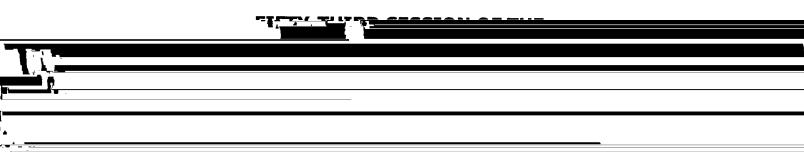
SAMOA



STATEMENT BY

LUAGALAU ELISA FOISAGAASINA ETEUATI SHON CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MINISTRY OF WOMEN, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF SAMOA

AT THE



COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

NEW YORK

6 MARCH 2009

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| | Samoa having ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of |
| | Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Diabte of the Child |
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| | welcomes the theme for the 53 rd Session of the Commission on the Status of |
| | Women on Sharing Responsibilities Between men and women including |
| | caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS. In this context, Samoa would like to |
| | reiterate its commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action |
| | including the Revised Pacific Platform for Action. |
| | |
| | As a Pacific Island nation, Samoa is blessed with a unique culture that |
| | |
| | guarantees the sharing of responsibilities within families and communities to |

emphasis on using local strengths and the focus on truly engaging communities

in the strive for gender equality and quality life for all. This model of

programme intervention is used for addressing consistivations such as abild

end of the scale with most of the responsibilities. These challenges and issues are now being addressed through the national policies for Women, Youth, Children and the National Policy on HIV/AIDS. Efforts towards law reform is under way and work has also begun with the drafting of a Domestic Violence

legislation in line with the Concluding Comments of the LINI CERAW

as well as the CEDAW and CRC Legislative Compliance Reviews that have been completed.

Mr Chairman,

In addressing these issues and challenges at national level Samoa recognizes the need for strong partnerships and sharing of responsibilities between government, NGOs and the church sector in achieving our results for women and children. Samoa further recognises the much needed financial and

