



**Permanent Mission of the Federated States of Micronesia to the UN**

300 East 42 Street, Suite 1600  
New York, N.Y. 10017

e-mail: fsmun@fsmgov.org

Telephone: (212) 697-8370

Facsimile: (212) 697-8295

<https://unmission.fm/>

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**78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly  
Third Committee  
Agenda item 27: Advancement of women**

**Statement by: Delegation of Micronesia**

**New York, 9 October 2024**

**Check against delivery**

Chairperson,

The delegation of Micronesia congratulates you and your bureau on your election and assures you of its full support.

Chairperson,

Micronesia is committed to upholding the values of inclusivity and equal opportunity for all its citizens. The nation recognizes the increasing involvement of women in significant leadership positions across both public and private sectors. In his address to the 79th Session of the High-Level Week, Micronesia's President Wesley W. Simina emphasized his administration's dedication to prioritizing gender equality. Notably, the nomination of more women to key governmental positions, including the Cabinet, has been undertaken to address gender imbalances. A significant milestone was reached with the election of three women to our Congress, marking a historic achievement in representation. Furthermore, women are assuming vital roles in the judicial and legislative system, serving as judges and elected officials at national, state, and local levels. While acknowledging that progress towards achieving equal representation across all sectors is ongoing, the nation remains steadfast in its commitment to this positive trajectory.

Micronesia is dedicated to providing equal opportunities to all our citizens through scholarships, which have empowered women and girls to pursue education and achieve their aspirations. Despite the opportunities provided, women and girls still encounter challenges from stereotypes, norms, and cultural barriers that impede their progress.

A few years ago, two of our states - Kosrae and Pohnpei passed the Family Safety Bill, which established legal safeguards for families, especially women and children, against domestic violence.

Women in Micronesia are our fundamental resource to our development and in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They are, however, increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events that can cause illness, damage infrastructure, and disrupt access to healthcare. On our own, Micronesia has introduced a gender-responsive approach that has been integrated into our climate action. Our national efforts in this field will have limited success without cooperation and assistance from the international community. The international community must address the root cause of climate change, and the assistance of our donor partners in provision of adequate financial support towards key sectors including infrastructure and socio-economic areas remain crucial.

While strides have been made, there is ongoing work to be done. Many women continue to face violence at home and in their communities. Inequality does not signify strength, and it is crucial for us to strive to eradicate all forms of discrimination.

Regrettably, decisions that determine the destiny of nations often overlook women's perspectives, yet they are often the first to endure violence when conflicts arise. Their contributions are undervalued, despite the fact that they nurture future generations. In our history, women have been making judicious decisions, often leading to peaceful resolutions. Our Micronesian society is a proud matrilineal society where our clans, lineage and land control are mainly passed down from generation to generation through women, symbolizing the powerful role of women in our culture and society.

Chairperson,

It is concerning that while we celebrate women and their advancement, in some areas around the world; women's rights are being suppressed and even regressed. The Pact of the Future must not be just a document but an actionable instrument that ensures all women's and girls' rights are met, allowing them to pursue their dreams and shape their destinies.

To advance the status of women and girls, it is crucial to create an inclusive, safe environment that prioritizes fairness and protection. It will give women equal access to opportunities, allowing them to excel, assume leadership positions, and lead fulfilling and successful lives."

I thank you.