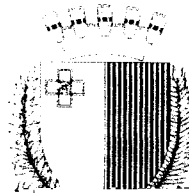


MALTA



Mr. Chairperson,

Malta reiterates its full commitment towards the development of the status of women in all spheres of life which aim to embrace equality and a true partnership between men and women in the sharing of responsibilities.

The Government of Malta continues to promote the advancement of women and gender equality

procedural measures, the situation of both women and men and gender equality in Malta and the concept of equal sharing of responsibility have made important and critical strides particularly through a series of major breakthroughs which include legislative measures that safeguard equality between the sexes.

Mr. Chairperson

Mr. Chairperson,

Malta welcomes the priority theme for this year's Session of the Commission on the Status of Women on 'The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including care-giving in the context of HIV/AIDS'.

This theme is particularly relevant in the context of prevention which should be considered as the cornerstone for all other activities within the comprehensive approach to tackle the expansion of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This is especially so in Malta where, at present the number of cases of HIV/AIDS is still small and therefore prevention measures are more relevant to try to prevent the spread and the occurrence of an outbreak. In this regard, Malta has been collaborating with the

information is given about each case notified every year and includes sex, year of birth, mode of transmission, year of HIV and AIDS diagnoses, year of death and stage of disease.

Within the context of care-giving and the equal sharing of responsibilities between men and women, the Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Directorate within the Ministry for Social