



United Nations Human Rights Council
United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights



Easy to read

What people said at a meeting about the rights of women and girls and what needs to change

The meeting was about climate change and violence that happens to women and girls.

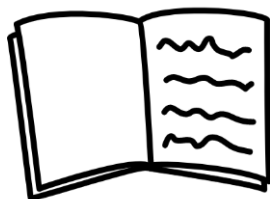
The meeting was also about making care and support fairer for women and girls.

The meeting was in 2022.





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About us

We are called the **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights**.

We are part of the United Nations (UN).

The United Nations is a group of countries that work to make the world better and safer.

Our job is to make sure that everyone in the world is treated fairly and gets their human rights.

Human rights are about what should happen in all our lives.

For example, we all have the right to be safe and treated fairly.

That means everyone in the world should be safe and treated fairly.



About this report

This report is about a meeting that the United Nations had.

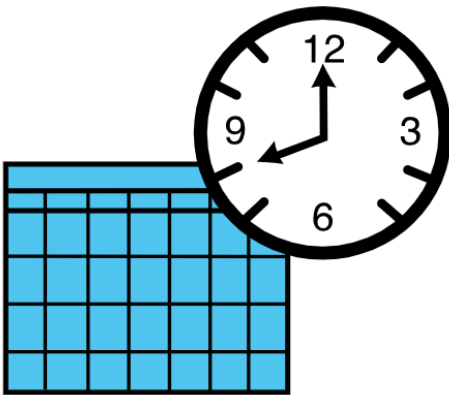
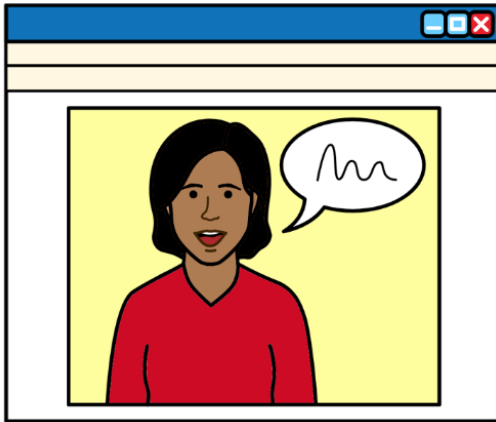
The meeting was about the human rights of women and girls.

The meeting was on 27 June 2022.

The United Nations has a meeting like this every year.

People from around the world talked about 2 things at the meeting:

1. Climate change and violence that happens to women and girls.
2. Making care and support fairer for women and girls.

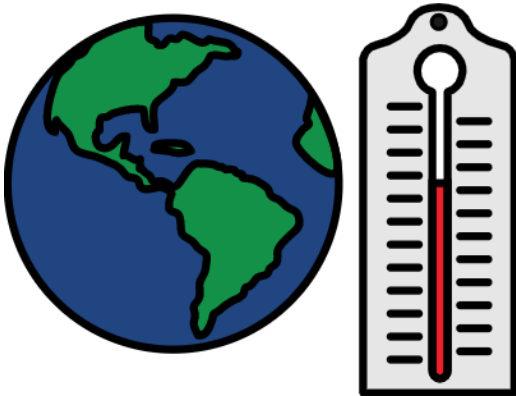


The main things that people said at the meeting



Part 1 of the meeting.

Climate change and violence that happens to women and girls.



About climate change

Climate change is about the earth getting warmer.



This is causing big problems for people, animals and plants.

For example, climate change is causing more big weather problems.

Like floods, too much heat, bad storms and big fires.

More violence that happens to women and girls because of climate change



Life is already hard for many women and girls in the world.

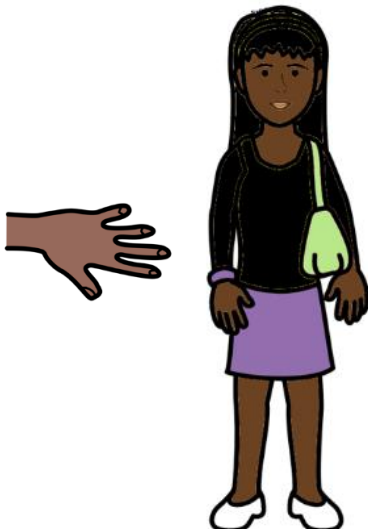
For example, people are often violent to women and girls.

Violence is when someone hurts someone else.



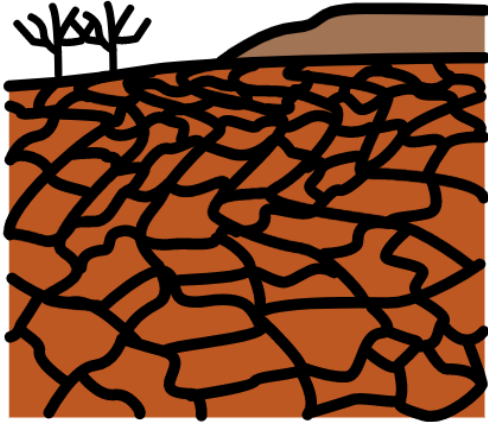
Climate change is making things even worse.

For example, people have been more violent to women and girls because of climate change.



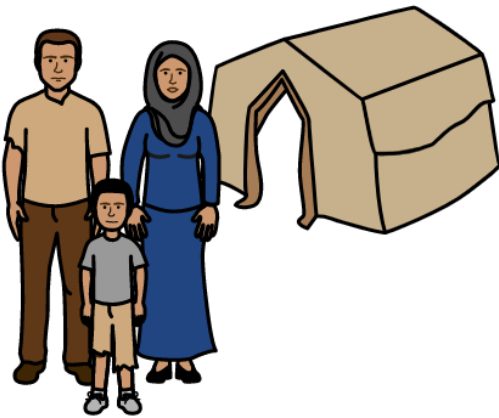
This includes sexual violence.

Sexual violence is when someone makes someone else do sexual things when they do not want to.



There are many reasons why women and girls may be more unsafe because of climate change.

For example, climate change can cause big weather problems like floods or too much heat.



Many women and girls may have to leave their homes because of the weather problems.

Or they may have to walk further to get food or water.

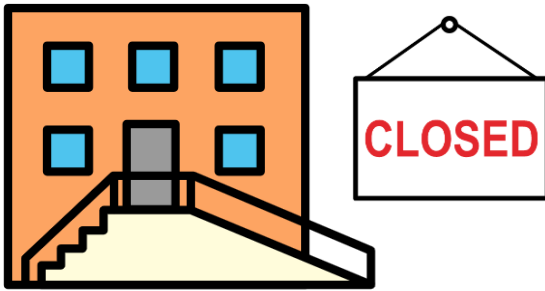


This can put women and girls in more danger.

For example, someone may try to hurt women and girls while they get food or water.



There is often less support for women and girls when there are big weather problems. Like floods or storms.



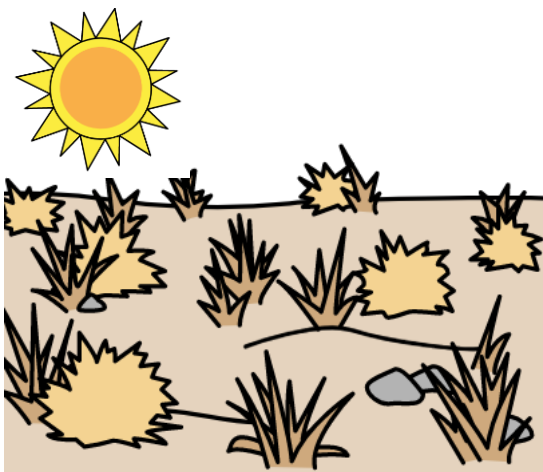
For example, health services may stop.

Or safe places for women and girls may close.



Women and girls may need to go to another country to be safe.

But the laws in that country may stop them from getting the support they need.



Many women in the world also have to grow food to eat or sell.

But this may not be possible when there are big weather problems.



That means women may stop earning money.

And there may be less money and food for the whole family.



Women and girls can be in more danger because of that.

For example, some people may hurt women and girls.

That includes people at home and in the family.



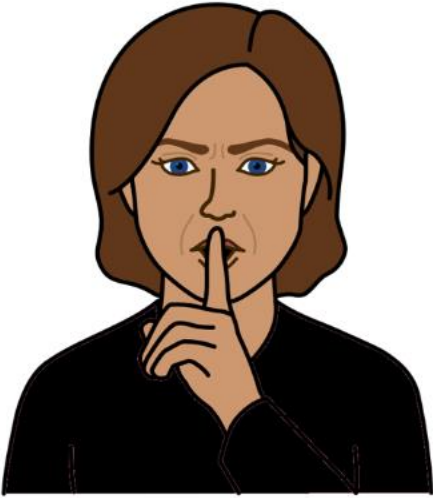
Or some families may force girls to get married.

Some families do this so they can get more money.



Many women have been speaking up about climate change and the problems it is causing.

But many women have been hurt or killed when they try to speak up.



Many women and girls do not tell the police about violence that has happened to them.

Or the police and courts may not do much about it.



These problems can be worse for some women and girls who are already treated unfairly.

Like women and girls who do not have much money. And women and girls with disabilities.

What people said should be happening

Countries should make better laws and rules to:

- Stop climate change happening.
- Stop people being violent to women and girls.





Countries should have good plans about climate change and what to do about it.



Countries should work with women and girls to make the plans.

And to check how the plans are working.



That includes women and girls who are often left out and treated unfairly.

This will help the plans to work well for **everyone**.



Countries should also give people training about violence that happens to women and girls.

The training should be for people like the police, health workers and people from the government.

This will help them to give women and girls better support.



Women and girls should get other support they need to deal with climate change problems.

For example, women and girls may need:



- Extra money if they cannot work because of climate change.

- Support to find other ways to earn money.



- A doctor or nurse if someone has been violent to them or forced them to have sex.

- Someone to speak to about how they feel if someone is violent to them.

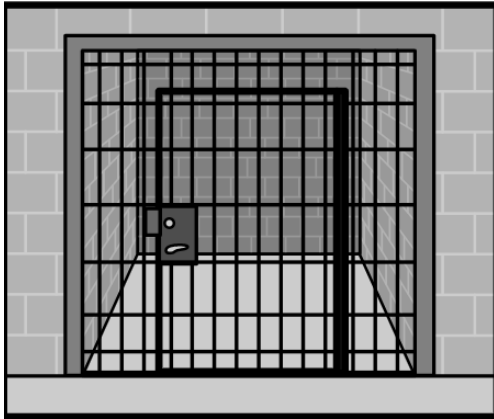


- Support to go to court if someone is violent to them.

- Safe places to stay if someone hurts them.



Women and girls should be safe when they speak up about climate change and what they need.



People who are violent to women and girls should go to court or prison.



Men and boys should get support to change their ideas about women and girls.

For example, some people may think that women and girls are not important. Or they are not as strong as men.

Some people may hurt women and girls because of this.



Countries should also get better information about climate change and violence that happens to women and girls.

All of these things will help to make women and girls safer.

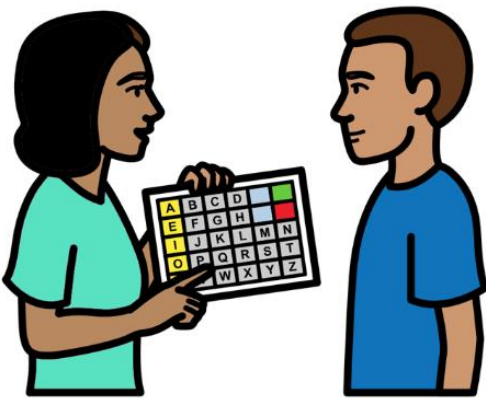
Part 2 of the meeting.

Making care and support fairer for women and girls.

Care and support can be many things.

For example,

- Children need care as they grow up.
- People may need care and support from someone else to live at home or to move around.
- People may need support to take part in the community.



The main things that people said

Care and support is very important.

Everyone needs care and support during their lives.

Everyone gives care and support to other people.





Care and support can help people to take part in the community and to have a good life.

But many countries are not making sure that people get the care and support they need.

For example, many countries do not spend enough money on good care and support for people.

This is making life hard for many people.

For example, many girls and boys do not get support to learn things when they are very young.

This can stop them from doing well when they are older.

Many other people also do not get the right support.

Like women and girls with disabilities and older women.





For example, people often do not ask women and girls with disabilities what support they want.



Some women with disabilities may have their children taken away from them.

This is because women with disabilities may not get the right support to look after their children.

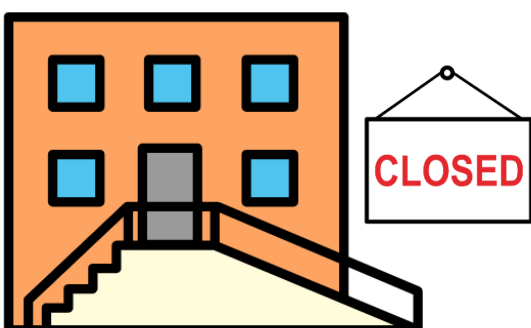


People may also think that women with disabilities cannot care for their children.



Some problems have got worse because of Covid-19.

Covid-19 is a big illness that many people in the world have been getting.



For example, many support services for people with disabilities stopped because of Covid-19.



This means people with disabilities had to get support from friends or family instead.

This was not always safe for women and girls with disabilities.

For example, someone in their family could hurt them or treat them badly.



Covid-19 showed that care and support for people is very important.

But it also showed that many women and girls are treated unfairly when they give people care and support.



For example, many people should help to give people care and support when they need it.

That includes men, women and the government who run the country.



But most of the time it is women and girls who have to give people care and support.

They often do this for free or not much money.



This can stop women and girls from having a good life.

For example, many women and girls cannot go to school or work if they have to look after someone else.



Women who are paid to give people care and support can also be treated unfairly.

For example, they may have to work long hours for not much money.

And people may hurt them or treat them badly.



These problems have been worse for some women and girls.

Like women and girls who do not have much money.

Or women and girls who moved to another country to find work.



Some countries are doing good work to make care and support fairer for women and girls.

For example, some countries are giving working people more time to care for their family or themselves.



And some countries are paying care and support workers more money.

But much more needs to be done.

What people said should be happening



Countries need to give people better care and support.

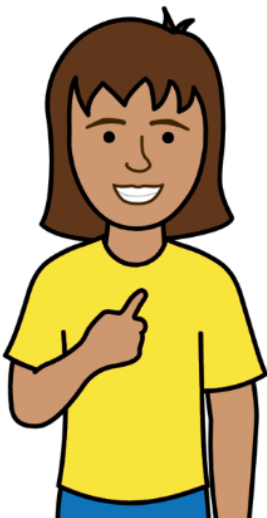
Countries also need to change the way that people give care and support.



This is to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and gets their human rights.

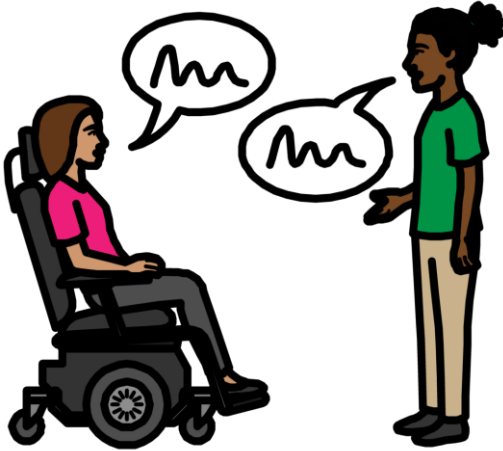
That includes all women and girls who need care and support.

And all women and girls who give other people care and support.



Countries should make sure that everyone gets good care and support that is right for them.

There should be more services to give people care and support near where they live.



For example, people should work with women and girls with disabilities to find out what support they want.

Women and girls with disabilities should help to choose their own support.

This will help them to live how they want to.



The way that people give care and support should also be fairer for women and girls.

For example, many people should help to give people care and support.

That includes men, the local community and the government.

It should not just be women and girls.



Countries should see that giving people care and support is very important.

They should spend enough money on good care and support for people.



Countries can do other things to make sure that people get all the care and support they need.

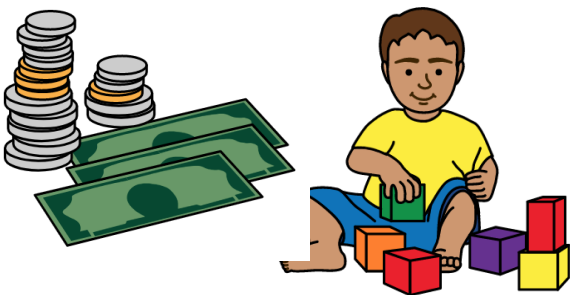
That includes:

- Making sure that everyone gets good healthcare.



- Making sure that mothers and fathers can have time off work when they have a baby.

Parents should get paid while they take this time off.



- Making sure that childcare does not cost too much.

Childcare is when people are paid to look after children.

For example, if the parents go to work.

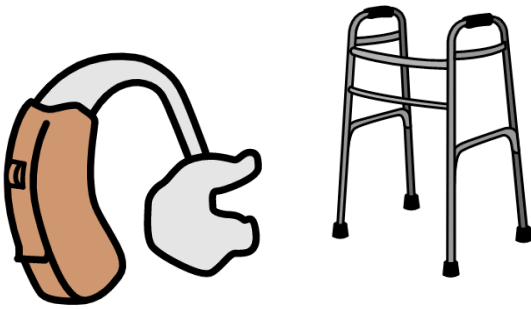


- Making sure that families have enough money to live on. For example, if they have to stop work to give someone care or support.



Countries should also do the following things:

- Make sure that people who need care and support have enough money to live on.



- Make sure that people have the things they need to move around or to communicate.

For example, wheelchairs or hearing aids.



People who are paid to give people care and support should also be treated fairly.

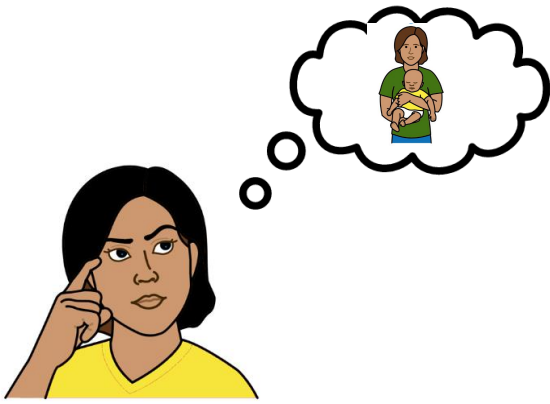
For example, they should get paid enough money.

And they should be safe at work.



Women should help to make plans about care and support and say what they need.

This is to make sure the plans work well for **all** women and girls.



Women and girls should get all their rights to do with having children.

For example, they should be able to choose if they want children or not.

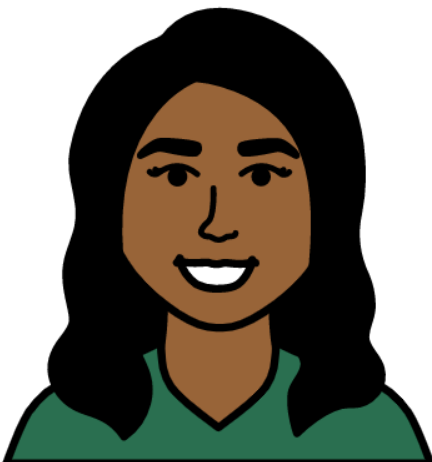


Countries should also help to change unfair ideas about women and girls.



For example, people may think that women and girls should not go to school or work.

This means women and girls may have to stay home and care for someone instead.



These changes will help to make life better and fairer for all woman and girls.