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Kiribati

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I. Introduction and background – UPR in Kiribati

1. Kiribati is a strong patriarchal society, and the culture is a great challenge for many human rights conventions especially gender equality. The Kiribati Family Health Association (KFHA) Report 2010 confirms high violence against women with 68% rate which is the highest in the Pacific. There is an apparent big issue of gender inequality due to cultural and social norms inherent in the traditional systems.
2. The Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce (KNHRT) was established in July 2014 under the Ministry of Women Youth Sports and Social Welfare. In a transit period, it moved to the new Ministry of Justice in 2018. The Human Rights Division (HRD) has been restructured to increase its capacity and has now 5 staff directly supervised by a Director of HRD.
3. The Taskforce is comprised mainly of government officials¹. The Taskforce plays the significant roles of coordination, monitoring, evaluation and reporting on various human rights conventions.
4. This UPR report is the third submitted by Kiribati on the implementation of recommendations of the Human Rights Council arising from the second UPR and outstanding previous recommendations.
5. Kiribati continues to face challenges in implementing the recommendations on the various human rights commitments. Main challenges include slow incoming of data and updates, limited resources and skills to implement the recommendations, staff turnover and changes to the membership of the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce, and competing priorities. Kiribati continues to need support of donor partners for funding and for external technical expertise to fill in capacity gaps.
6. The Report notes in this update that there are a number of recommendations yet to be supported, however implementation have gone head, for instance - the CAT & CRC.

II. Methodology and process for preparing the report

Methodology

7. The Taskforce met four times for the specific purpose of producing this third UPR Report. A local consultant was recruited on 2 July 2019 for the specified TOR with close support from the Human Rights Division, regularly reporting to the KNHRT.
8. A matrix (see Annex 1) was formulated with listed recommendations of the Human Rights Council to report on the third cycle of UPR and to be shared with task force members and stakeholders to input actions taken. It has been the key data collection tool and reference for developing and completing the report.
9. Other data collection activities included visits to Ministries and stakeholders where information gaps existed² (*Annex 2: visit schedule to Ministries/Organizations*). Individual organization submissions were also received as shared with the KNHRT Secretariat, including from non-government organizations (NGOs).

Process for preparing the report and reporting style

10. The information provided in the matrix as prepared by KNHRT members and collected by the local consultant and HRD team in MOJ was presented to the full taskforce at various meetings to approve and endorse.
11. Using the endorsed information (matrix), information from field visits and through literature research (Kiribati Voluntary National Review, policy and legal documents, other laws), the report was prepared following the guidelines provided for report preparation and writing. Draft updates for the different recommendations at different intervals prepared by

the local consultant were shared with the HRD team of MOJ for checking before sending to the KNHRT for review. Using feedback, the Report was revisited and updated.

12. This process of reporting served as a monitoring process on the progress of report preparation, to discuss issues for resolving and to ensure timely completion. The final first draft was completed and endorsed by the KNHRT and presented at the validation meeting 25 September 2019 for further review. Inputs made at the validation meeting contributed to the final draft of the report. Secretary of MOJ made submission to cabinet as it endorsed on the 3rd October 2019 by Cabinet.

13. Part II of this document provides actions taken since the previous review. Each of the recommendations under the different thematic right or area that Kiribati has adopted and as prepared by the Human Rights Task Force influences the structure of the report. The thematic rights or areas are presented in A to T in Part II; each of these has several recommendations reported on in this 3rd Cycle UPR.

14. Out of 115 total recommendations for Kiribati, 70 supported and 45 noted while two noted recommendations are implemented such as NHRI scoping and the accession to UNCAT (Annex 3).

III. Developments since the previous UPR 2 reviews

A. Acceptance of international norms

Recommendation 84.14

15. The convention is agreed to and has been adopted by Kiribati; the president of Kiribati signed the instrument of accession to the Convention Against Torture (CAT) on 13 June 2019. The full accession was confirmed 22 July 2019. Kiribati is now a member of the CAT.

B. Cooperation with treaty bodies

Recommendations 84.44, 84.45

16. The Ministry of Women Youth Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) bears responsibility for CEDAW reporting. The CEDAW State report for the first and second cycles were outstanding and had been so until 2019 when the Government finally completed and submitted it as a combined Report for the initial, second and third reviews on 12 February 2019.

C. Cooperation with other international institutions and mechanisms

Recommendations 84.114, 84.110

17. The Government has successfully secured projects to support the climate change and mitigation plans³. Through the Global Environment Fund small grants program, UNDP supported and continues to provide funding for communities to be more climate impact resilient through adaptation and mitigation project activities. (Annex 4 – list of projects)

18. Kiribati continues to use existing climate change frameworks, plans and implementation strategies to guide the current national climate change adaptation and disaster risk management initiatives implemented across sectors⁴.

19. The Government is committed to manage disasters and disaster risk together. Significantly, where there is direct overlap between measures for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and in resolution, Cabinet instructed to repeal the 1993 Disaster Act⁵.

Recommendation 84.115

20. Kiribati received technical supports for the implementation of its obligations. The CEDAW report received technical support by UN Women for the completion of the report in 2015, 2016 and 2018, funding several consultations with stakeholders and MWYSSA activities on the CEDAW.

21. The expertise of RRRT was deployed through UN Women funding for the Women Development Division within MWYSSA in the production of the Implementation Plan of the Family Peace Act. Implementation of the Act continues.⁶

22. Capacity building and training has also been provided. Staff across different front-line services providers for GBV service participated in the Regional Training Program of the Fiji Women Crisis Centre with funding support of UN Women, the Department Foreign Affairs Trade (DFAT) of the Australian Government and New Zealand Foreign Affairs Trade (NZDFAT).

23. Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre (KWCS) project funded by DFAT and technical support and training provided by UN Women have contributed for women and children to access to counselling. The goal is to better support women and children who are affected by violence.

24. For CRC implementation, Social Welfare Division of MWYSSA is supported by UNICEF to develop child protection policies and referral pathways for protection and safety of children with a costed implementation plan as well as HR strategy. UNICEF's support also extends to training of staff⁷. Staffing capacity in outer islands is a big challenge with Administration Social Welfare Officers (ASWOs) doing all MWYSSA roles in outer islands. A human resource strategy is being developed and includes a plan to increase the number of ASWOs in some islands, depending on population size and demand for the services.

25. The SWD also started the 'Yes I do' program in 2018 as a prevention strategy to child problems. This program exposes new couples and parents in general to human rights-based approaches to raising children. Initial focus is Urban Tarawa and will be rolled out to outer islands once budget is available. Delivery is based on demand by village members themselves and through radio and newspaper promotion, awareness of the program's availability is publicly made known.

26. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services also benefited from UNICEF's technical assistances in the country to address health issues of children, mothers, young girls⁸. Solar systems in the clinics have improved for storage and up-keep of medicines etc. The program has been trialed and successful to be extended to all other islands under DFAT funding of approximately AUD\$4–\$5m. The High Impact of Nutrition Intervention by UNICEF working with MHMS is addressing and managing malnutrition for children 0–5 years of age. In addition, the Integrated Management Child Illness also assists with proper treatment for sick child, proper feeding, and danger signs in sick children.

27. Similarly, the Ministry of Education received support from UNICEF consultants working in the country for early childhood care education (ECCE) in implementing CRC especially rights of children to education⁹.

28. A separate WASH program co-financed by UNICEF, Child Fund Kiribati (NZFAT funds), and the Ministry of Internal Affairs is also implemented with island councils and communities in the outer islands. Kiribati Local Government Association plays the coordination role¹⁰. The five islands are supportive, recognizing the importance of the collaboration for the rights of the children and the community members.

29. UNICEF also works with MHMS to address other health issues of unborn babies through the 'First 100 days – from conception'. This includes training of front-line workers such as nurse aids in villages to support early pregnancies. A program is also provided for measles and rubella for children (under 14 years old) for as many as can be reached under the measles rubella supplementary immunization program (AUD\$64,368) to provide measles and rubella vaccines, polio vaccines, vitamin A and de-worming tablets. The program provides training to national supervisors on measles and rubella campaigns to roll out to all islands.

30. The National Sports and Recreation Policy of MWYSSA prioritises Sports for Development. For the 'Just Play' program that the Policy has highlighted as a priority for children, the UNICEF has indicated to fund the program for interest of the right of the child to play sports and for their development.

31. UNFPA supports family planning of the MHMS. Through its Sexual Reproductive Health Rights program, youths are supported to know their rights and address teenage pregnancy issues. UNFPA also provides GBV support addressing the health issues of women and girls, extending also to education for curriculum review for year nine in schools through its Family Life Education programme, completed and rolled out for years one to eight.

32. UNFPA also has the Reproduction Maternal New-born Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH), a joint UN program to support the Government, based in MHMS. Two important objectives of the program include Family Planning and improve maternal, new born and child health. Outer Islands outreach activities and programs was done integrating services of MHMS and other stakeholder partners e.g., Kiribati Family Health Association (KFHA), UNICEF and WHO¹¹. FP services during OI visits are packaged with child health checks and issues, HIV and STI awareness and cervical screening. Information provided on FP included spacing of children, various methods and types of contraception and linkage to maternal and child mortality and morbidity.

33. Training of medical assistants (MAs) and nurses were provided on the forecasting, monitoring and reporting of FP commodities and methods of FP training¹². Five midwives were recruited into the RMNCAH program in April 2016 to provide these services to 13 Health Centres (HCs) in Tarawa. Information of health services in these clinics including clinic data will be analysed to see the impact of these health workers' services in these communities that access the 13 HCs, in Bonriki, Bikenbue East, Tamaiku, Bikenbue West, Banraeaba, Eita, Ambo, Teaoraereke, Nanikai, Bairiki, Temakin, Temanuku, Takoronga. Increased visits to outer island also benefited other areas of health¹³.

34. A quality improvement strategy was the establishment of the Maternal & Perinatal Deaths Surveillance & Response (MPDSR) which aims to strengthen notification of all maternal deaths and stillbirths in Kiribati, facilitate the monitoring of maternal deaths and stillbirths, assess the true magnitude of maternal mortality and stillbirths, provide quality information on where, when, and why these deaths occur and to know and understand the circumstances that surround maternal deaths and stillbirths. Availability of data will help with development of appropriate health strategies to prevent future occurrences.

35. To support and strengthen midwifery skills and knowledge, the RMNCAH program facilitated the revision of the midwifery curriculum with the assistance of a New Zealand midwife volunteer and PSRO Technical Advisers. This resulted in an 18-month midwifery course which reduced to a 12-month course inclusive of theory and included six-month mandatory clinical placement in the maternity ward. This revised curriculum will contribute to quality capacity development in shorter period of time.

36. The education sector has made progress in cooperating with UNICEF who provided funds for teacher training on code of ethics for primary and junior secondary schools. The Australian Government through DFAT funded a leadership program and work ethics for teachers as well.

37. Amongst the several regional trainings and technical meetings that have taken place to benefit capacity building needs, the expertise of the Fiji Women Crisis Centre (FWCC) in Gender Base Violence (GBV) through its Regional Training Program (RTP) has contributed to partners in GBV service skills such as counselling, etc¹⁴. Recently in August 2019, a Regional GBV Data training was hosted by SPC in Fiji for key GBV stakeholders and attended by, with others, SAFENET Staff of the MWYSSA and staff of the KWCSA.

38. Regional technical meetings organized by UN agencies in cooperation with Pacific countries have facilitated sharing of experiences and skills for instance the Technical Regional Meeting on GBV Counselling, the Regional Gender Advocates/Pacific Women Activists Network meetings in 2018 and 2019.

Recommendation 84.113

39. Through technical expertise deployed by UN agencies (UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, WHO and others), compliance with commitments in preparation of reports, plans and programs to strengthen human rights has been greatly assisted¹⁵.

40. Close consultation and coordination with the Government and stakeholders by UN agencies has been the key methodology in developing work plans and programs of support. Costed annual work plans of UN Agencies to support the Government implement conventions under different Ministries have been developed with close participation and contribution of partner ministries and organizations. The presence of a UN Joint Presence in the country has made this possible and contributed to better coordination of activities by different agencies. The Voluntary National Report of Kiribati 2018 has reported that the presence of UN agencies in the UN Joint Presence Office has greatly supported the Government with UN-funded projects and programs.

Recommendation 84.67

41. Collaborative work with local partners/stakeholders through taskforces, main donors and partners like UN Women, DFAT, SPC, RRRT supporting implementation of policies and legislations has greatly contributed. Annual international campaigns, including 16 days of activism & White Ribbon Day, International Women's Day with Black Thursday and Orange Days in selected months, are national commitments adopted by the Government and Urban Island Councils.¹⁶

42. The Government continues to implement the Shared Implementation Plan (SHIP) for the Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence (ESGBV) Policy and National Action Plan (NAP) 2011-2021 to respond to Gender Based Violence (GBV). MWYSSA has extended ESGBV and Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) work from promotion and awareness raising, to providing quality and accessible GBV services and primary prevention. The Strengthening Peaceful Villages Kiribati is a primary prevention program in Kiribati that adopts the SASA! model¹⁷.

43. SAFENET of the Women development division coordinates work for EVAWG/ESGBV working with key front service providers and the wider SAFENET community members for the survivors of GBV.¹⁸ Through SAFENET and other activities, partnership has increased.¹⁹

44. A SAFENET Case Management Review Committee (CMRC) comprising of key front service providers meets on a monthly basis to review cases and to ensure all reported cases reach the end without being dropped. The Committee was established in 2017 with coordination support of the SAFENET Support Officer (SSO) supported by the Essential Services Package (ESP) funds. A record of successes in GBV cases has been realized and recently in 2019, two GBV cases involving young girls were resolved and perpetrators imprisoned.

45. MWYSSA is coordinating the ESP (2017-2019) to improve accessibility of quality GBV services with total pilot project funding of US\$500,000 to upgrade all front line services to international standards and best practice.²⁰

46. The Government recognizes gender equality and recently approved and launched the Gender Equality and Women Development Policy (GEWD) on the 12 February 2019. GBV affects the entire population, for which an integrated and coordinated whole-of-government approach that engages communities, clearly specifying responsibilities and accountabilities with direct actions from the village through islands to the national level, is needed.

D. Interstate cooperation and development assistance**Recommendation 84.109**

47. The various regional and international platforms are essential, and Kiribati will continue its advocacy on the vulnerability of Kiribati in the face of Climate Change. An additional direction and focus by the current Government is to move towards more action on

the ground in improving/strengthening resilience and adaptation of local population. The Talanoa Dialogue in 2018 discussed and agreed to ensure that measures laid out are implemented/achieved.

48. Key platforms for Climate Change advocacy of national and regional perspective provide avenues where Kiribati has taken a lead role in representing Micronesia on the Pacific Resilience Partnership Taskforce responsible for implementing the regional (Pacific) framework, the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP)²¹.

49. Access to climate finance is a priority of Kiribati to help ensure the implementation of key frameworks, plans and strategies. Kiribati has taken key steps in engaging with key partners and climate financing institutions to ensure that capacity of internal financial management systems is able to access and manage climate finance. The CFD along with the Kiribati National Expert Group (KNEG) on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (CCDRM) are working together to engage with these financing institutions.²² Kiribati continues to work with bilateral and multilateral institutions to ensure coordination and direct access to climate financing.

E. Constitutional and legislative framework

Recommendation 84.62

50. The TRNTM Act 2014 clearly defines "sexual harassment" and provides for other important details.²³ As police officers are located on all islands, the Police Safety Orders (14 days duration) are a quick intervention strategy to stop violence. The 14-day duration of a police safety order can assist parties to either cool down, or the survivor to seek counselling service and advice.

51. The Employment Industrial Relation Code (EIRC) 2015 mandates all employers to provide for equal employment opportunities by prohibiting direct and indirect discrimination on specific grounds such as ethnic origin, race, colour, religion or political opinion, age, state of health or membership of a trade union and prohibiting sexual harassment. It establishes an obligation on an employer to pay women and men equal remuneration for work of equal value.

Recommendation 84.76

52. EIRC 2015 prohibits all worst forms of child labour, including the use of children for prostitution, production of pornography and offering children for illicit activities, complementing the CRC.

F. Institutions and policies

Recommendation 84.38

53. The Government has yet to implement recommendation.

54. National Human Rights Institution (NHRI) Scoping Mission guided by MOJ with support by RRRT and partners OHCHR and APF commenced in 2–10 September 2019. It was attended by around 38 stakeholders from Island Councils, including all Mayors, ASWOs. Scoping mission also undertook visits to key Ministries and the Kiribati Chamber of Commerce and Industries – KCCI, and NGOs to seek views and perspectives on NHRI. In general, there was a positive response to establishing the NHRI in Kiribati.

Recommendation 84.41

55. The National Development Plan 2016-2019 and many other policies recently developed have included indicators in general to enable measurement of performance against baselines. These are however not specifically directed at specific Human Rights Indicators as Kiribati has yet to develop the Human Rights Indicators that OHCHR has suggested. This will be considered.

Recommendation 84.108

56. There have been trainings and on-going activities with communities and Island Councils on CC and DRM addressing human rights through the IVA tool.²⁴ At the national level, the KNEG has been provided with key capacity building (technical and administrative) trainings for better engagement with island communities through projects.²⁵ Various capacity building initiatives, which have been provided, also factor in social inclusiveness and gender.

Recommendation 84.39

57. Kiribati does not have a 'Child Work Policy' in place. However, certain requirements of the policy are addressed in the amendment made to the EIRC stating that the labour inspectors have powers to pull children out of any work deemed hazardous to a child. Other relevant provisions support child protection.²⁶

G. Non-discrimination**Recommendations 84.53, 84.54**

58. The Family Piece Act 2014 provides protection to both men and women and other members of a household from domestic violence. An important issue to address is the public's thinking that the Act is only for protection of women. However, this Act covers everyone in the communities. Clarifications are provided to ensure all members of society realize the coverage of the Act – protection of all members of the family, including men, women, children etc.

59. EIRC 2015, amended in 2017, prohibits an employer from discriminating, directly or indirectly, any employee or prospective employee in respect of recruitment, training, promotion, terms and conditions of employment relationship²⁷. It also ensures equal remuneration for men and women and prohibits victimization (Section 113) and sexual harassment, (Section 112) of EIRC 2015.

60. Gender equality and non-discrimination as it pertains to 'same sex' is yet to be accepted for both cultural and Christian belief reasons. A newly registered NGO called BIMBA has emerged with members largely comprising of males, locally known as 'binabina-aine' or 'sisi. It has become a known group that exists for the interest of the group.

61. The process of the review of the National Disaster Act involved a wide range of consultations with different interest groups.²⁸ The outcome of these consultations is the new DRM and Climate Change Act 2019 that has streamlined needs of women and children, people with disability.

Recommendation 84.55

62. Gender equality in Kiribati is very culture-sensitive, and efforts are taking gradual pace to ensure smooth acceptance and change in social norms about men and women in society. Tackling gender equality through gender mainstreaming, improved representation, safety and security, however, in other less sensitive areas such as in Climate Change Adaptation, the revised Disaster Act, Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act 2019, are readily accepted. Policies such as, National Youth Policy, National Sports Policy, National Disability Policy, Consumer Rights Policy, and others are taking the same steps to integrate and mainstream gender equality.

63. The transfer of Kiribati nationality to children of Kiribati women born abroad, has not been addressed. However, the endorsement of the new Gender Equality and the Women's Development (GEWD) Policy, and work on CEDAW provide potential avenues to achieving this recommendation. The GEWD Policy implementation plan will be developed and presents an opportunity to address gender related issues for child nationality.

64. UNICEF is also preparing a consultation on child statelessness in Kiribati planned for November 2019 to develop a strategic plan, policy, action plan and consider development of a specific law/act for child's right to citizenship. This will address Article 66 of the

Citizenship Act 1979, requiring only fathers to register their children and not mothers; and Section 25 of the Constitution reflecting the same principle.

65. The Birth, Death, Marriages Registration Division of the MOJ recently instituted a registration system that support newborns' right to citizenship. Two staff of the Division are based in the MHMS working in the OB Ward for registering newborn babies. Few outer islands have also been visited to do promotion and provide registration service free of charge.

Recommendation 84.107

66. Vulnerabilities during events are different for each island group (Gilbert Group, Line Group and Phoenix Groups); there are events where the severity of impacts noticed are more than others. Common effects of Climate Change felt and experienced are coastal inundation, loss of houses along coast leading to relocation of villages to safer inner areas of islands, aggravated soil infertility with sea water intrusion and hence food in-security (unsafe water, limited food crops).²⁹

67. In countering and mitigating the impacts, the Government has worked on several initiatives both in Urban and Rural areas.³⁰ In South Tarawa, with more than 50% of the total population, major developments to ensure coastal livelihoods are supported and the impacts are mitigated.³¹ Currently Kiribati is implementing the whole island approach (WOIA) focusing also on all areas of Island vulnerabilities (Food, Water, Health, Coastal Protection, Education, Communication barriers) on eight islands³².

68. The Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan for Climate Change Disaster Risk Management is designed to complement the National Disaster Risk Management Plan and the National Framework Climate Change and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA). The main rationale of KJIP is that a systematic and integrated plan, identifying tangible actions, will maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of existing capacities and resources and ensuring that new initiatives are well targeted and have maximum impact. In the context of human rights, the KJIP respects and promotes human rights by ensuring that all citizens have increased access to food security, safe water security and land security within the current and future threats of climate change and disasters such as droughts and storms.

Recommendation 84.97

69. Civil Registration for Births, Deaths and Marriage is guided by the Registration Ordinance Cap 5 s9(1) which directs the registration process, laying down procedures and other requirements.³³

70. UNICEF supported Civil Registration Office (CRO) and has assisted to ensure birth registration of all new born working with Civil Registration of MOJ and MHMS Obstetric Ward. The outcome of this initiative is an increase in number of births captured compared with previous years and accurate and reliable data on the number of births.

71. Mobile birth registration campaign have been carried out to some selected outer islands, including South Tarawa to register all children from age 0–18 years, who have not been registered in CRO e-database, free of charge. This activity was funded by UNICEF in order to increase and improve the coverage of birth registration in Kiribati targeting people living in remote islands and those who can't afford to pay fees.

72. Education is free in Kiribati for years 1 to 9, this is the compulsory school age and lately free for forms 4 to 6.³⁴ Other developments have also been made.³⁵

73. The ESSP enshrines Government's commitments for better and equitable education in line with Goal 4 of the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 and at regional level for the Pacific Education Development Framework 2009.³⁶

H. Right to physical and moral integrity

Recommendations 84.72, 84.73

74. The Education Act of 2013 in Section 38(e) clearly states that no corporal punishment is acceptable in any school.³⁷ The Ministry continues to raise awareness among school teachers and communities. Social Welfare records does not show any case however under child abuse recorded cases, there had been cruelty and assaults causing bodily harm to children that were taken to court.³⁸ Interview with Education Senior Officials revealed that there had been cases of teachers reprimanded for applying corporal punishment to students.

I. Death penalty

Recommendation 84.56

75. The death penalty bill that was proposed in parliament in 2014 was not passed; right to life is protected under the Constitution and death penalty is not provided for any crime in Kiribati.

J. Prohibition of slavery, trafficking

Recommendation 84.74

76. Human trafficking is an area that Kiribati Police Service is already working on with regional partners – Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre. The existing law in Kiribati mainly punishes the exploitation of prostitutes but does not make prostitution a criminal offence. The relevant laws against exploitation of young girls are reflected in Sections 136, 140, 141, 146 of the Kiribati Penal Code with penalty of imprisonment for two years. No section in the penal code addresses trafficking.

77. The Government in partnership with NGOs continue to disseminate awareness of the dangers and related problems of human trafficking and prostitution. No reported trafficking cases have been made, however, risk is there with the present of foreign fishing vessels. At highest risk are young prostitutes who call themselves '*ainen mataawa*'. Fishing and Foreign vessels are monitored at entry into port and before exit from port by a government boarding party made up of representatives from the Department of Immigration, KPS, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development and Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development.

78. The Strategic Action Plan of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2016-2019 states the Enhancing of national security through effective immigration border control and management of visa and work permit issuing. The penal code and transnational crime act is already in place. So far, no offence relating to trafficking of young women have been prosecuted. Also, human trafficking is an offence that KPS is working on with its regional partner.

Recommendation 84.75

79. The KPS is doing public awareness on these issues. There is need to conduct education and awareness campaigns to foreign crew members given that none has been undertaken. Section 118 of the EIRC 2015 is relevant: it prohibits all worst forms of child labour, including but not limited to, the use of children for prostitution, production of pornography and offering children for illicit activities.

80. The Community Policing Unit has a regular column available on children and women's issues in Kiribati Newstar newspaper informing of child rights, women's rights etc. The newspaper has also committed the front-page for any story on issues involving children and women at home, school or at the workplace whenever they happen and offers a quarter page, for free, for any awareness and educational issues.

K. Liberty and security - general

Recommendation 84.69

81. Awareness raising activities are organised by many including judiciary and the KPS. Implemented projects, partnerships in national and international campaign celebrations, contributed to people's awareness and knowledge of their rights.³⁹

82. The Healthy Family Clinic of the MHM has been established to provide social and health services to women, girl survivors of domestic violence, and through the ESP and the support of the Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent, Health (RAMNCAH), its capacity building needs have been supported. Health GBV SOP will enhance the services in South Tarawa and Outer Islands.

L. Economic, social and cultural rights – general measures of implementation

Recommendation 84.111

83. Ongoing initiatives such as Kiribati Climate Change Program (KCCP), KJIP, WOIA, and Kiribati Education Improvement Program complement national development agendas aiming to reduce vulnerabilities and in turn build adaptive capacity and resilience and empower communities and individuals. Community-based adaptation initiatives will be developed based on findings and result of the IVAs in eight islands – Abaiang, Tabiteuea North, Abemama, Nonouti, Tabuaeran, Teraina, Kiritimati and Markaei.

84. Data collection and storage related to climate change through, first, the review of the data collection questionnaire on Climate Change, was done in 2019 to ensure that the data collect on climate change can be easily analysed. Secondly, there is continued collection of data on Climate Change in terms of community vulnerabilities for planning and decision making on adaptation options. Third, a central database for climate change is in place for ease of reference.

M. Right to an adequate standard of living – general

Recommendation 84.87

85. There is an improved outer-island rehabilitation services through the ASWOs based in the Island Councils in all outer islands who have received training on social services. The ASWOs are key contacts in outer islands and work together with other members of the SAFENET Committee on the island to provide required social protection services to women, girls and children who experience violence.⁴⁰ The Client Support Fund with the KWCSK is available for emergency needs of survivors extending from paying for immediate needs of survivors (food, clothing) to evacuation of a survivor away from the perpetrator (often husbands) by paying for boat or air fares.

Recommendation 84.88

86. The 'Young Couples Initiative Program' by Social Welfare Division (SWD) encompasses issues with Human Right, ESGBV, child protection etc. The program is reflected in MWYSA Strategic Plan, aligned with KDP 2016-2019.

87. The WDD is responsible for Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) programmes and ESGBV programmes to contribute to social and economic wellbeing.⁴¹ An Economic Opportunities survey was undertaken and completed in 2018 with support of DFAT funding and technical assistance to determine economic opportunities for Women. In 2018, the 1st National Women's Expo in 2018 was held funded by the Government.

88. ESGBV Policy to implement the SHIP remains a relevant priority to address social protection for women and girls, and to address gender quality. The KDP 2016-2019 under the Key Priority Area 5, Governance, identifies among other priorities, gender equality policy to be completed. Gender mainstreaming in policies, laws etc., is on-going and latest

development has been the recent passing of the Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act 2019.⁴²

89. The SWD manages the social benefits fund programs of the Government which started since 2004 that include the elderly fund, fee support and disability fund.⁴³

N. Right to food

Recommendation 84.82

90. Government efforts to address adequate food and freedom from hunger are reflected through its development projects that empower the people in initial five islands.⁴⁴ The rest of the islands will receive the same tools under these projects targeting farmers association on the islands. Youths are also target of the projects.⁴⁵ In the islands of Beru, Nonouti, Abemama and Tabiteuea Meang (Tab North), there have 1400 households engaged in farming under the KOIWFAP project. In the capital, South Tarawa, 11 communities have been visited and trained on soil amendment, compost, marcotting, organic liquid fertilizer, seed sowing and transplanting. Over 10,000 in 2017 and over 40,000 in 2018 of seedlings (food crops) were distributed.

91. On financing there have been: AUD\$70,000 in 2016 for MELAD for agricultural supplies. Various projects to support food production including IFAD Outer Islands Food and Water Project (AUD\$3.4 million), LCDF Enhancing Food Security Project at AUD\$4.4 million. In addition, the Ministry of Internal Affairs supports council on every island to implement Local Economic Development (LED) Project under which all islands own hardwares, including shovel, spade, knives, axes, bicycles, fishing gears, etc. for people to buy and use for survival in the outer islands.

O. Human rights to drinking water and sanitation

Recommendations 84.83, 84.84, 84.86, 84.91

92. The main source of drinking water include ground water, sea water (desalinated) and rain water. The issue with ground water is the quality of safe drinking water and for most population in the urban area, accessibility. The water (and sanitation) needs of the urban population in Tarawa comprising more than 50% of total population (130,000) is provided by the Public Utilities Board (PUB) under the PUB Act 1999. Outer Islands water for drinking and sanitation needs are supported by the Government through the MISE implementing projects for access and quality.

93. Supported by donor partners and agencies, water, sanitation, hygiene practices are being addressed.⁴⁶ Government commitments to address human rights issues of water and sanitation is evident through its implemented projects. Implementation of these projects is on-going.⁴⁷ Projects are guided by the National Water Resources Policy and the National Sanitation Policy (2008) and the Implementation Plans (2008-2018) of the policies setting out strategies to implement the policies. The policies are due for review and work is in progress to update the policies and implementation plans. The MISE has two key national committees to support the water and sanitation policies and projects.⁴⁸

94. Public Utility Board (PUB) water pipes and sanitation pipes for South Tarawa have recently been restored to ensure clean and accessible drinking water and better sanitation for the population. The South Tarawa Improvement Program (STSIISP) project has rehabilitated the sewerage and salt water systems and outfalls with funding by the World Bank, recently completed in 2018. Other activities of the project contributed to sustainability concerns.⁴⁹ For better and ease of access to safe drinking water, the PUB has commenced piloting a 24-hour metered water service in 2 small village locations of Tebikenikoora and Nanikai before rolling out to other areas in South Tarawa.

95. For the urban population, the STWSP has installed a 4,000 m³/d capacity desalination plant. GHD Pty Ltd commissioned in Feb 2018 by the ADB to deliver the Project Preparatory Technical Assistance (PPTA) for the STWSP. Now the project design advance (PDA) phase

of the project is being finalized. This project is committed to address human rights needs of access to quality water and mitigate impacts of climate change. To assist with sewerage improvement in South Tarawa, a new project, the New Sewerage System Extensions, is launched with assistance from the World Bank. Supporting these projects, MISE has a new GIS program for high quality areal imaging to achieve planned infrastructural developments.

96. The Kiribati Outer Island Food and Water Project (KOIFAWP) 2014-2018 was implemented on 4 pilot outer islands (Nonouti, TabNorth, Abemama, Beru). Apart from assisting to promote farming and consumption of nutritious foods, an equally important component is the provision of rainwater harvesting systems for fresh rain water.

97. The MISE working with UNICEF to address the needs of outer islands has implemented the KIRIWATSAN Project. KIRIWATSAN II with funding of Euro 3.3m has continued to address water needs in outer islands focusing on improvement and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure in 35 villages of the eight target islands of Makin, Butaritari, Marakei, Abaiang, Maiana, Nonouti, Beru and Nikunau. It also supported capacity building in the islands.

98. Quality control and monitoring is provided by the water quality lab of the MHMS that continuously assesses the quality of water. Lab officials conduct visits to villages to test waters from the wells, as well as water from the public water facilities and rain water. Both 2017 and 2018 test results confirm presence of bacteria Total Coliform and E. Coli at levels over and above acceptable limits of micro indicators at both High and Very High-Risk levels. Recommendations pointed to boiling of water, cleaning of gutters, and storage tanks. Application of water treatment chemicals and strengthening the capacity of the lab to conduct regular survey and do monitoring and treatment are also recommended.

99. The MISE has an on-going project, On-Site Sanitation Project (OSSP) under which thirty onsite septic tanks are to be installed in an on-going and on trial /pilot phase. Construction of septic tanks commenced on primary civil works such as installation of sample tubes and excavation of pits etc. This will be a trial for various treatment options (on Site - off the grid - Sanitation), to select the best option suitable for Kiribati context. There is also ground water monitoring of water quality on-going since 2017, which will end in 2020 to monitor salinity levels.

100. Other efforts are noted for sanitation and promotion of hygiene with support of other donors. In 2017, Kiribati Red Cross Society, through financial support from the Australian Red Cross, successfully established community toilets in one of the crowded residential areas of Betio. The toilets have water, rainwater catchment systems for drinking water.⁵⁰

101. The MLPD Integrated Development Strategy 2016-2023 supported by the EU – Kiribati Partnership for Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Development (11th EDF) has components of safe and sustainable drinking water and adequate and equitable sanitation providing 12million Euro for both. Improving evidence-based management of water, increasing access to safe and reliable drinking water supply and strengthening capacity to operate and maintain and manage safe and efficient water supply system at institutional, community and household levels are addressed. The Sanitation component addresses improved sanitation and hygiene at communities, schools and health care facilities.

P. Right to health

Recommendations 84.89, 84.90, 84.93

102. Midwives are available in all outer island clinics established on Island Council payroll and there are outreach services for maternal and child care. They provide support to nurses on the islands with baby deliveries in villages. There are also health supports to traditional births attendants for home-based deliveries of babies to ensure good standard of services provided by traditional birth attendants (TBAs). There is also provision of services through the Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child, Adolescent, Health (RMNCAH) to outer islands. The program has mobilized youth registered with the Ministry to undertake required basic health surveys, community outreach programs, and more. Since 2015, a total of 1,284 births were attended to by TBAs.

103. The RMNCAH program provides a comprehensive program that also support efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates and staff training.⁵¹ The educators of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG) co-edited the facilitator's guide of this training, including a Training of Trainers – TOT workshop and early essential new-born care (EENC) in 2018. Following this, the two participants facilitated a TOT in Tarawa for 10 participants comprising of medical officers, midwives and nurses from TCH and Betio hospital. The aim is to increase the skills of health workers and subsequently decrease mortality and morbidity of mothers and new-borns.

104. UNICEF has been a consistent partner for Kiribati Immunization programs for children, supporting also the pharmacy, capacity building for nurses, and others. With UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, and the WHO, the Ministry is benefiting from joint programs such as the RMNCAH. HIV and STI screening was conducted as part of the outer island visits and is integrated into the MCH programs of the HCs with notable achievements.⁵²

105. From the missions to outer islands, improvement plans for the pharmacy supplies were noted; outer islands need to be consistently supplied with both protection and cure services.

106. A national guideline on HIV testing service (HTS) has been developed and adopted for use in 2017. The guideline emphasises on the importance of a public health and human rights-based approach to delivering HTS. A human rights-based approach gives priority to such concerns as universal health coverage, gender equality and health-related rights such as accessibility, availability, acceptability and quality of services. It upholds the 5-Cs principal of: consent, confidentiality, counselling, correct and connection.

107. Western Pacific Multi- Country Integrated HIV/TB Programme funded under the Global Fund grant implemented in 2018 by MHMS supported health efforts to fight AIDS, TB and malaria. Total project fund of AUD233,695 covered twenty-three activities that included, amongst others, awareness raising, training of staff, support to TB cases, coordination meetings, screening for TB, HIV workshops, testing and distribution of prevention commodities etc.

Recommendations 84.92, 84.94

108. Medical services and medicines are free in Kiribati. The health care facilities are available throughout the country with main hospitals (4) at different locations for ease of access to the population in North, Central, South and East (Line and Phoenix Islands); Island Health Centres (21) is located in all Islands, and Village Clinics/ Dispensaries (106). In addition, visits to households for certain individual health cases are undertaken by health staff. Manpower-wise, progress is noted.⁵³ Updated Essential Drug List, and Kiribati National Essential Equipment List is continuously monitored and shared to donor for support.

109. The RMNCAH program continues its support to improve and extend health services in many areas of health gap,s and issues on access to quality health have to be addressed. A Communicable Disease Control Unit was established in 2015 within the Health Services, which the RMNCAH program assists to extend to all of Kiribati to reduce the prevalence of risk factors for NCDs. For instance: reduction of morbidity, disabilities and mortality from NCDs; prevention to the introduction and spread of communicable diseases; and strengthening the existing control programs to ensure the nation is prepared for future outbreaks.

110. A big step forward in improving public health systems was to update facilities in the central hospitals, which is underway. The MHMS has secured funding for expansion of Tungaru Central Hospital, TB Ward, Ronton Hospital and Betio Hospital. Continued financial and technical assistance is sought for NCD, Reproductive Health, Communicable disease, Capacity Building, Strengthen Health Information System and Primary Health Care from development partners.

Q. Right to education

Recommendations 84.95, 84.103

111. Government developed a National Education Policy Framework in 2017 which provides overall guide for education in Kiribati to ensure access to quality education, inclusive, implementation of the Act and monitoring implementation. The framework has nine key policy pillars and each has a set of policy statements documented, that establish expected behaviors, practices and standards.

112. The primary and junior secondary are compulsory and free; the Senior Secondary School is free only to Years 10 to 12 under the Government's Free Education policy. The Government also approved subsidization of student transportation and stationery for primary and JSS students in 2015. Free education to Forms 4, 5 and 6 in 2016 in the form of subsidy to school fees by which a boarding student gets AUD600 and AUD300 for day scholars has changed; Government now provides a grant to the full amount of school fee.

Recommendation 84.96

113. The Government approved the Inclusive Education Policy in 2015. Significance of this policy is the, i) provision of a flexible curriculum which caters for student's varied and changing needs in all schools; ii) training of teachers to deliver educational programs and strategies for inclusive education; iii) compulsory education for all school aged children (at Primary and Junior Secondary) including children with special needs; iv) recognition of parents'/caregivers' role in all stages of their child's education.

Recommendation 84.98

114. There are primary schools and JSS schools on all islands, which cater for students under compulsory education (Years 1 to 9). Free transportations are also provided in all outer islands and the MOE is currently in the process of acquiring more school bus transports for South Tarawa and Kiritimati and 20 trucks/buses for all outer islands. Not all islands have Senior Secondary Schools. There is a total of ten Senior Secondary Schools (SSS) in the country provided by both Government and Churches. The Government continuously works with Churches to increase education accessibility of SSS for students and in improving quality of education at the JSS level. The Government provides subsidies to Churches and second qualified teachers to work in the Church schools. The Free Education policy for schooling that commenced in the second term of 2016 has also been extended to all students who have passed their exams in Senior Secondary School, with a removal of the quota system that was previously in place i.e., now all students who pass are eligible.

115. The MOE is committed in providing quality education through other initiatives.⁵⁴ TR also allows for the de-registration of a teacher that is not performing well, hence, this tool will ensure that all teachers perform well and deliver quality education to students.

Recommendation 84.102

116. The MOE with support from UNICEF on improving Early Childhood Developments (ECD), has recently approved the Early Childhood Care Education Act 2017 availing the opportunity to start learning from age of 4 and prepare them for primary school. Island Councils in outer islands operate Pre-schools, which are provided with free teachers paid by the island council. The buildings are also built by the island council either in the council area or in every village for long islands. The current ESSP is committed to identifying resources needed for pre-schools, and to provide training and professional development to teachers.

117. Primary School enrolments has increased.⁵⁵ However, enrolments for junior secondary school (JSS) decreased from 7,038 to 6,423 during the same period due to distance and lack of transport as faced in Kiritimati Island. JSS enrolments for years 2017-2019, showed consistent increase in enrolments.⁵⁶ Activities by schools contributed to this performance including the on-going School Improvement Programs, Infrastructure development at school, Active Learning Techniques by teachers, adequate facilities and

learning materials at schools, relevant curriculum taught and learned in the local language, compulsory and inclusive education policy, the education act and others.

Recommendation 84.99

118. There are no restrictions to girls' education guaranteed under the Free Education and Inclusive Education Policies 2017 and data shows more girl in schools than boys.⁵⁷ There has been a late shift of parent attitude to education for girls from a traditional/cultural practice of giving priority to boys to a now more equal opportunity for both son and daughter.

119. The Inclusive Education Policy 2017 encourages guaranteed participation of disadvantage children. To address the needs of disadvantaged children, the Kiribati School and Centre for Children with Special Needs currently caters for children with disabilities in Kiribati⁵⁸.

Recommendations 84.100, 84.101

120. Section 41(2) of the Education Act 2013 states that pregnant girls must be given the right to continue their education and that 'pregnancy or status as a parent is no longer grounds for disciplinary action, i.e. it is now illegal to expel or suspend pregnant girls or young mothers from attending school. A few cases have benefitted.⁵⁹

121. To ensure that pregnant girls and young mothers have the opportunity to continue their education, all schools have been informed and the Education Inclusive Policy (EIP), is designed to implement all requirements of the Education Act. Both the Act and new Policies have been well disseminated in the country through the media (the MOE weekly radio program, newspapers) and a new Education Portal on Facebook.

R. Discrimination against women

Recommendation 84.48

122. There is no specific Act addressing 'discrimination against women'. However, under existing legislation such as the EIRC, Part XII, Section 107–114, all types of discrimination at work in recruitment, training and promotion is prohibited. It also ensures equal remuneration for men and women and disallows victimization and sexual harassment.

123. Access to land practically is not an issue as women are also land owners with lands passed down from parents. This practice outdates the current Lands Ordinance, which needs updating. Statistical records show more men being employed than women⁶⁰ although positive progress has been noted in the higher positions in the Government. Women's proportion in government positions shows, for instance, that 54% of Ministry Secretary positions are held by women.

Recommendation 84.49

124. The Strengthening Peaceful Villages Kiribati (SPVK) Project is progressing into its 2nd phase. The project works to mobilize women, girls, men and boys in favour of respectful relationships and gender equality aiming at ending violence against women and girls and changing social norms, behaviours and power inequality between men and women.

125. SPVK also includes a research component to uncover "what works" in primary prevention of violence against women and girls to transform harmful social norms. The research component is commissioned under the SPV through an independent external research institute – The Equality Institute (EQI). The baseline is the first major milestone from the research and will serve as an important data to measure further changes in attitudes and behaviours of women and men from Kiribati for a life without violence against women and girls. MWYSSA SPV Team was assisted by UN Women and EQI in getting this first research result ready, and presented to Government in September 2019.

126. Annual campaigns of 16 Days of activism and IWD celebrated in Kiribati and all over bear different themes for EVAWG and gender equality. Both are nation-wide celebrated events involving communities, outer islands, Island Councils NGOs, Government, and

Women Church Organizations. The Orange Day on 25th day of the month is also a campaign well known and celebrated in South Tarawa and few islands. Two Island Councils in South Tarawa celebrated the event alongside their anniversary in June by hosting a week-long celebration with communities and organising a special Orange Day event on 25th June each year.

127. The Kiribati Men's Behavioural Change (KMBC) hosted by WDD is a revived program for men advocates to work for the changes needed in norms and behaviours and attitude towards women. Activities include refresher training to members of the KMBC, outreach and roll out to selected islands with funding support of UNFPA.

128. The RRRT within SPC is implementing the Social Citizenship Education component of the EVAWG Pacific Partnership Program working closely with KTC which commenced in 2019 with budget of AUD30,000. The focus of the program is on human rights and responsibilities, equality verses equity, inclusive of vulnerable groups, gender stereotype, non-discrimination, non-violence, social inclusive classroom.

Recommendation 84.40

129. The WDD is the key coordination body in Government to promote gender equality and to implement CEDAW. It works closely with a women's umbrella organization, the AMAK, to promote women economic empowerment. It also supports other works of government organizations that promote gender equality and women empowerment and works closely with the HRD of MOJ to monitor implementation of human rights conventions including CEDAW and others.

130. The ESGBV Task force is the main inter-institutional coordination mechanism for GE and women empowerment and GBV related matters. Members are key stakeholders from Government and NGOs. Quarterly meetings of the task force is currently supported by the Essential Services Package and stakeholder members are required to inform of their sector activities and updates for GE and GBV.

Recommendation 84.79

131. GEWD Policy has been endorsed and an implementation plan will be developed with support of DFAT. The Policy has 5 key priority areas, one of which is Increasing Women's Participation in Leadership. Promotion of women participation in decision making is also being addressed through the Women (Mock) Parliament with financial support from UNDP and DFAT in October 2019 hosted by House of Parliament.

S. Gender-based violence

Recommendations 84.32, 84.34, 84.37, 84.67

132. Not much progress is made to strengthen legal frameworks. Recent efforts include Judiciary Bench Book review under ESP. Judiciary prioritizes domestic violence cases, custody and maintenance of children cases. The cases are treated as urgent matters and Magistrates are expected to immediately deal with such cases for victims to be socially, emotionally, financially safe and secure and protected. Court clerks are also expected to provide special care and reliable customer services to vulnerable GBV survivors when dealing with them. The penal code remains to be reviewed on perpetrator punishment, which is too lenient.

133. Actions to implement the TRNTM Act are being progressed through the work of many. An implementation plan for the Act was developed in 2017.⁶¹ Funding for the SOPs roll out is an issue and UN Women continues to advocate/lobby to mobilize resources for Kiribati. The Health GBV SOP is soon to be completed. Community outreaches to the Outer Islands included workshops conducted with resource persons from the Male Elders Association (*Unimwane*), Island Council staff, Mayors, Medical Assistant, Police, and Court Clerks.⁶² Efforts are being made to clarify for whom the law is created to address the confusion by men, thinking that the law is only for protection of women when, in fact, it is for the entire family members and all.

134. More completed work is evident in addressing GBV survivor needs as part of EVAW work of UN Women support to Government. The National GBV Counselling framework has progressed to production of the Final Second Draft for review again by stakeholders and then for approval by the Government. A draft implementation plan of the Counselling Framework has also been done for review and confirmation by the Government.

135. The prosecution in liaison with the Crime Unit has conducted consultations in the islands regarding the Act and raised awareness. The Kiribati Police Service training Package on TRNTM Act has been developed and implemented to front-line police officers, special constables and village wardens.

136. All along and through all actions in paras 150 to 153, implementation of CEDAW continues. The EIRC 2015 is relevant in the implementation of the CEDAW not accepting discrimination of any sort and requires equal employment opportunity by prohibiting direct and indirect discrimination on grounds of gender, ethnic origin, race, colour, religion, age etc. It also makes special measures of establishing an obligation on an employer to pay women and men equal remuneration for work of equal value. Kiribati has been party to the Equal Remuneration Convention since 2009 after CEDAW in 2004.

Recommendation 84.63

137. The ESGBV Policy remains relevant and its implementation continues. One of key focus areas of the SHIP is Primary Prevention. This is currently addressed in the SPVK project discussed above. Refer to updates under *Recommendation 84.67*.

138. Other prevention activities are noted by other stakeholders/partners.⁶³ Recently in September 2019, UN Women, in partnership with the FWCC, has organized a regional technical meeting on Men's Behavioural Change Program inviting all Pacific countries to meet, discuss and learn from each other, and discuss the way forward. Men are increasingly involved in the EVAW's primary prevention of GBV.

139. The KWCSO established in January 2017 provides key service to GBV cases through its GBV Counselling service, legal advice for women, girls and children, court services for survivors, accompaniment to the Police and to the hospital where needed. In the recent six months (January–June 2019), there had been a total of 123 cases received and supported by the KWCSO. Such cases were domestic violence, child sexual abuse and rape and others. In addition KWCSO has assisted two child abuse cases (2018-2019) and successfully saw the case through with perpetrators being imprisoned.

140. The SWD is responsible for social services for families, individual, aged, and child protection, school fee for children/students without parents. General and GBV Counselling for survivors of violence, including women, girls and children are available in the Division and have responded to GBV cases for women, girls and children. The Division is also providing perpetrators with its counselling service aiming to rehabilitate and change the perpetrator's violent behaviours.

Recommendation 84.64

141. SAFENET in the WDD of MWYSSA plays a key role in coordinating the GBV, a function of the WD led by the ESGBV Coordinator. UN Women has committed to extend its funding support for the salary of the SAFENET Support Officer (SSO) and is in continued negotiation with DFAT for funding of SAFENET activities. A SAFENET Monthly Case Management Review Committee meetings is supported by the SSO providing secretarial services.⁶⁴ GBV data maintenance is also an important task of the SAFENET which is updated on a monthly basis with data inputs from these front-service providers.

142. SAFENET key service providers are also members of other ESGBV based committees including the ESGBV National Task Force (NTF), the 16 days of activism committee, as well as the IWD Committee.

Recommendation 84.65

143. The WDD takes lead in the EVAW supported by UN agencies and bilateral donors. The ESP has provision to support development and printing of IEC materials for the ESP

partners/stakeholders. These materials assist to make available in the islands, at front-service provider locations, and in public places, information about the availability of services, contact telephone numbers and email contacts. IEC materials including pamphlets and posters are printed and left with communities after the visits made.

144. The Community Policing Unit (CPU) of the KPS continues to work with communities on the EVAW and peaceful living. The CPU is an active member of the 16 days of activism committee and participates during the activism days doing community outreach, conducts campaigns during big national events such as the annual Independence Anniversary and other national events. These are done as measures to end violence against women, girls and children.

Recommendation 84.66

145. In summary, main efforts to address the recommendation include implementation of the TRNTM Act, development of the national GBV Counselling Framework and its implementation plan, SOPs to respond to GBV survivors at international standards and best practices; aligning of new laws such as Family Peace Act, Juvenile Justice Acts 2015; and provision of services by KWCSC, Social Welfare Division and other key front service providers. Refer to recommendations 84.32–84.37, 84.63-84.65.

Recommendation 84.71

146. Training of Police officers, special constables and village wardens on EVAW, Human Rights and their role under TRNTW Act and Police Powers & Duties were initial activities for effective implementation of the TRNTM Act. New developments to improve services are noted.⁶⁵

Recommendation 84.58

147. WDD continues to implement the NAP, ESGBV Policy and the SHIP. A review of the ESGBV Policy and its implementation plan is planned with support of UN Women later in 2019.

Recommendation 84.59

148. Measures are already in place and continue to be developed, as well as needing more work to sufficiently address the CEDAW. For instance, there are remaining areas to be tackled including foreign husbands, children's right to citizenship (born of Kiribati women married to foreigners), lands ordinance, constitution revision in some parts, and most importantly cultural barriers to gender equality. Much more is needed to implement CEDAW.

Recommendations 84.60, 84.61

149. Implementation of the National Action Plan for ESGBV SHIP continues and actions have progressed to address the recommendations. The ESP, KWCSC, SPVK, annual campaigns against violence against women and girls, Government's own plans and efforts along and with donor partner support all work to make a difference. With increased participation and partnership⁶⁶ between government, NGOs and donor partners, a lot has happened.

150. Kiribati acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 16 September 2015. CRC issues related to sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography are almost non-existing in Kiribati. However, under Penal Code, child prostitution is illegal and is an offence. IERC also has provisions ruling against child prostitution and child pornography.

Recommendation 84.68

151. An introduction and training on TRNTM Act, Juvenile Justice Act and Children and Young Family Welfare Act has been conducted to Magistrates and court clerks of South and North Tarawa in December 2015. Also, other actions on Primary Prevention undertaken in

Kiribati also include integration of GBV into school curriculum, community awareness, Respectful Relationship Program in schools, Male Advocacy Program etc.

152. Social Welfare records 2018-2019 on perpetrators of child abuse, violence against women and domestic violence informs of perpetrators being convicted in courts. A total of 22 perpetrators had cases pursued in courts and imprisoned. Cases have included murder of women, child and women physical and sexual abuse, and child harassment.

T. Children: protection against exploitation

Recommendation 84.42

153. The said policies (disability, inclusive education and gender equality and women development) have been developed and launched in 2017/2018) except for the Child Labour Policy which remains outstanding. Currently cases are referred for assistance under the current EIRC and Child Protection Act.

Recommendations 84.105, 84.106

154. Kiribati acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013. The MWYSSA has given disability allowances monthly as approved by the Government. It continues to have an outlook on how the human rights of people with disabilities can be better supported. The new disability policy launched in 2018 is guiding the efforts for the persons with disabilities.

155. The National Building Code has been amended to include the NDP3 Accessibility for Persons with Disability. The Inclusive Education Policy has been assented by Parliament. Disability Employment Policy: this is under development and awaiting the feedback of Te Toa Matoa so that the MLHRD can formalize the policy for Parliament ascension. For participation in elections and public life, policies are being looked at to accessibility for persons with disability in the national elections and politics. A disability act will also be looked to enhance social protection measures and to promote the human rights of persons with disability in all sectors of personal and public life.

Recommendations 84.104, 84.43

156. Kiribati acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2013. The Kiribati National Disability Policy has been adopted by the GOK on the 24th of September 2018. The KNDP will form the framework for which the GOK ministries can work with to understand and achieve their roles. An implementation plan will assist to ensure effective implementation and it is yet to be considered and developed.

157. Child Labour (Work) Policy is not in place. There is however drafting of Lists of Light & Hazardous works. EIRC does also address child labour.

Notes

- ¹ Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS), Ministry of Education (MOE), Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agriculture Development (MELAD), Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Ministry of Women Youth Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) representing also the NGO and CSO, Ministry of Employment and Human Resources (MEHR), Attorney General's Office (AGO), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration (MFAI), Office of the President (OB), Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE).
- ² Office of Te Beretitenti (OB), Ministry Women Youth Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) (Women, Social Welfare, Disability, Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE), Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Immigration (MFAI), Ministry of Environment and Agricultural Development (MELAD), Ministry of Employment and Human Resources (MEHR), Kiribati Police Services (Domestic Violence Services Office-DVSO, and Community Policing), Judiciary, Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and Ministry of Education (MOE).
- ³ i) the GEF 6 STAR to support the Climate Change mitigation plan focusing on the renewable energy which is yet to be implemented, ii) Global Environment Fund (GEF)-Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) project to support enhancing the food security in the context of Climate change which is ongoing, iii) GEF - Operation Program 5 STAR (OP 5 STAR) which is a resilient Island, resilient communities project which will be implemented this year 2019. iv) Kiribati Outer Island Food and Water Program (KOIFAWP) - International Fund and Agriculture Development (IFAD) funded project to implement the water harvesting and gardening projects as climate change adaptation measures.
- ⁴ These include Kiribati climate change policy, Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan (KJIP), The National Framework for Climate Change and Climate Change Adaptation (NFCCCCA), the Whole of Island approach (WOIA), The National Energy Policy, The Kiribati Environment Implementation Plan (KEIP), and The National Disaster Risk Management Plan (NDRMP).
- ⁵ The Act has been reviewed and a bill passed (Sept 2019) for a revised Act to cover both disaster risk management and climate change adopting a whole of country approach, as the 'Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act'.
- ⁶ On-going UNW support to develop a National GBV Counselling Framework for completion in 2019. Further, through the Essential Services Package (ESP) a joint program funded by Global Funds, services for women survivors of violence in Kiribati has been elevated to align with laws, policies and international best practices with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) developing and adopting a do-no-harm and human rights- based approach. For the health, UNFPA works with MHMS to support government in developing the SOPs and trainings.
- ⁷ Case management with both theoretical and practical aspects and the Specialist trainer also provides remote technical advice as needed. Further, UNICEF is providing a long-term child protection social welfare adviser (consultant) to be placed with the Social Welfare Division to provide coaching and mentoring support to social workers. Assistant Social Welfare Officers (ASWOs) received training in child protection, and in organized capacity building activities intended for them.
- ⁸ The WASH program of UNICEF for Health - Health Care Facilities - have assisted South Tarawa and some outer islands for example, Abaiang. The WASH focuses on hygiene and water. The project has assisted the clinics to have sustainable clean water systems applying local water technologies such as the Tamana Pump and a newer appropriate technology of Marakei Pump model. The WASH in schools supported by UNICEF has trials on-going in four outer islands focussing also on health and hygiene in schools supporting children to good health practices.
- ⁹ UNICEF's support has led to the passing of a new act on ECCE Act in 2017.
- ¹⁰ The 'WASH Governance and DRR in Councils' project is implemented in 5 outer islands of Kiribati to promote healthy and resilient communities in all islands in Kiribati and upholding the rights of the children to healthy living.
- ¹¹ Ten integrated Outer Island visits in 2016 allowed the program to concurrently conduct FP services, staff training and vasectomy procedures with MHMS personnel to work alongside strengthening services provided to both health staff and island communities. Eight vasectomy procedures were conducted with technical assistance from KFHA NSV expert as well as awareness provided promoting vasectomy targeting men and couples.
- ¹² Refresher training with pre-test questionnaires and capturing of the MS1 form data at these respective Health Centres (HCs) with a revisit in 6-12 months' time can provide an overview of how knowledge received and learned has increased their FP services to the HCs, number of new users and increase in CPR.
- ¹³ RMNCAH has supported increased visit to outer islands and this has also benefited the pharmacy department which was able to provide more accurate quarterly Rural Health Centres (RHCS) reports to UNFPA on consumption of RH commodities. The RMNCAH program also distributed 105 Family Planning Wheel to these 13 HCs in Tarawa following refresher training in November and December

- which was attended by 24 medical assistants and nurses from the Tarawa and Gilbert group.
- 14 Around 50 staff from Police, Social Welfare, Women Development Division, Catholic Crisis Centre (Our Lady of the Sacred Heart - OLSH), and others in the trainings has been supported by UN Women and other bilateral donors in the country.)
 - 15 The preparation of CEDAW Report (2015, 2016, 2018), CRC Report in 2018 with technical and funding support of UNICEF (Child Protection), CRPD standalone Act (being planned by MWYSSA) to be supported by the UNESCAP, and others. The 2018 Kiribati Voluntary National Report (VNR) was developed funded by UNDP with technical support of UNDP consultants and local consultant working with National Economic Planning Office. The current UN Pacific Strategy (UNPS) aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) and KDP 2016-2019, have been the outcomes of consultations and collaboration with Government.
 - 16 16 days activism and IWD are the widest sustained international campaign with country-wide participation. UN Women and DFAT continue to provide support these campaigns complementing annual budget allocated by Government.
 - 17 *A community-led approach for changing norms and behaviours in society towards power imbalances causing gender inequality. Both are funded by the Pacific Partnership Program of the EU, DFAT and UN Women.*
 - 18 An MOU was signed in Oct 2018 between MWYSSA and thirteen SAFENET Committee member organizations both from CSO/NGO and established community-based groups agreeing to the roles and responsibilities outlined in the MOU. Eight more will sign.
 - 19 Through the SAFENET taskforce, case management review committee, annual events and campaigns such as the 16 days of activism, International Women's Day, Black Thursday, Youth Networks and partnerships supported by the ESP has grown. An MOU was signed in Oct 2018 with thirteen SAFENET Community member organizations agreeing to roles and responsibilities for survivors of violence in their communities. Eight other members have yet to sign.
 - 20 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and the GBV Police SOP for women and girls are aligned to the TRNTM Act (Family Peace Act – FPA) 2014 and to the international operating standards and best practice. The review and translation of the Bench Book of the Judiciary is on-going for the same purpose. The Health SOP is in its final stages of completing 1st Draft.
 - 21 The Coalition of Atoll Nations (CANCC), the Climate Vulnerability Forum (CVF), the Pacific Island Forum Leaders Meeting (Tuvalu, 2019), the Micronesian President Summit (MPS). While the advocacy for Alliance Of Small Island States (AOSIS) and Small Island Development States (SIDS) is essential in international negotiations and international platforms, there is a need to further downscale and ramp up key messaging, concerns and issues from the Pacific Small Island Development States (PSIDS), a mechanism to coordinate key positions of the Pacific SIDS for advocating at international events.
 - 22 Kiribati has established a climate finance division (CFD) in MFED as a first step to coordinate how to engage with relevant climate finance institutions: Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund (AF) and Commonwealth International Fund (CIF). The first GCF proposal: 24/7 Water supply for South Tarawa is being implemented. The CIF approved funding support towards the Solar Renewable Energy (SREP) Investment Plan (Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency) and the Adaptation Fund project proposal is currently being steered by the CFD and the KNEG.
 - 23 TRNTM Act criminalizes domestic violence in all its forms – physical, sexual, verbal/emotional/psychological, and economic abuse. It provides for an offence of domestic violence and introduces protection orders and police safety orders; introduces preventive measures such as education and public awareness programs to reduce, prevent and eliminate violence; section 11 clarifies the application for protection orders — apart from the complainant, who can apply for a protection order on behalf of the complainant who is unable to apply due to injury or fear; section 14 is on the court power to make protection orders on satisfaction that the respondent has used domestic violence and it is necessary to protect the applicant, (child or any other member of the family living in the same household); types of protection orders (Emergency, Temporary, Final Order).
 - 24 The Island Vulnerable Assessments (IVAs) is a tool for assessing vulnerabilities that incorporates key survey questions related to human rights, gender inclusivity and assesses the vulnerability of groups. These vulnerability assessments inform key decision-making processes and has been used by island councils to inform the development of their island strategic plans (ISPs).
 - 25 Trainings included: Coastal Vulnerability Mapping (EU GIZ ACSE project); Database management (SPC ISACC project); Project proposal writing (USAID Climate Ready); Project Management; Monitoring and Evaluation (SPC ISACC).
 - 26 The Code are included ensuring that regulations can be developed in the future for protection of child in the work place. The EIRC is developed to address employment conditions, labour migration policy, ILO convention ratified (8 fundamental conventions) including convention 138 on minimum wage convention 1993, convention 183 on worst forms of child labour 1999.
 - 27 EIRC disallows discrimination on the basis of (a) ethnic origin, race, colour, national status, social origin, social class or economic class; (b) sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation or family

- responsibilities; (c) age, state of health, HIV/AIDS status or disability; (d) religion or political opinion; (e) trade union membership or activity; or (f) involvement in an employment dispute, an investigation or legal proceedings affecting the employer.
- 28 Interest Groups : Government, NGOs, Donors present in the country, established community groups, Disability Organization (Te Toa Matoa) and Women representations on the national women umbrella organisation the AMAK (Aia Maea Ainen Kiribati).
- 29 Lately, heavy rains and king tides coupled with sea level rise have become common disasters affecting the islands and the people for instance, in 2015 and 2018, Tamana and Arorae were the two most affected islands due to the passing of Tropical Cyclone Pam.
- 30 1) Institutional Strengthening - USAID Climate Ready and SPC ISACC project has supported the establishment and capacity development of the CFD under the MFED; 1a) Climate and Disaster Finance Assessment (supported by GIZ, PIFS and DFAT) which provides an assessment on the current climate change financing support being received by Kiribati; 2) Policy Direction - The government has provided 3 main priorities for climate change and which the CFD will engage further on with the GCF and other multilateral institutions : Water, Coastal Protection and Renewable Energy; 2a) KNEG activities through the implementation of the KJIP and the WOIA; 3) Technical support - Disaster Fund, Early warning systems, tide calendars, radio broadcasts for immediate events requiring support in light of sudden events especially during king-tide events.
- 31 Coastal protection measures and programmes such as the Climate Change Adaptation Project (CCAP); Kiribati Adaptation Programme 3rd Phase (KAPIII); the Disaster Fund (DF) managed by the OB supports all coastal protection through different means: seawall construction, sandbags provision, temporary relief measures, mangrove planting initiatives.
- 32 Abaiang now in its implementation phase, and Tabiteuea Meang, Teraina, Tabuaeran, Kiritimati, Nounouti, Abemama and Marakei, for which IVAs have been completed. Phase two of the WOIA is development of Island Strategic Plans and for a number of Councils, Islands Strategic Plans (ISPs) are in place.
- 33 It requires that births are registered by the registrar for the district where the baby is born, or where found for those without proper information specifying also responsibility for child registration. Registration of the birth is free until 12 months from birth after which registration is considered 'late' and an applicable charge applies for registration. Illegitimate children require a request in writing and signed by both the mother and the father acknowledging the child as his.
- 34 Form 4–6 Senior Secondary School levels.
- 35 An Early Childhood Education and Care Act 2017 provides for and regulate early childhood care and education services in Kiribati and for connected purposes. The Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) 2016–2019 and the Education Policy were developed aligned to the Act. Education has in place a Child Protection Policy 2013 (recently reviewed in 2019) to ensure safeguarding and promoting the well-being of children with all facilities and including schools, along with the Inclusive Education policy 2016, also reviewed in 2019. A recently adopted Education policy is the Child Safe Schools policy 2019 which upholds a zero-tolerance.
- 36 The Ministry integrated these international and regional aspirations into its national education priorities, aligning them with the Government of Kiribati Development Plan (2016–2019), in the Key Performance Area 1: Human Resources Development.
- 37 A Principal, teacher or supporting staff of the school who is found to give corporal punishment to any student is subject to a fine of \$1000, or 6 months' imprisonment.
- 38 A Child Protection Legislative Reform project with UNICEF was successfully achieved with the endorsement and enactment of both Children, Young Persons and Family Welfare Act (CYPFWA) in 2013 and Juvenile Justice Act in 2015. The CYPFWA encourages family wellbeing and protection of children against harmful treatments by parents, caretakers and others and decisions to be made in accordance with the principle that every child deserves to be cared for and protected by their family.
- 39 Judiciary Enabling Right project promotes awareness and legal education to women and youth groups to access to quality justice in Kiribati. The Kiribati Police Service also have ongoing activity to conduct awareness campaign once a month to communities and schools. The Community Policing are working with communities to promote peaceful living in the homes. The Police Standing Orders and Procedures (SOP) for GBV victims/survivors, under the ESP is planned for roll out to all islands. This will assure elevated police/legal service to the women and girls who are survivors of v A training manual has also been developed to assist with the planned roll out training on the new SOP to all islands of Kiribati.
- 40 The SAFENET membership in outer islands include front service providers such as the Police, Medical Assistant, Unimwane rep, Women's Rep, Youth Rep and the ASWO. Through it, cases are assured of successful completion and survivors assured of better care for them and their safety.
- 41 WEE trainings conducted in outer islands to build skills of women in business, handicraft making, gardening sewing, cooking.
- 42 A Gender Equality and Women Development Policy has been approved and adopted. An implementation plan for the policy is priority next step for realizing the expected outcomes of the

- policy. This is being considered for support by DFAT. For the need to mainstream gender in policies and laws, the National Disaster Act was consulted on for its review (Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Act) to update and make it relevant, gender responsive and effectively relevant to people affected. Involvement of women representation on disaster committees is encouraged. A bill for the revised Act was recently passed by Parliament in September 2019.
- ⁴³ A budget of \$1.5m in 2019 for persons aged 65 and above (2,797 in 2019) payable on monthly basis. School fee support budget of \$56K in 2017–2019. A disability fund amounting \$1.5m which started recently in September 2019 is also available for 2900 paid on monthly basis.
- ⁴⁴ Through the Agriculture Division of MELAD, distribution of agriculture tools and seedlings is a practice to provide as incentive as well as support people on outer islands. Under the Kiribati Outer Island Food and Water Project (KOIFAWP) and LDCF projects, schools and water user groups in five islands have received agricultural hand tools shovel, spade, fork & wheelbarrow. Five islands had received the agricultural hand tools that distributed to Water user groups and the schools under the KOIFAWP and LDCF projects. Islands covered include Abemama, Nonouti, Tab North, Beru and Maiana.
- ⁴⁵ A total of 1,557 received training on agricultural and livestock activities across seven islands namely Butaritari, Abaiang, North Tarawa, Kuria, Abemama, Tab South and Nikunau.
- ⁴⁶ UNICEF has assisted schools in Kiribati to implement the Water and Sanitation Health (WASH) Program. The WASH Program promotes schools to have WASH facilities (toilets, water for hand washing and brushing of teeth) in schools. Enhancing the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) standards in the clinics in some islands, rehabilitated 22 WASH facilities; compliance to the National Infrastructure Standard, that all schools must have essential WASH facilities.
- ⁴⁷ The Atoll Water and Sewerage Program (AWSP), Kiribati Adaptation Program (KAP) 3, Kiribati Water and Sanitation (KIRIWATSAN) II, Kiribati Outer Island Food and Water Project (KOIFAWP), South Tarawa Sewerage Improvement Program (STSISP), South Tarawa Water and Sanitation Project (STWSP), Water and Safety Health (WASH), are some of the water and sanitation projects (footnote these). Both Outer Islands and Urban population are benefiting from these projects for improved water and sanitation services.
- ⁴⁸ National Water Committee and National Sanitation Committee and are responsible for overseeing and coordination of implementation of the policies and programs to ensure quality and standards are adhered to and that tests are done regularly.
- ⁴⁹ The community mobilization team of STSISP worked closely with communities in Betio and Teinano areas on the proper use of toilets, simple hand-wash appropriate technology (tippy taps), conducting site visits, meetings with different communities and training of members. Through the work, communities were encouraged to have community toilets arrangements on maintaining the facility.
- ⁵⁰ Total funds availed had been \$291,254.85. for a total number of 14 blocks of 6 toilets each. These have assisted the 84 households living in the area. The project also provided rain water catchment and tanks for drinking water. In the Bairiki village settlement, toilets for 24 households were built through the support of the Mormon Church, costing \$60,000.
- ⁵¹ RMNCAH program funded training of 2 participants – a midwife and the O&G specialist to attend the PEMNet – Pacific Emergency Maternal and Neonatal training in New Zealand in July 2016. The training by the Pacific Society of Reproductive Health (PSRH) is aimed at emergency prevention and death avoidance in everyday routine professional activities.
- ⁵² The visit to Maiana Island (2018) showed that 248 people were tested for HIV and syphilis (using VCCT) and interviewed for symptoms of chlamydia and gonorrhoea. The HIV results were only available on the spot for 70 people due to only 70 test kits being available. The remainder of the blood samples were brought back to Tarawa for testing and results disseminated to the nurses on Maiana. Results showed that in all age groups apart from the 45-50 group, more STI tests/interviews were conducted for females (61%) than males (39%). Additionally, more tests were conducted for the 20-24 age group (22%), followed by the 30-34 year age group (20%) and then the 25-29 age group (15%). Females accounted for the majority of those tested 151 or 61%, while 96 or 39% were males. There were 17 HIV/STI tests conducted on pregnant women with one testing positive for syphilis and one with symptoms of chlamydia. The age group with the largest number of positive STI cases was the 30-34 group (23% of cases). Syndromic treatment was provided to all symptomatic cases and their partners. All the condoms that were brought for the mission were distributed, total of 144 male condoms and 100 female condoms.
- ⁵³ The VNR has noted "medical doctor availability has improved from 4.1 per 10,000 in 2015 to 6.0 per 10,000 in 2017. The total number of available health personnel (which includes medical doctor, dentists, assistants, nurses and midwives) increased from 39 per 10,000 in 2015 to 42 per 10,000 in 2017. The vast majority (71 percent) of medical staff are nurses".
- ⁵⁴ Increasing Kiribati Teachers College (KTC) intakes from 30 to 100 per year (since 2018) to provide all schools with qualified teachers in a timely manner- improve the pupil teacher ratio (desired 1:30). The Ministry is embarking on Teacher Registration (TR) to register all teachers who meet the required benchmark as prescribed in the Education Act. Those who do not qualify will not be

registered. Professional Developments by teachers is encouraged to meet the minimum requirements of TR. KTC is offering professional developments (PD) on classroom managements, pedagogies and other related courses to upgrade skills of existing teachers - to enhance teachers' capacity in delivery lessons to their students. New monitoring tools for teachers was rolled out in 2018 which allows the Ministry to effectively assess teacher performance and to be able to intervene in a timelier manner when a teacher is not performing well. This assessment tool is also used for salary increment purposes instead of Staff Performance Appraisal as used for other civil servants. Rehabilitate schools with the help of DFAT for Primary schools in South Tarawa, Line Islands and several schools on selected outer islands. The Ministry continues to provide rehabilitation for schools in critical conditions for instance, the JSS on Kiritimati Island funded by the Government.

- ⁵⁵ The total school enrolment for primary education showed an increase from 27,140 in 2013 to 28,565 in 2016. 2017, 2018 - 2019 showed consistent enrolment at 17786, 16150, 17346 for respective years.
- ⁵⁶ In 2017-2019, 5693, 5663 and 6371 respectively recorded as enrolled.
- ⁵⁷ In 2017, total enrolment was 29,588 of which male was 14,360 and girls was 15,228 and in 2018 total enrolment was 26,928 comprising of boys 13,194 and girls 13,734. In 2019, total enrolment was 30,270 with boys 14,719 and girls 15,551.
- ⁵⁸ In 2018 the school had 39 teachers and 227 registered students across preschool and primary school age. The VNR 2018 reported of delivery of education to the students which has seen 8 impaired students attend senior high school, 4 students (also with hearing impairments) attend intermediate schools, and 3 (with mild intellectual impairments) attend regular primary schools."
- ⁵⁹ Under 'repeat subsidy cases' on medical grounds official records, (girls pregnant) 4 cases were considered (2016 -2 girls; 2019 - 2 girls). Evident also in the scholarships' records for 2015, 2016, and 2017 there had been higher numbers of girls obtaining scholarships than boys (69 female and 46 male 67 female and 31 male, 96 female and 56 male for respective years).
- ⁶⁰ Labour force participation rate, aged 15 years+ 73% male vs 60% female; Unemployment rate, aged 15 years+ 36% male vs 47% female; Unemployment rate aged 15–24 years 62% male vs 73% female).
- ⁶¹ Further, under the ESP funding, WDD have developed the SAFENET SOPs to effectively respond to survivors of GBV. The Police GBV SOP is in place along with the training manual of the SOP. For both SOPs, plans are in place for an integrated roll out to the outer islands, prior which a training on the SOPs was conducted in Oct 2019.
- ⁶² Islands covered included Nonouti, North Tarawa and Butaritari in 2018 and three more to cover in 2019.
- ⁶³ The Ministry of Education has introduced in the school curriculum the subject of GBV. Respectful Relationships has also been introduced in schools. The Men's Behavioural Change program has been re-introduced with funding support of UNPFA, supporting continuation of the initial program funded by World Bank. Refresher trainings of male advocates and a roll out training plan to outer islands are being funded.
- ⁶⁴ The CMRC brings together key GBV front-service providers (Police, KWCS, Crisis Centre, Social Welfare, Health) to discuss high priority cases.
- ⁶⁵ All 4 Police stations on South Tarawa have female police officers to serve GBV cases and now have one female officer on every shift. The KWCS, SAFENET's CMRC, Human Rights Division of MOJ have also visited the Police Stations and conducted basic GBV training, Human Rights, and Roles under the Act to Police Officers, CPS. village wardens and special constables at the stations. In addition, the Public Service Office provides support sending police officers to study undergraduate courses.
- ⁶⁶ Partnership with NGOs and across Government have grown from about 700 in 2017 to an estimated 4500 in 2019.