

Research Material
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For Women, the World Has Changed, and Yet Has Not.

The 69th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69), marking the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in 1995, provided an important platform to review progress and challenges in the field of gender equality and to discuss future actions and plans. Attended by approximately 1,000 participants, including government representatives, UN agencies, international civil society organizations, and development cooperation institutions, CSW69 focused on analyzing the impact of contemporary challenges—such as the digital transformation, the climate crisis, and conflicts—on gender equality.

The Beijing Declaration marked significant progress toward gender equality, yet structural discrimination and policy gaps persist, with notable disparities among countries particularly in women's political participation, economic empowerment, and access to health services.—The dual impact of the digital transformation was also a major topic of discussion. It was noted that the digital divide can exacerbate existing social disparities, and digital-based sexual violence has emerged as a new form of gender-based violence. Consequently, calls were made for legal responses and inclusive policies to achieve gender equality in the digital space as well.

Furthermore, CSW69 emphasized the necessity of gender-responsive budgeting systems and financial support for achieving gender equality. It noted that many countries are strengthening their financial and institutional approaches to gender equality, and shared examples of gender-responsive budgeting within ODA budgets. The Philippines

presented its case study of designing a digital gender-responsive budgeting model, highlighting the importance of fiscal reforms for gender equality.

Among the topics discussed at this meeting, digital gender equality, gender-responsive budgeting, utilization of gender data, women's participation in peace and security, and the intersectionality of climate and gender drew particular attention. Policies to promote digital gender equality and strategies for visualizing and narrativizing gender-responsive data significantly impact the performance reporting and policy planning of development cooperation agencies. In particular, the climate crisis and its impact on women's livelihoods, health, and safety emerged as important agenda items.

KOICA is now at a critical juncture to develop a digital-based gender-responsive policy framework and gender-integrated project model based on these discussions and policy examples, and to lead a shift toward achieving substantive gender equality in international development cooperation.