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STATEMENT BY

**H.E. MR. ROBERT G. AISI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
FIFTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
09 MARCH 2009, NEW YORK**

Chair

Papua New Guinea re-iterates the Statement delivered on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum countries. In this ~~interference we will limit ourselves to sharing our experiences on the topic of "women for development" and in the~~

Chair

The next major step forward in this area will be the "Reserve Seats" for Women only. These seats will be contested in 2010 General Elections. We have successfully trialed the 'reserve seats' concept in two Provinces.

Therefore we believe that for the interim period, while working towards establishing an appropriate legal framework to

participation.

The Government has directed the Ministry responsible for women to work on a "Gender Equity in Political Governance" Policy framework aimed at advancing the agenda. Currently a bipartisan political committee, assisted by two independent