



The Commission has invited the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, to endorse this Declaration, and we look forward to relevant action in due course.

Promising practices exist that can be drawn on, scaled up or replicated to move forward the gender equality agenda. We need to galvanize the efforts of all stakeholders, forge strategic partnerships and improve collaboration and participatory processes to achieve measurable positive outcomes for women and girls.

2010 is a critical year for gender equality, and, as others have said, there cannot be progress towards achieving the MDGs without progress in gender equality. Let us seize all opportunities at national, regional and global level and give new impetus to the promotion of gender equality and women's enjoyment of their human rights.

I thank you.