

**Joint Statement
on behalf of the
United Nations Regional Commissions**

**UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)
UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
~~UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)~~**

**to the 52nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women
(New York, 25 February - 7 March 2008)**

**Delivered by Ms. Sonia Montano
Women and Development Division
ECLAC**

Mr. Chair,
Distinguished delegates,
Representatives of NGOs,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour and privilege for me to address the 52nd session of the CSW on behalf of the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA).

I would like to congratulate the Bureau of the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) for its report on

the session. *Financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women* is of key importance in implementing the commitments to gender equality reflected in the Beijing Platform for Action and the Internationally Agreed Development Goals, included the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The discussion of this theme at CSW in 2008 is also very timely, as it can provide inputs into the preparatory process for the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, to be

gender perspective into the financing for development process.

Financing for Development

The Regional Commissions have been supporting Member States in the implementation of the recommendations of the Monterrey Consensus related to gender included in the chapters on mobilization of domestic resources and systemic and institutional changes.

This has been done through promoting women's employability, including women's entrepreneurship, micro-financing and support to women in rural areas, in addition to work on gender budgets and gender sensitive public investment, especially in health and education.

Through a joint initiative, DAW, the Statistical Commission and the Regional Commissions are committed to advancing the monitoring of violence against women. This initiative aims to build the capacity of national statistical offices and national machineries for women to use VAW indicators for data collection, monitoring and informing Member States on the impact of their policies and programmes on VAW.

I thank you for your attention.