

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

"Equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care giving in the context of HIV/AIDS"

Statement delivered by

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New York, March 2009

Mr. Chairman,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to address the Commission on the Status of Women today on behalf of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

between women and men, including care giving in the context of HIV/AIDS" and wish to commend the Secretariat for preparing a very good report on the topic.

The sharing of responsibilities between women and men is of concern in all sectors of rural and agricultural development, from working in the fields to fetching water and preparing food. The caring for relatives affected by HIV/AIDS is a particular challenge for rural communities and families. Over the last 10 years, the pandemic has rapidly

increasing recognition of the role of rural women as the main producers of food in many parts of the world, especially in the poorest countries, and their contribution to food security and poverty reduction.

In 2008, the global food crisis brought to the fore the centrality of agriculture and the role

