



Permanent Mission  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
to the United Nations  
New York

## **Statement**

by

**Permanent Representative  
of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of**

**Germany**

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**H.E. Ambassador Peter Wittig**

**On the occasion of the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission  
on the Advancement of Women**

**New York**

**March 2013**

*(check against delivery)*



Dear Madam Chairperson, Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to thank you for the well-organized 57th session of the CSM. Germany aligns itself with the

statement delivered by the European Union.

As the Secretary General has pointed out in his recent reports, violence against women occurs in all countries, contexts and settings and is one of the most pervasive violations of human rights. According to the Secretary General, as many as 7 in 10 women in the world report having experienced physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime.

Regarding the situation in Germany, research indicates that 40% of women have suffered physical or

initiatives that focus on psychological rehabilitation of survivors of sexual violence, their empowerment  
and access to justice, as well as awareness raising and denunciation of human rights

But regional and national action alone is not enough to counter this human rights violation which affects so many women around the world. We need a change of mind-set and the political will to make the fight against violence against women and girls a priority.

We are convinced it is of utmost importance that the United Nations continues its action against violence