

**Division for the Advancement of Women
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Capacity Building for Promoting Gender Equality in African Countries**

**Panel on
Strengthening the capacity of national machineries through the effective use of
information and communication technologies**

Tunis, Tunisia
18 November 2005

PANEL SUMMARY

Introduction

The Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) organized a panel on Strengthening the Capacity of National Machineries through the Effective Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) as a parallel event to the World Summit on the Information Society, on 18 November 2005 in Tunis, Tunisia.

the national machinery. An important lessons learned by national machineries was that it was useful to make their challenges known to other stakeholders in order to form constructive alliances with other government bodies as well as with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, media and the private sector.

Interventions from the floor

Speaking from the floor, a representative of the International Federation of the Red Cross congratulated the panelists for making such refreshing interventions on the use of ICT for facilitating development. He suggested that the African Development Bank be approached to provide financial/technical assistance to the national machineries. He acknowledged that a major challenge was to sustain the progress made so far. A representative of the Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT