline health and social workers are women. Women also shoulder a disproportionate share of unpaid care work and they are critical actors in the sustainable development of all countries.

We must therefore ensure women are included in all response and recovery decisions. This is the only way to “build back better” for everyone.

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|----------------|-------------|----------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 43. France  | 84. New Zealand      |
| 2. Albania     | 44. Gambia  | 85. Nigeria          |
| 3. Andorra     | 45. Hungary | 86. Norway           |
| 4. Angola      | 46. Georgia | 87. Palau            |
| 5. Argentina   | 47. Germany | 88. Panama           |
| 6. Armenia     | 48. Ghana   | 89. Papua New Guinea |
| 7. Australia   | 49. Greece  | 90. Paraguay         |

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|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 8. Austria                           | 50. Guatemala                        | 91. Peru                         |
| 9. Azerbaijan                        | 51. Guyana                           | 92. Philippines                  |
| 10. Bahamas                          | 52. Honduras                         | 93. Poland                       |
| 11. Bangladesh                       | 53. Iceland                          | 94. Portugal                     |
| 12. Belgium                          | 54. Ireland                          | 95. Republic of Korea            |
| 13. Bhutan                           | 55. Israel                           | 96. Republic of Moldova          |
| 14. Bolivia                          | 56. Italy                            | 97. Romania                      |
| 15. Bosnia and Herzegovina           | 57. Jamaica                          | 98. Samoa                        |
| 16. Botswana                         | 58. Japan                            | 99. San Marino                   |
| 17. Brazil                           | 59. Jordan                           | 100. Serbia                      |
| 18. Bulgaria                         | 60. Kenya                            | 101. Seychelles                  |
| 19. Burkina Faso                     | 61. Latvia                           | 102. Sierra Leone                |
| 20. Burundi                          | 62. Lebanon                          | 103. Slovakia                    |
| 21. Canada                           | 63. Liberia                          | 104. Slovenia                    |
| 22. Cabo Verde                       | 64. Liechtenstein                    | 105. Solomon Islands             |
| 23. Chile                            | 65. Lithuania                        | 106. South Africa                |
| 24. Colombia                         | 66. Luxembourg                       | 107. Spain                       |
| 25. Comoros                          | 67. Malawi                           | 108. Suriname                    |
| 26. Costa Rica                       | 68. Malaysia                         | 109. Switzerland                 |
| 27. Côte d'Ivoire                    | 69. Maldives                         | 110. Sweden                      |
| 28. Croatia                          | 70. Mali                             | 111. Thailand                    |
| 29. Cyprus                           | 71. Malta                            | 112. Trinidad and Tobago         |
| 30. Czech Republic                   | 72. Marshall Islands                 | 113. Tunisia                     |
| 31. Democratic Republic of the Congo | 73. Mauritius                        | 114. Turkey                      |
| 32. Denmark                          | 74. Mexico                           | 115. Tuvalu                      |
| 33. Djibouti                         | 75. Micronesia (Federated States of) | 116. Uganda                      |
| 34. Dominican Republic               | 76. Monaco                           | 117. Ukraine                     |
| 35. Ecuador                          | 77. Mongolia                         | 118. United Kingdom              |
| 36. El Salvador                      | 78. Montenegro                       | 119. United Republic of Tanzania |
| 37. Equatorial Guinea                | 79. Morocco                          | 120. Uruguay                     |
| 38. Estonia                          | 80. Namibia                          | 121. Vanuatu                     |
| 39. Eswatini                         | 81. North Macedonia                  | 122. Venezuela                   |
| 40. Ethiopia                         | 82. Nepal                            | 123. State of Palestine          |
| 41. Fiji                             | 83. Netherlands                      | 124. European Union              |
| 42. Finland                          |                                      |                                  |