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STATEMENT BY

**THE STATE MINISTER FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
PROF. DR. MEUTIA HATTA SWASONO**

**AT THE FIFTY THIRD SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

NEW YORK, 4 MARCH 2009

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Mr. Chairman,

It is a great pleasure to congratulate you and other members of the Bureau on resuming the leadership of the Fifty Third session of the

Commission. I am confident that under your leadership, we will have another constructive and fruitful session.

In discussing the issue, Indonesia wishes to associate itself with the statement by the distinguished delegate of Sudan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. We acknowledge as well the Secretary General's reports and notes on the priority theme, *"The equal sharing of responsibilities, between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS"*, which is indeed timely and highly relevant.

For some time now the principle of equal partnership between men and women affecting all aspects of life has been one of the main areas of deliberation by the CSW and other related forums. Measures have been taken at the international and national levels to create an enabling environment to

In order to bring about the elimination of violence against women, we have not only promulgated the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence in 2004 and the Law Against Human Trafficking, especially of women and

women and children affected by such violence. The police too have taken on a more active role in providing protection to potential victims.

Mr. Chairman,

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In conclusion, let me re-emphasize our Government's commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality at the national and international levels. We recognize that the key factor underlying successful implementation of initiatives for change is adequate reliable financing. Both

countries should therefore fully honour their international commitments, including increased ODA, free and fair trade and greater debt relief, in order to maintain the momentum for change.

Indonesia is firmly convinced that national efforts will benefit tremendously from international assistance and cooperation. In this context, we recognize the role of national machineries, including National Human Rights institutions, related to the promotion of the rights of women, both at national and international level. Additionally, countries sharing their experiences and best practices will

