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Monsieur le Président,

La Suisse est convaincue que pour réaliser l'égalité des sexes, des investissements importants doivent être engagés pour le changement des structures et de

mentolité, la formation et la acquisition de compétences, la promotion de

Monsieur le Président,

La Suisse s'engage en faveur d'un l'accroissement du financement pour l'égalité des sexes et le renforcement des femmes. Le financement pour l'égalité des sexes fait

développement. Ainsi, au sein du Département fédéral des affaires étrangères, un

Mr. President

have to be made to change structures and mentalities, to promote training and the acquisition of know-how by women, civil society activities on behalf of gender equality and an allocation of public expenditure that is gender-sensitive.

To ensure that the gender dimension is included in public expenditure, no less than eight gender-sensitive budget projects have been established. The example of the Canton Basel is particularly noteworthy. Several analyses have been carried out there, notably on the rate of differential expenditure according to gender and to unpaid work. The results clearly underlined the existing differences in the allocation

part of its foreign policy and of its development aid. Within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs a pilot project for gender-sensitive budgeting was developed for the

areas of peace promotion and development aid in 2007. It will be implemented in 2008.

My country is equally convinced that support for women's groups and NGOs is an important factor in improving gender equality. In Switzerland various NGOs have developed expertise on gender questions, often achieving a great deal with modest funds. The introduction of new legislation promoting gender equality is due in part to their tenacious lobbying.

Switzerland supports the promotion of systems that take into account gender equality at all levels and it encourages efforts to introduce gender-sensitive budgeting into

