

- (c) *access to appropriate forum*, which means that “claim holders seek remedies for grievances through appropriate mechanisms and grievances are received by duty bearer;”
 - (d) *effective handling of grievance*, which means that “duty bearers take necessary actions to provide remedies for a grievance;” and
 - (e) *satisfactory remedy obtained*, which means that “claim holders receive appropriate remedies, in line with human rights standards.” Involved in all these five components are the elements of monitoring, oversight and transparency.³⁸
10. The UNDP also considers access to justice both as a fundamental human right, “a key means to defend other rights,”³⁹ and “closely linked to poverty reduction since being poor and marginalized means being deprived of choices, opportunities, access to basic resources and a voice in decision-making.”⁴⁰
11. Since access to justice is “a key means to defend other rights” and “an enabling right” that “allows individuals to enforce their substantive rights and obtain a remedy when these rights are violated,” the enhancement of women’s access to justice is critical in eliminating discrimination against women, in promoting substantive equality, and in achieving the goals of the CEDAW.
12. The UN Women considers access to justice essential in achieving progress in the five priority areas it has identified for achieving gender equality: (a) increasing women’s leadership and participation; (b) ending violence against women; (c) engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; (d) enhancing women’s economic empowerment; and (e) making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting.⁴¹
13. Consistent with these five priority areas, the UN Women has put forward a *substantive agenda* for pursuing justice for women that includes the following *critical components*:⁴²
- (a) *a women’s human rights-centered legal framework*, which requires:
 - (i) ending explicit legal discrimination against women;
 - (ii) passing legislation that addresses gender-specific violations that have been traditionally considered personal or private (such as domestic violence);
 - (iii) expanding the limited protection given to women by existing laws (such as laws narrowly defining sexual violence or excluding spousal rape from the crime of rape);

38. Wojkowska 2006, p. 30.

39. UNDP 2005, p. 5.

40. UNDP 2004, p. 3.

41. UN Women 2011.

42. UN Women 2011.