

**52nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
25 February to 7 March 2008**

**High Level Round Table on Financing for Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Women**

25 February 2008

Moderator's Summary

1. At its third meeting, on 25 February 2008, the Commission on the Status of Women held a high-level round table on the priority theme "Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women" to follow-up on actions taken subsequent to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. The interactive high-level round table focused on experiences, lessons learned and good practices, including results with supporting data where available, in relation to the implementation of the previous commitments with regard to the priority theme. A discussion guide provided the framework for the interactive dialogue.

2. The high-level round table was organized in two parallel sessions in order to allow for interaction among the large number of participants. The sessions were chaired, respectively, by H. E. Olivier Belle, Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women, and H. E. Iya Tidjani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cameroon to the United Nations. The dialogue followed a format consisting of two segments. The first segment was devoted to a dialogue among representatives of Member States who exchanged information on the progress made in their respective countries on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women and made proposals for future action. In the second segment, invited representatives of United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations contributed to the discussion.

3. A total of 65 speakers participated in the high-level round table: 52 Government representatives, four representatives of United Nations entities and six representatives of non-governmental organizations. Mr. Dioniso Pérez-Jácome, Vice-Minister of Expenditures of the Ministry of Finance, Mexico, and Mr. Mohamed Chafiki, Director of Study and Forecast, Ministry of Finance, Morocco, were the keynote speakers for the sessions.

4. Commitments on financing for gender equality and women's empowerment have been made by Governments, including at quality an7d or gend 19.sFhfor future 5.4.0003 Tw -womnt

all budgetary processes. In the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development, the importance of a holistic approach to the interconnected national, international and systemic challenges of financing for development to ensure sustainable, gender-sensitive and people-centred development, was highlighted.

5. Participants agreed that the implementation of international obligations and political commitments for gender equality and women's full enjoyment of their human rights required the allocation of human and financial resources. Such financing for

economic opportunities, as well as for affo