



*Check against delivery*

**DRAFT STATEMENT BY**

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**AT THE GENERAL DEBATE  
56<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 3:**

**“Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-first session of the General Assembly, entitled: “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace in the twenty-first century.”**

**Review of the implementation of the Platform for Action and the outcome of the 25<sup>th</sup> special session of the GA – sharing of experiences and good practices on implementation of the Platform for Action, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and accelerating progress**

**New York, February 2012**

Madame Chairperson,

I must thank you for your leadership and contribution to the work of the Commission in the past year. The work of the Commission will enrich our respective efforts for the advancement of women, in line with the Beijing Platform for Action and Millennium Development Goals. In our ongoing work, the Commission on Women and the Millennium Development Goals.

The declaration analysis itself in the state of the world distinguished Representation of Argentina on behalf of 37 and China.

Madame Chairperson,

The Fourth World Conference recognized that for development to be successful it needs to build human capital, which is an essential asset for economic growth.

Employment and entrepreneurship is not a process reserved for the benefit of a specific group only, and the involvement of women, including those in rural areas, will always be a crucial aspect of the process. Hence, increasing and enhancing globally to strengthen empowering rural women is an important investment that yields inclusive development returns.

In this year's priority theme, we welcome the recommendations of the Secretary General's report on actions to strengthen the medium-term agenda with more women participate. By the United Nations Women's Empowerment Agenda announced early this year, provides a crucial mechanism that will help to address the needs of women in specific areas of women's empowerment, their participation in political and activities, and their involvement in social and economic recovery efforts globally.

Bearing in mind the MDGs, the Agenda can contribute to gender equality in the last three to meet the 2015 MDG deadline, taking into account the possibility of new commitments on gender in a post-2015 development framework. A thorough and geographically balanced assessment of the global status of women, based on lessons learned from the implementation of the MDGs, must guide further global efforts. The Secretary General's Agenda should help facilitate that process.

Like wise I take this opportunity to underscore the importance of linking national and regional perspectives with the outcomes of the UN Women's Millennium in shaping the post 2015 framework. Sustainable development to be highlighted.

With these objectives in mind, the newly established UN Women should enhance its role to impact these matters by supporting renewed actions on the part of all stakeholders so that women can gain greater participation in development and all spheres of life.

Madame Chairperson, The current global economic crisis is a challenge that can potentially deepen the impacts of poverty on poor households, including women-headed households. An enabling environment has to be created in order to broaden economic choices for the poor, thus contributing to household and community resilience and self-sufficiency. Women certainly need to have access to those economic choices.



Our 2010 national census reveals there is a clear divide between consumers and producers in urban and rural settings. Providing productive avenues for both groups to realize the government priority, *Sustainable Livelihoods* for poverty which are more prevalent in rural areas, is also a priority. As much as 13.33% of the total population is poor. Two thirds of them live in rural areas.

It is Indonesia's aim that women's empowerment is both a *beneficial objective* and a means of overcoming rural poverty. All stakeholders are encouraged to pursue this goal. The government has instituted administrative practices to ensure women enjoy equal rights, including by mainstreaming gender and using gender-budgeting in various government programs. At the same time, the diverse needs of rural women are being promoted through programs that give us *ways to access to resources* that will serve to enhance their economic empowerment.

Through our *Women's Economic Productivity Enhancement Program*, the *Indonesian and Progressive Women's Village Model (DUSA KRWG)* and *cooperative industries*, more women are gaining access to employment and enjoying economic independence as entrepreneurs. *Cottage industries*, 55% of which are concentrated in rural areas, are providing women with gainful employment. Astoundingly, 72% of the *active conducting enterprises* are run by women. *Over 60% of them* have a higher level of education than their male counterparts. Despite social obstacles, it is encouraging to note the high level of workforce participation by rural areas in the economy, particularly its *informal sectors*, which compare favorably with areas.

Micro-*credit, community-based support groups*, training programs dedicated to building *women's economic capacity* including in rural areas. The conditional transfer scheme, such as the *Family Hope (Kartika) Program* that transfers cash to women in poor households, has helped women strengthen their economic power. All of these programs are designed to mitigate the *negative impact of poverty* which creates an incentive for women trafficking, child labor, migration, urbanization and *early marriage*.

A *real development* I wish to highlight is the *gain greater access to markets*.

Madame Chairperson, let us not overlook the important link between rural women's economic empowerment and food security. *Household food security* is improved by women's *productive capacity* to ensure reliable food supplies. Another *dimension* of rural women's *positive impact on rural development* through the growth of the agriculture sector, which is a key to poverty eradication. In Indonesia, *one of the programs* that is reported is *"Scholarship Build Villages (Siswa dan Mahasiswa DUSA)*, which *inspired women to obtain higher education* in agriculture, with the intention of *dedicating their time* after graduation to *organizing agriculture programs* in rural areas. The government is also *promoting women's participation* in the development of *gender-responsive participatory irrigation programs and food diversification*.

In the field of education, *Indonesia continues to pursue equal rights* for all. The MDG report for 2010 *reflects that the country is on track to achieve the MDG targets* for primary education and literacy. At the primary education level, the *gender gap* in enrollment in provinces has been significantly reduced while *Net Enrollment Rate (NER)* above 90% has been achieved in provinces.



The school dropout rate for primary and secondary education has been trending downward owing to various programs being implemented, such as scholarships to poor students; retrieval and remedial programs; special education in remote and marginalized, natural and social disaster areas, and for economically disadvantaged families; formal education packages; and an inclusive education program for children with special needs to enhance their level of independence. Indonesia is working to ensure that every child receives at least nine years of basic education. In relation to the employment situation, ensuring informal education for out-of-school young women has become a priority to equip them with better life skills so they can find jobs and participate actively in society.

The Government continues to engage the main challenge to improving equal access of girls and boys to quality basic education. The policy for annual 20% of the national budget to the education sector will be continued in order to accelerate the achievement of universal primary education by 2015.

With regard to women and children, the Government has been increasing its national budget on health over the last couple of years. Indonesia's public health expenditure represents 70% of the WHO recommendation which is 40-65% per capita. Year-end saved services for reproductive health are being integrated into a national part of family planning programs. Such activities have improved the knowledge, attitude, and behavior of teenagers regarding reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, narcotics, psychotropic drugs, and other addictive substances. It will also improve the quality of family life as well as the life skills of teens.

In violence against women and children, the Government continues to implement laws relating to violence against women and children. Laws have been established to ensure standardized services for women and children victims of violence access to justice. The capacity of law enforcement agencies against women and children is also being improved.

**Participation in the political process.** There are two law-based constitutional quotas of 30% for women in the executive boards at the central and regional levels and as proposed candidates to become legislators. The Government has also initiated various reforms for the upcoming 2013 General Election so women will be better represented in parliament.

A Women's Parliamentary Group has been established to collaborate with the government and society to promote the participation of both women and men in public life. The percentage of men and women in public service is almost equal: 56% of men and nearly 44% of women. To ensure that the advancement of women's rights is institutionalized, the Government has created a Law on Gender Equality. The Parliament on December 2011 agreed to include the draft Gender Equality Law as one among many others in the National Legislation Program for Priority Bills in 2012. Simultaneously, more government institutions have implemented the policy on Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting since 2010.

### Madame Chairperson,

The Government remains committed to the implementation of the elements of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. We are looking forward in presenting our progress report on advancing women's rights at the CEDAW Committee session next July. I thank you.