## Women empowerment

Sociology, Social Issues



Women's Empowerment Principles Equality Means Business

A joint initiative of the UNIFEM and UN Global Compact n

Women's Empowerment Principles in Brief n 1. Establish high"

level corporate leadership for gender equality. 2.

Treat all women and men fairly at work – respect and support human rights a nd nondiscrimination. 3. Ensure the health, safety and well"

being of all women and men workers. 4.

Promote education, training and professional development for women. 5.

Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women. 6.

Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy. 7.

Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.

Introduction

Empowering women to participate fully in economic life across all sectors and throughout all levels of economic activity is essential to:

Build strong economies; Establish more stable and just societies;

Achieve internationally"

agreed goals for development, sustainability and human rights;

Improve quality of life for women, men, families and communities; and

Propel businesses' operations and goals.

Yet, ensuring the inclusion of women's talents, skills, experience and energie s requires intentional

actions and deliberate policies. The Women's Empowerment Principles1 provide a set of considerations

to help the private sector focus on key elements integral to promoting gende

r equality in the workplace,

marketplace and community. Enhancing openness and inclusion throughout corporate policies and

operations requires techniques, tools and practices that bring results. The W omen's Empowerment 1 n

The Women's Empowerment Principles, the product of a collaboration betwe en UNIFEM and the UN Global Compact n informed by an international multi" stakeholder consultation, are adapted from the Calvert Women's Principles®. The Calvert

Women's Principles were originally developed in partnership with UNIFEM and launched in 2004 as the first global corporate code of conduct focused exclusively on empowering, advancing and investing

g in women worldwide. n 1

Women's Empowerment Principles – Equality Means Business [embargoed un til 8 March] n Principles, forged through an international multi" stakeholder consultative process led by the United

Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations Glob al Compact (UNGC), provide a "

gender lens" through which business can survey and analyze current initiatives, benchmarks and reporting practices. Informed by real"

life business practices, the Principles help companies tailor existing policies a nd practices – or establish needed new ones –

to realize women's empowerment. The Principles also

reflect the interests of Governments and civil society and will support interactions among stakeholders

as achieving gender equality requires the participation of all actors. As a lead er in gender equality,

UNIFEM brings three decades of experience to this partnership effort with the UN Global Compact, the

world's largest corporate citizenship initiative with more than 7,

000 business participants and other

stakeholders involved in more than 135 countries.

In an increasingly globalized and interconnected world, utilizing all social