

THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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	52 nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women
	General discussion
	3 March 2008
	New York
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	Distinguished delegates,
	1. It is my pleasure to address the 52nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women on behalf
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Mr. Chairperson,

2. We are encountering both good news and bad news at the same time regarding the situation of women around the world. The good news is that we have observed an extension in the average life span and an increase of awareness regarding the rights of women across the board. However, the bad news is that we are living in a time of obscurity which brings about too many variables and too few constants. On one hand, long-term trends in the modern world include climate change, aging societies, major

According to UNHCR, the overall number of people under UNHCR mandates increased from 21 million in 2005 to almost 33 million in 2006. According to the *Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children*, over 60% persons among refugees and IDPs are women and it takes an average of 15 years for these women to return to life before displacement. What is also saddening is the double victimization of women in refugee and IDP camps who are easily being exposed to gender-based violence, including rape.

5. In this light, the Republic of Korea would also like to express our heartfelt welcome to the Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women. Furthermore, as a specific and practical measure for women in refugee and IDP camps, I strongly urge the World Health Organization (WHO), the Global Health Cluster and IASC Task Force on HIV to include comprehensive reproductive health in their

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Mr. Chairperson,

6. Let me turn to the priority theme of this session, "Financing for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women." Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women will ultimately serve as an effective tool for global development and prosperity. As one example, I hope to