

**UN Commission of the Status of Women 70th Session****General Discussion****Oral Statement**

Mr/Madam Chair, Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

As we advance the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the rapid digitalization of legal systems raises a critical question: will artificial intelligence expand women's access to justice or entrench existing inequalities behind a veil of technological neutrality? AI is already shaping justice systems worldwide, from case management and legal research to risk assessments and decision-support tools. When governed responsibly, AI can expand access to legal information, especially for women and girls facing geographic, financial, or social barriers.

However, the risks are profound. AI systems are only as fair as the data and assumptions that shape them. Globally, over 2 billion women live under at least one discriminatory law, and justice data often reflects these structural biases. When trained on such data, AI systems can reinforce gender stereotypes, adversely affect marginalized women, and undermine due process. Opaque algorithms and weak oversight threaten women's rights to equality before the law, privacy, and effective remedies.

Without strong safeguards, AI risks becoming a new systemic barrier, since technology is never neutral. Ensuring access to justice for all women and girls in the digital age requires human-rights-based and gender-responsive AI governance. This includes strengthening AI literacy across the legal sector, while also empowering women as rights-holders through accessible legal information and transparency whenever AI tools are used in legal decisions.

In this context, concrete accountability mechanisms are critical. Commitments must be supported by gender and human rights impact assessments, transparency and explainability requirements, disaggregated data to detect bias, and enforceable remedies to challenge both human and automated decisions. To deliver on these commitments, we call on Member States to establish and strengthen human-rights-based governance for AI in justice systems, ensuring transparency, oversight, and safeguards against gender bias.

Excellencies,

Access to justice is not defined by innovation alone- it depends on trust, accountability, and fairness. AI must dismantle discrimination, not encode it into digital systems. The choices we make today will determine whether AI narrows or deepens gender inequality. Ensuring justice for all women and girls in the age of AI is therefore not only our responsibility- it is a defining test of our collective commitment to gender equality.

Thank you.

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