

Fifty-second Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women

Statement delivered by

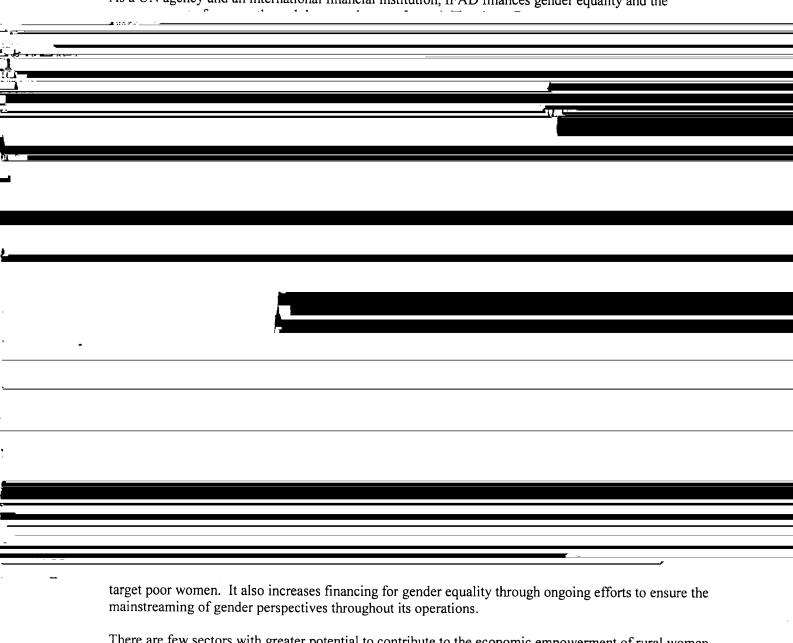
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New York, 28 March 2008

Mr. Chairperson, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to address the Commission on the Status of Women on behalf of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) as the Commission takes up the important topic of "Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women."

As a UN agency and an international financial institution, IFAD finances gender equality and the



There are few sectors with greater potential to contribute to the economic empowerment of rural women than agriculture. In most developing countries, smallholder farming largely has a woman's face. In Africa, women provide an estimated three-fourths of the labour for food production. In Asia, women

