The Philippine government has targeted the generation of six to ten million jobs until 2010. Three million of these are for women being provided access to micro-finance and microenterprise development. The Gender-Responsive Actions for the Transformation of Women or the GREAT Women Project being spearheaded by the national machinery has made inroads to unblock some of the social constraints to women's economic empowerment.

To help protect the country's most vulnerable sectors from threats and consequences of the global economic crisis, the government provides emergency employment and funding and supervising livelihood project through the Comprehensive Livelihood and Emergency Employment Program (CLEEP).

Environment issues now call our urgent attention. The Philippines has just signed into law the Climate Change Act of 2009, wherein the national women's machinery is one of the members of the advisory body to ensure gender mainstreaming in the issue of climate change.

There is better coordination among national agencies to produce sex-disaggregated data on 20 priority indicators to monitor progress in the implementation of CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action, and the MDGs and the national plan for women.

Programs and projects implemented by government instrumentalities are monitored by our supreme audit institution to ensure that the implementation of their gender and development (GAD) plans and the utilization of their gender budget contribute to closing the gender gaps in the country. A total of 8.14 billion pesos have been spent for GAD projects for the past five years.

A Harmonized Gender and Development Guidelines were formulated to ensure the integration of GAD in the design and implementation of ODA-funded projects. The ODA projects show increasing and promising trend in achieving a more gender-responsive ODA. Over the 3-year period, 37 % of the ODA allocation went to gender-responsive projects in 2009 as compared to 23% in 2008 at the project implementation stage.

On civil and political rights, women comprise 58.7 percent of the entire bureaucracy as of 2004. In 2007, women occupying 2nd level position is at 78 percent. In 2010, 42.4 percent occupies 3rd level positions. Women account for only 20 percent of the total position in the judiciary.

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Men in the Philippines are also involved in promoting the reproductive health of women and small groups of men called, 'Mr. GAD' and 'GADFATHERS' highlight this

In closing, our aspirations to develop the fullest potential of girls and women of all ages to ensure their full and equal participation in building a better world for all and enhance their role in the development process must not wane. The movement for gender equality and women empowerment must continue to reap significant advances for our women.

Thank you and good day.