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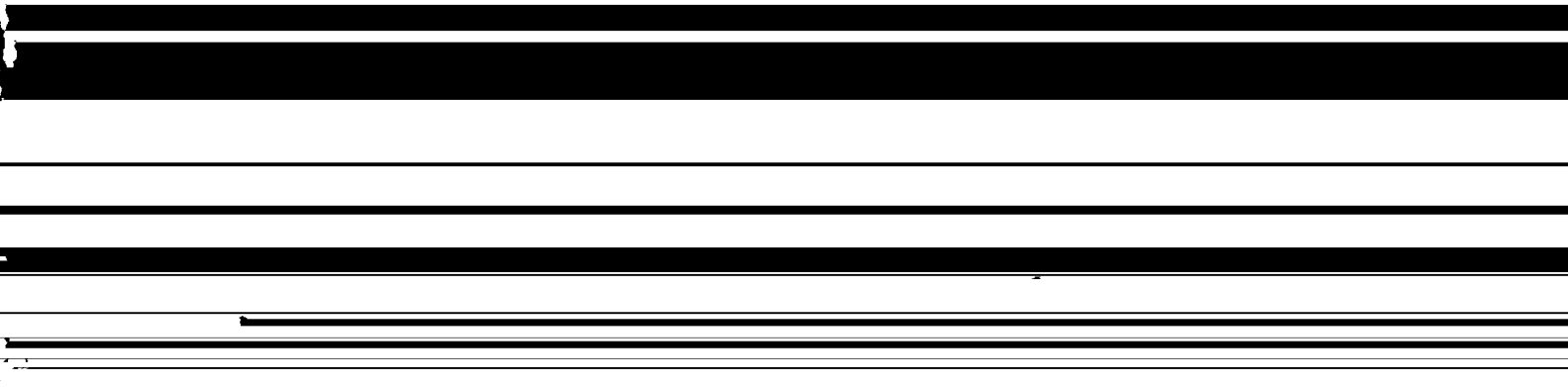


Mr. Chairperson,

As this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairperson, and the members of the bureau on your election and assure you my delegation's full support and cooperation.

My delegation associates itself with the statements made by the distinguished representatives of Sudan and Malawi on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and the Southern African Development Community, respectively.

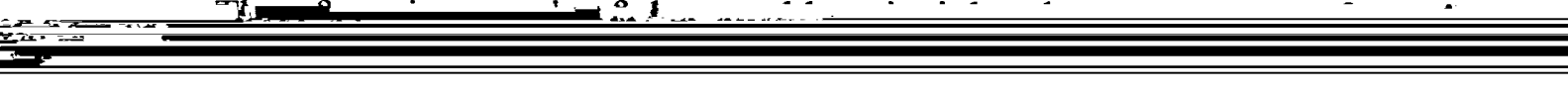
My delegation would like to express its gratitude to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the comprehensive reports before the Committee under this agenda item. The



recommendations and conclusions contained therein merit our collective and serious consideration.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Republic of Mozambique attaches great importance to the issues on gender equality and advancement of women. As a matter of fact the foundation for the Mozambican government policies and strategies is enshrined in our national constitution, in the principles of equal rights for all, men and women, and of gender equality.



- Ministry for Women and Social Action;
- National Council for Advancement of Women;
- Women Forum;
- Commission on Gender and Social and Environmental Affairs;
- Bureau of Women Members of Parliament; and
- Network of Women in Government and Parliament.

Women Forum is a network comprising 60 members from government institutions, trade unions, political parties, donor agencies and other entities.

The economic empowerment of women is part and parcel of the overall strategy of the advancement of women. We have learned from history that, in many societies, women have been subjugated through out the years due to their weak economic condition linked to the lack of access and control of resources. To change this situation and promote economic empowerment of women, the Government of Mozambique has, among other

- approved and started the dissemination of the new land law



In this regard, the Government of Mozambique has approved the Law on Domestic Violence Against Women which provide assistance to the victims and inhibit

situation is exacerbated by adverse effects of the current world financial and economic crisis, food and energetic crises and climate change.

As it is the case in many developing countries, if the current situation prevails we will hardly achieve our goals...

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