

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPERT GROUP MEETING TO REVIEW AND UPDATE THE 1997  
MODEL STRATEGIES AND PRACTICAL MEASURES ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE,  
BANGKOK, 23 - 26 MARCH 2009**

**Text of the revised Model Strategies and Practical Measures  
on the Elimination of Violence Against Women  
in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

**DRAFT**

**Preamble**

1. The multifaceted nature of violence against women ~~necessitates~~ ~~suggests that~~ different strategies **to respond to the diverse are required for different** manifestations of violence and the various settings in which it occurs, **both in private and public life, whether committed in the home, the workplace, the community or society, in custody or in situations of armed conflict. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recognize the importance of adopting a systematic, comprehensive, multi-sectoral and sustained approach to violence against women.** The practical measures, strategies and activities described below can be introduced in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice to **address** ~~deal with the problem of~~ violence against women. Except where otherwise specified, the term “women” encompasses “girl children”.

**1. bis Violence against women exists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation of the enjoyment of human rights and a major impediment to achieving gender equality, development and peace. Violence against women is rooted in historically unequal power relations between men and women. All forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and have serious immediate and long term implications for health, including sexual and reproductive health, as well as increased vulnerability to HIV/AIDs, as well as a negative impact on the psychological, social and economic development of individuals, families, communities and States.**

**1. Violence against women is often embedded in and supported by social values, structures and practices. The criminal justice system and legislators are not immune to such values and thus have not always regarded violence against women with the same seriousness as other violence. Therefore, it is important that actors within the criminal justice system recognise violence against women as a gendered problem and as an expression of power and inequality.**

**2. ~~Recalling the definition of~~ Violence against women ~~is defined contained~~ in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and reiterated in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women **to mean any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.** These Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (*hereinafter* **Model Strategies and Practical Measures**) build on the measures adopted by Governments in the Platform for Action, **adopted in 1995 and subsequently re-affirmed in 2000 and 2005, the Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice adopted in 1997, and relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/143,** bearing in mind that some groups of women are especially vulnerable to violence.**

**3. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures specifically acknowledge the need for ~~an active policy of bringing into the~~ mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies, ~~and~~ programmes, ~~and practices related to violence against women and of achieving~~ **to ensure** gender equality and equal and fair access to justice, as well as establishing the goal of gender balance in **all** areas of decision-making **including those** related to the elimination of violence against women. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures should be applied as guidelines in a manner consistent with relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child **and its Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,** ~~and~~ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, **the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and the United Nations Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime** with a view to furthering their fair and effective implementation. **The Model Strategies and Practical Measures reaffirm the commitment of States to promote gender equality and empower women, pursuant to Goal 3 of the Millennium Development Goals.****

**4. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures should be implemented by Member States and other entities in a manner consistent with the right to equality before the law, while recognizing that gender equality may sometimes require different approaches which acknowledge the different ways violence impacts women as compared to men [by ensuring that women have equal protection of the law and equal access to justice] ~~, without prejudice to the principle of gender equality before the law,~~ in order to**

facilitate the efforts by Governments to **prevent the occurrence of violence against women through well-planned prevention strategies**, and to deal with **all forms** ~~the various manifestations~~ of violence against women within the criminal justice system.

**4. bis The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recognise that measures regarding violence against women must be focused on the needs of victims, promote women’s agency and empower individual women who are victims of violence. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures aim at ensuring intervention efforts that not only stop and appropriately sanction the violence, but also restore a sense of control to the victim.**

5. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures are aimed at **contributing to providing** ~~providing~~ *de jure* and *de facto* equality between women and men. The Model Strategies and Practical Measures do not give preferential treatment to women but are aimed at ensuring that any inequalities or forms of discrimination that women face in achieving access to justice, particularly in respect of acts of violence, are redressed.

**5. bis The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recall the recognition of sexual violence as an issue of international peace and security as outlined in Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820 on women and peace and security, particularly the need for parties to armed conflict to adopt prevention and protection measures in order to end sexual violence.**

**5. ter The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recognise that women belonging to minority groups, including those based on nationality, ethnicity, religion or language, indigenous women, migrant women, stateless women, women living in underdeveloped, rural or remote communities, homeless women, women in institutions or in detention, women with disabilities, elderly women, widows and women who are otherwise discriminated against, as well as women living in conflict and post-conflict situations require special attention in the development of criminal justice strategies to address violence against women.**

**5. quat The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recognise advances in crime prevention strategies and practice, and the importance of investing in the prevention of violence against women.**

**5. quin The Model Strategies and Practical Measures recognise that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including women, and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of violence against women, to eliminate impunity and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.**

## I. Criminal Law

6. Member States are urged:

(a) To ~~periodically~~ review, evaluate and revise their laws, codes and procedures, **programmes, policies and practices**, especially their criminal laws, **on an on-going basis** to ensure their value and effectiveness in eliminating **all forms of violence** against women and to remove provisions that allow for or condone violence against women **or that increase the vulnerability of or re-victimize women victims of violence**;

(b) To review, evaluate and revise their criminal and civil laws, ~~within the framework of their national legal systems~~, **codes, procedures and practices** in order to ensure that all acts of violence against women are prohibited **and penalized** and, if not, to adopt measures to do so;

**(b) bis To enact specific and comprehensive legislation on the elimination of all forms of violence against women;**

(c) To review, evaluate and revise their criminal laws in order to ensure that:

(i) Persons who are brought before the courts on judicial matters in respect of violent crimes or who are convicted of such crimes can be restricted in their possession and use of firearms and other regulated weapons, within the framework of their national legal systems;

(ii) Individuals can be prohibited or restrained, within the framework of their national legal systems, from harassing, intimidating or threatening women;

**(ii) bis Repeated violent acts against a spouse or someone else who is in a close relationship to the perpetrator is treated as an aggravated factor;**

**(ii) ter The laws on sexual violence adequately protect all persons against sexual acts, especially intercourse, that are not based on the consent of both parties who have reached the age of consent;**

**(ii) quat The law protects all minors against sexual violence, sexual abuse, commercial sexual exploitation and sexual harassment, including crimes that are made on the internet;**

**(ii) quin Harmful traditional practices, including female genital mutilation, in all its forms is prohibited by criminal law as an aggravated offence, including when they are committed in another country;**

**(ii) sext Trafficking in persons for sexual and other exploitation (such as, yet not limited to, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs) is criminalized by law;**

**(ii) sept Individuals can be investigated and punished for committing acts of violence against women abroad, including individuals serving in the armed forces or on in United Nations peacekeeping operations;**

**(c) bis To continually review, evaluate and revise their [civil] laws, policies, practices and procedures in order to effectively respond to violence against women including to ensure that such measures complement and are consistent with the criminal justice system's response to such violence, including ensuring that decisions reached in marital dissolutions, child custody and other family law proceedings for cases involving domestic violence or child abuse adequately safeguard victims and their children;**

**(c) ter To review and, where appropriate, revise, amend, or abolish all laws, regulations, policies, practices and customs that discriminate against women or have a discriminatory impact on women, and ensure that provisions of multiple legal systems, where they exist, comply with international human rights obligations, commitments and principles, including the principle of non-discrimination.**

## **II. Criminal Procedure**

7. Member States are urged to review, evaluate and revise their criminal procedure, as appropriate, in order to ensure that:

(a) The police have, with judicial authorization where required by national law, adequate powers to enter premises and conduct arrests in cases of violence against women, **and to impose measures to ensure the safety of the victim**, including confiscation of weapons;

(b) The primary responsibility for initiating **investigations and** prosecutions lies with **the police and** prosecution authorities and does not rest with women subjected to violence, **regardless of the level or type of injury**;

(c) Women subjected to violence are **enabled** ~~have an opportunity~~ to testify in court proceedings **through equal to that of other witnesses and that measures that are available to facilitate such testimony, and to protect their privacy and identity; ensure safety**

**during legal proceedings; and avoid “secondary victimization”<sup>1</sup>. In such jurisdictions where safety cannot be guaranteed to the victim, refusing to testify should not constitute a criminal or other offence;**

(d) **Evidentiary rules are non-discriminatory and all relevant evidence can be brought before the court and** rules and principles of defence do not discriminate against women and such defences as honour or provocation do not allow perpetrators of violence against women to escape ~~all~~ criminal responsibility;

(d) **bis The credibility of a complainant in a sexual violence case is understood to be the same as the credibility of a complainant in any other criminal proceeding; the introduction of the complainant’s sexual history in both civil and criminal proceedings is prevented [limited]; and courts are prohibited from drawing any adverse inference from a delay of any length between the alleged commission of a sexual offence and the reporting thereof;**

(e) Perpetrators who commit acts of violence against women while voluntarily under the influence of alcohol or drugs are not absolved of ~~all criminal or other~~ responsibility;

(f) Evidence of prior acts of violence, abuse, stalking and exploitation by the perpetrator is considered during court proceedings, in accordance with the principles of national criminal law;

(g) Courts **and / or police**, ~~subject to the national constitution of their State,~~ have the authority to issue **and enforce** protection, ~~and~~ restraining orders, **or barring orders** in cases of violence against women, including removal of the perpetrator from the domicile, prohibiting further contact with the victim and other affected parties, inside and outside the domicile, **child support and custody orders** and to impose penalties for breaches of these orders. **If such powers cannot be granted to the police, measures must be taken to ensure rapid access to the court decisions so as to ensure swift action by the court. Such protective measures should not be dependent on initiating a criminal case;**

(h) **Comprehensive services and protection** measures can be taken when necessary to ensure the safety and privacy of victims and their families **at all stages of the criminal justice process, without prejudice to the victim’s ability or willingness to participate in investigation or prosecution,** and to protect them from intimidation and retaliation, **including establishing witness-victim protection programmes;**

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<sup>1</sup> Secondary victimization” means victimization that occurs not as a direct result of a criminal act but through the response of institutions and individuals to the victim.

(i) Safety risks are taken into account in decisions concerning non-custodial or quasi-custodial sentences, the granting of bail, conditional release, parole or probation, **especially concerning repeat and dangerous offenders;**

(i) **bis The claims of self-defence by women who have been victims of violence should be taken into account in investigation, prosecution and sentencing;**

(i) **ter General procedures and complaint mechanisms be accessible to women without fear of reprisal or discrimination.**

### **III. Police, Prosecutors and other Criminal Justice Officials**

8. Member States are urged, within the framework of their national legal systems:

(a) To ensure that the applicable provisions of laws, codes, ~~and~~ procedures, **programmes, policies and practices** related to violence against women are consistently **and effectively** enforced **or applied**, ~~in such a way that all criminal acts of violence against women are recognized and responded to accordingly~~ by the criminal justice system, **including through the development of regulations and protocols;**

(a) **bis To develop mechanisms to ensure a comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated response to violence against women including specially trained police, prosecutors, forensic examiners, and victim support services to contribute to the well-being of the victim and increase the likelihood of a successful apprehension, prosecution and conviction of the offender, and to prevent re-victimization;**

(a) **ter To promote, where possible, the use of specialized expertise in the police, prosecution and other criminal justice agencies including through the establishment, where possible, of specialized units or dedicated justice system personnel and specialized courts and/or dedicated court time. This strategy does not replace the need to ensure that all police, prosecution and other criminal justice officials receive regular and institutionalized gender sensitivity training and capacity building on violence against women;**

(a) **quat To promote the development and implementation of protocols within different criminal justice agencies to ensure consistent and effective responses to the commission of violence against women by personnel within such agencies and to**

**ensure that attitudes of criminal justice officials that foster, justify or tolerate violence against women are held up to public scrutiny and sanction;**

(b) To develop **and implement policies and responses regarding the investigation and collection of evidence** ~~investigative techniques~~ that **take into account the unique needs and perspectives of victims of violence, respect their dignity and integrity** ~~do not degrade women subjected to violence~~ and that minimize intrusion into their lives, while maintaining standards for the collection of the best evidence;

**(b) bis Train victim advocates and first responders (including police, prosecutors and judges) to conduct lethality and dangerous assessments that indicate the level or extent of harm victims may be subjected to based on threats, the presence of weapons and other determining factors;**

(c) To ensure that ~~police~~ **laws, policies, practices or procedures pertaining to** ~~including~~ decisions on the arrest, detention and terms of any form of release of the perpetrator, take into account the need for the safety of the victim and others related through family, socially or otherwise and that these procedures also prevent further acts of violence;

**(c) bis To establish a registration system for judicial protection and restraining orders, where such orders are permitted by national law, so that police or criminal justice officials can quickly determine whether such an order is in force;**

(d) To empower **and equip** the police **and other criminal justice professions** to respond promptly to incidents of violence against women, **including drawing on a rapid court order where appropriate and taking measures to ensure fast and efficient case management in the criminal justice system;**

(e) To **establish codes of conduct for law enforcement and** ensure that the exercise of police powers is undertaken according to the rule of law and ~~codes of conduct and~~ that the police may be held accountable for any infringement thereof **through appropriate oversight and accountability mechanisms;**

(f) To encourage women to join police forces **and other criminal justice offices**, including at the operational level;

**(f) bis To provide victims of violence with the choice of speaking to a female officer, whether it be the police or any other criminal justice personnel;**

**(f) ter To develop policies which stipulate that police advise victims that the responsibility to pursue charges and prosecute offenders in cases involving violence against women rests with police and the prosecution service;**

## **IV Sentencing and Corrections**

9. **Recognizing the serious nature of violence against women and the need for commensurate criminal law response**, Member States are urged, as appropriate,:

(a) To review, evaluate and revise sentencing policies and procedures in order to ensure that they meet the goals of:

(i) Holding offenders accountable for their acts related to violence against women;

**(i) bis Denouncing and deterring violence against women;**

(ii) Stopping violent behaviour;

**(ii) bis Ensuring victim and community safety including by separating the offender from the victim, as well as from society where necessary;**

(iii) Taking into account the impact on victims and their family members of sentences imposed on perpetrators who are members of their families;

~~(iv) Promoting sanctions that are comparable to those for other violent crimes~~ **Punishing the perpetrators of violence against women in a manner commensurate with the severity of the offence;**

**(iv) bis Providing reparations for harm caused as a result of the violence;**

**(iv) ter Promoting rehabilitation of the perpetrator and, where appropriate, reintegration of the perpetrator into the community;**

**(iv) quat Promoting a sense of responsibility in offenders; and**

**(iv) quin Acknowledging the harm done to victims and society more broadly;**

**(a) bis To ensure that their laws recognize specific circumstances as aggravating factors for sentencing purposes including, for example, repeated violent acts against a spouse or someone else who is in a close relationship to the perpetrator, whether the violence was committed against a young person under the age of 18 years, or whether it was committed through the abuse of a position of trust or authority;**

(b) To ensure that a woman subjected to violence is notified of any release of the offender from detention or imprisonment ~~where the safety of the victim in such disclosure outweighs invasion of the offender's privacy;~~

(c) To take into account in the sentencing process the severity of the physical and psychological harm and the impact of victimization, including through victim impact statements where such practices are permitted by law;

(d) To make available to the courts through legislation a full range of sentencing dispositions to protect the victim, other affected persons and society from further violence;

(e) To ensure that the sentencing judge is encouraged to ~~order recommend~~ treatment of the offender, **subject to the continued supervision of the court**, at the time of sentencing;

(f) To ensure that there are appropriate measures in place to eliminate violence against women who are detained for any reason;

(g) To develop and evaluate offender treatment **and rehabilitation** programmes for different types of offenders and offender profiles;

(h) To protect the safety of victims and witnesses before, during and after criminal proceedings.

## **V. Victim Support and Assistance**

10. Member States are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To make available to women who have been subjected to violence information on rights, ~~and~~ remedies **and victim support services** and on how to obtain them, in addition to information about **their role and opportunities to participate** ~~participating~~ in

criminal proceedings and the scheduling, progress and ultimate disposition of the proceedings, **as well as the status of the offender in the criminal justice process;**

(b) To encourage and assist women subjected to violence in lodging and following through on formal complaints, **by offering protection to the victims and by refraining from penalizing trafficked victims of illegal entry into the country or other such related offences;**

**(b) bis To take measures to prevent hardship during the detection, investigation and prosecution process in order to ensure that victims are treated with dignity and respect, whether or not the victim participates in the criminal proceedings;**

(c) To ensure that women subjected to violence receive, ~~through formal and informal procedures,~~ prompt and fair redress for the harm that they have suffered, including the right to seek restitution or compensation from the offenders or the State;

(d) To provide for court mechanisms and procedures that are accessible and sensitive to the needs of women subjected to violence and that ensure the fair **and expedited** processing of cases;

(e) To establish a registration system for judicial protection and restraining orders, where such orders are permitted by national law, so that police or criminal justice officials can quickly determine whether such an order is in force;

**(e) bis To provide for efficient and easily accessible procedures for protection and restraining orders or barring orders to protect women and other victims of violence. The victim of violence should not be held accountable for breaches of such orders;**

**(e) ter To recognise children who have witnessed violence against their parent as victims of violence who are in need of protection and treatment;**

**(e) quat To ensure that women subjected to violence have free and equal access to the civil and criminal justice systems, including access to free legal aid, court support and interpretation services;**

**(e) quin To ensure that women subjected to violence have access to trained personnel who can provide victim advocacy and support services throughout the entire criminal justice process;**

**(e) sext To ensure that all services and legal remedies available to victims of violence against women are provided to immigrant women and trafficked women, and that specialized services for such women are established, where appropriate.**

## **VI. Health and Social Services**

11. Member States, in cooperation with the private sector, relevant professional associations, foundations, non-governmental and community organizations, including organizations seeking women's equality, and research institutes are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To establish, fund and coordinate a sustainable network of accessible facilities and services for emergency and temporary residential accommodation, **medical treatment, physical and mental rehabilitation, legal aid and basic necessities** for women and their children who are at risk of becoming or who have been victims of violence;

(b) To establish, fund and coordinate services such as toll-free information lines, professional multi-disciplinary counselling and crisis intervention services and support groups in order to benefit women who are victims of violence and their children;

**(b) bis To ensure that there are appropriate comprehensive emergency and rehabilitation services in place to empower women victims of violence;**

(c) To design and sponsor programmes to caution against and prevent alcohol and substance abuse, given the frequent presence of alcohol and substance abuse in incidents of violence against women;

(d) To establish better linkages between medical services, both private and emergency, and criminal justice agencies for purposes of reporting, recording and responding to acts of violence against women, **while protecting the privacy interests of women subjected to violence;**

**(d) bis To ensure that violent acts and sexual crimes against minors are reported to the police when suspected by the social or medical services;**

(e) To develop model procedures **and resource material** to help participants in the criminal justice system to **assist and support** ~~deal~~ **with** women subjected to violence **in a manner that is sensitive and responsive to their needs;**

(f) **To promote collaboration and coordination among agencies providing services, including through the ~~Te~~ establishment, where possible, of specialized units with persons from relevant disciplines especially trained to deal with the complexities and victim sensitivities involved in cases of violence against women and where victims can receive comprehensive assistance, protection and intervention, including medical care, social services, legal advice and police assistance;**

(f) **bis To ensure adequate medico-legal services are in place to enhance criminal justice management of cases involving violence against women and that are sensitive to the needs of victims, and to encourage the development of specialised medical services and provide access to comprehensive and free forensic examinations by trained health providers for victims of violence against women and appropriate treatment including HIV specific treatment.**

## VII Training

12. Member States, in cooperation with non-governmental organizations, including organizations seeking women's equality, and in collaboration with relevant professional associations, are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To provide for or to encourage mandatory cross-cultural and gender-sensitivity training modules for police, criminal justice officials, practitioners and professionals involved in the criminal justice system and those **working on crime prevention programmes, which would deal** with the unacceptability of **all forms of violence against women, the criminal laws which prohibit it, the harmful,** ~~its~~ **impact and consequences on all those who experience such violence, including children who witness such violence** and would promote an adequate response to the issue of violence against women;

(b) To ensure adequate training, sensitivity and education of police, criminal justice officials, practitioners and professionals involved in the criminal justice system, regarding all relevant **domestic laws, policies and programmes as well as international** human rights instruments;

(c) To encourage professional associations to develop enforceable standards of practice and behavior **and codes of conduct**, which promote justice and **gender** equality ~~for women~~ for practitioners involved in the criminal justice system;

(c) **bis To ensure that the police and other criminal justice officials have adequate training to be able to identify and respond to the specific needs of women victims of violence, including victims of trafficking in persons, including but not limited to training on how to receive, and treat all victims in a non-judgmental and respectful fashion and also to avoid secondary**

**victimization; how to handle complaints confidentially; how to conduct safety assessments and risk management; and on how to use and enforce protection orders;**

## **VIII. Research and Evaluation**

13. Member States and the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, relevant entities of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, research institutes, non governmental organizations, including organizations seeking women's equality, are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To develop **both modules and dedicated population-based surveys for assessing crime** ~~crime surveys on~~ the nature and extent of violence against women;

**(a) bis To set up and strengthen mechanisms for systematic data collection on violence against women;**

(b) To gather, **analyze and publish both survey and administrative** data and information on a gender disaggregated basis for ~~analysis and use, together with existing data,~~ in needs assessment, decision-making and policy-making in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular concerning:

(i) The different forms of violence against women, its causes, **risk factors** and consequences, **including impact and severity, and its effects on population sub-groups of women;**

(ii) The extent to which economic deprivation and exploitation are linked to violence against women;

**(ii) bis The geographical patterns of violence against women and of women's feelings of insecurity in the public sphere and factors which can reduce such insecurity and risks;**

(iii) The relationship between the victim and the offender;

(iv) The ~~rehabilitative or anti-recidivist~~ effect of various types of intervention on the individual offender and on the reduction of violence against women, **as a whole;**

- (v) The use of **weapons firearms**, drugs and alcohol, ~~particularly~~ in cases of violence against women ~~in situations of domestic violence~~;
- (vi) The relationship between victimization or exposure to violence and subsequent violent activity **and repeat or multiple victimization**;
- (vi) **bis The relationship between violence against women and vulnerability to other types of abuse and crime such as trafficking in persons**;
- (vi) **ter The medium and long term consequences of assaults on victims**;
- (vi) **quat The consequences of violence on those who are witnesses to it, particularly within the family**;
- (c) To monitor and issue annual reports on the **number of cases incidence** of violence against women **that come to the attention of the police as well as other statutory agencies, including** arrest and clearance rates, prosecution and case disposition of the offenders, as well as **monitor periodically the prevalence of violence against women, making use of data derived from population based surveys. Such reports should disaggregate data by type of violence, including tables that give information on the sex of the perpetrator and the relationship to the victim for each offence**;
- (d) To evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system in fulfilling the needs of women subjected to violence, **including with respect to the treatment of victims and witnesses of violence against women by the criminal justice system, intervention models and the cooperation between criminal justice and victim/witnesses services**;
- (d) **bis To be guided by existing ongoing efforts at the international level to develop a set of indicators to measure violence against women and to ensure multi-sectoral coordination of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of data collection initiatives**;
- (d) **ter To ensure that data on violence against women is collected in a way that respects confidentiality and the human rights of women and does not jeopardize the safety of women**;
- (d) **quat To encourage and finance research that has the aim of understanding the causes, consequences and meanings of different forms of violence against women**;

**(d) *quin* To evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the criminal justice system and of other relevant areas, including civil law, family law, child custody and child protection law, social security and public welfare law, employment law, immigration law, housing law as well as insurance law, in fulfilling the needs of women subjected to violence.**

## **IX. Crime Prevention Measures**

14. Member States, **including their respective lower and local levels of government**, and the private sector, relevant professional associations, foundations, non-governmental and community organizations, including organizations seeking women's equality, and research institutes are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To develop and implement relevant and effective public awareness and public education and school programmes that **promote respect for one another and** prevent violence against women by promoting equality, cooperation, mutual respect and shared responsibilities between women and men;

**(a) bis To include in school curricula education programmes for private and public schools that actively promote and engender respect between boys and girls and young men and women in their day to day interaction with each other, starting from kindergarten (nursery school) up to university level;**

**(a) ter To develop codes of conduct for personnel in private and public entities that prohibit gender violence and sexual harassment in the work place, with appropriate safe complaint processes and sanctions in the event of violation of such codes of conduct;**

(b) To develop multidisciplinary and gender-sensitive approaches within public and private entities that **seek to prevent** ~~participate in the elimination of~~ violence against women, especially through partnerships between law enforcement officials and the services that are specialized in the protection of women victims of violence;

**(b) bis To develop programmes to assess perceptions of public safety, and develop safety planning and design and management of public space so as to reduce the risk of violence against women;**

(c) To set up outreach programmes for offenders or persons identified as potential offenders in order to promote ~~the peaceful resolution of conflicts,~~ **non-violent behavior and attitudes, the respect for equality and the rights of women, the management and control of anger** and attitude modification about gender roles and relations. **In order to ensure that any programmes for**

**offenders are based on a recognition of men's violence against women as an expression of gender inequality and that such programmes ensure the safety of victims, do not replace legal sanctions, incorporate clear principles for victim assessments in evaluation of the programmes and do not divert funding and attention from services for victims;**

(d) To set up outreach programmes and offer information to women, including victims of violence, about gender roles, the human rights of women and the social, health, legal and economic aspects of violence against women, in order to empower women to protect themselves against all forms of violence;

(e) To develop and disseminate information on the different forms of violence against women and the availability of programmes to deal with that problem, including **provisions of criminal law, the functions of the criminal justice system, available victim support mechanisms, and** programmes concerning **non-violent behavior and** the peaceful resolution of conflicts, in a manner appropriate to the audience concerned, including in educational institutions at all levels;

(f) To support initiatives of organizations seeking women's equality and non governmental organizations to raise public awareness of the issue of violence against women and to contribute to its elimination;

**(f) bis To work with lower levels of government, including cities and local community authorities, and facilitate such levels of government to work in an integrated manner with the range of local services and institutions and civil society in developing preventive strategies and programmes;**

14. bis . Member States are urged, within the framework of their national legal systems, to **encourage the police and other criminal justice officials to work in partnership with other sectors, including health and social services and civil society organizations to identify populations at risk, and to assist in the promotion of non-violent attitudes and public education against violence against women**

15. Member States and the media, media associations, media self-regulatory bodies, schools and other relevant partners, while respecting the freedom of the media, are urged, as appropriate, to develop public awareness campaigns and appropriate measures and mechanisms, such as codes of ethics and self-regulatory measures on media violence, aimed at enhancing respect for the rights of women and discouraging both discrimination against women and stereotyping of women.

**15. bis Members States are urged to recognise that ensuring women have access to custody of their children, housing and employment is an effective crime prevention tool in that it prevents re-victimization and the continuation of a cycle of violence.**

## X. International Cooperation

16. Member States and United Nations bodies and institutes are urged, as appropriate:

(a) To exchange information concerning successful intervention models and preventive programmes in eliminating violence against women and to compile a directory of those models;

(b) To cooperate and collaborate at the **bilateral**, regional and international levels with relevant entities to prevent violence against women, **to provide safety, assistance and protection for the victims and their family members, as appropriate**, and to promote measures to effectively bring perpetrators to justice, through mechanisms of international cooperation and **mutual legal assistance**, ~~in accordance with national law~~;

**(b) bis To develop provisions to provide for safe and voluntary, to the extent possible, repatriation of the victims of violence against women when they have been trafficked or kidnapped across borders;**

(c) To contribute to and support the United Nations ~~system Development Fund for Women~~ in its activities to eliminate violence against women;

**(c) bis To develop appropriate guidelines and standards of behavior of mission personnel of peacekeepers, development and other humanitarian staff, including investigation procedures and follow-up with troop and police contributing countries;**

17. Member States are urged:

(a) To limit the extent of any reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to those that are formulated as precisely and as narrowly as possible and that are not incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention;

(b) To condemn all **acts of violence against women** ~~violations of the human rights of women~~ in situations of armed conflict, to recognize them as being violations of international human rights, ~~and humanitarian law~~ **and international criminal law** and to call for a particularly effective response to violations of that kind, including, in particular, murder, systematic rape, sexual slavery and forced pregnancy **and to implement United Nations Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 (2008) on women and peace and security;**

(c) To work actively towards ratification of or accession to **all relevant treaties including** the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, **its Optional Protocol, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime** ~~for the States that are still not parties to it, so that universal ratification can be achieved by the year 2000;~~

**(c) bis To work actively towards ratification of or accession to existing regional instruments and agreements concerning the combating of violence against women;**

**(c) ter To work towards an effective international monitoring mechanism for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. The monitoring body should be composed by independent and highly qualified experts capable of monitoring implementation of the obligations contained therein;**

~~(d) To give full consideration to integrating a gender perspective in the drafting of the statute of the ICC, particularly in respect of women who are victims of violence.~~

**(d) To cooperate with and assist the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court in his or her investigations and prosecutions of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, particularly those involving gender-based violence and to cooperate with the Court to allow women subjected to violence to testify and participate at all stages of the Court's proceedings and to protect their safety, interests, identity and privacy;**

(e) To cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur of the ~~Commission on Human Rights~~ **Human Rights Council** on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in the performance of his or her mandated tasks and duties, to supply all information requested and to respond to the Special Rapporteur's visits and communications.

## **XI. Implementation Strategies [or General Principles]**

### **17. bis Member States are urged:**

- (a) To be guided by the overall principle that an effective response to violence against women manages risk and victim safety while ensuring offender accountability when implementing the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;**
- (b) To develop mechanisms to ensure a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the implementation of these Model Strategies and Practical Measures at the national level;**
- (c) To promote the involvement of all relevant government sectors as well as relevant sectors of civil society in the implementation process;**
- (d) To commit adequate resources to ensuring effective implementation of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;**
- (e) To develop monitoring mechanisms to provide oversight to implementation;**
- (f) To bear in mind the varying needs of all women subjected to violence in the implementation of these Model Strategies and Practical Measures, particularly women belonging to minority groups, including those based on nationality, ethnicity, religion or language, indigenous women, migrant women, stateless women, women living in underdeveloped, rural or remote communities, homeless women, women in institutions or in detention, women with disabilities, elderly women, widows and women who are otherwise discriminated against, as well as women living in conflict and post-conflict situations.**

## **XII. Follow-up Activities**

18. Member States, United Nations bodies, ~~subject to extra-budgetary funds,~~ the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, other relevant international **and regional** organizations, research institutes, non-governmental organizations, including organizations seeking women's equality, are urged, as appropriate:

- (a) To encourage the translation of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures into local languages and to ensure its wide dissemination for use in training and education programmes;**

- (b) To ~~utilize~~ **draw on, as appropriate,** the Model Strategies and Practical Measures **in the development of legislation, procedures, policies and practices in response to** ~~as a basis, a policy reference and a practical guide for activities aimed at eliminating~~ violence against women;
- (c) To assist Governments, at their request, **in developing strategies and programmes to prevent violence against women and** in reviewing, evaluating and revising their criminal justice systems, including their criminal legislation, on the basis of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;
- (d) To support the technical cooperation activities of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network in eliminating violence against women;
- (e) To develop coordinated national, regional and sub-regional plans and programmes to put the Model Strategies and Practical Measures into effect;
- (f) To design standard training programmes and manuals for the police and criminal justice officials, based on the Model Strategies and Practical Measures;
- (g) To periodically review and monitor, at the national and international levels, progress made in terms of plans, programmes and initiatives to eliminate violence against women in the context of the Model Strategies and Practical Measures.
- (g) bis To periodically review and update, if necessary, the Model Strategies and Practical Measures.**