

Second Regular Session of the Executive Board of UN Women

Statement delivered by H.E. Choong-hee Hahn

Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations

Republic of Korea

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I thank Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director for her comprehensive opening remarks, which I believe accurately capture the impressive achievements that UN Women have made thus far as well as the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

UN Women has shown significant progress in delivering results across its normative, operational and coordination mandates. We will continue to fully support UN Women's mission and leadership to further promote gender equality and empowerment of women at local, national, regional and global levels, especially in the process of the 20th Anniversary of Beijing Declaration and Action Platform and the Post-2015 Development Agenda setting.

With UN Women required to be better prepared in these important global contexts, the Meta-analysis that we will discuss today is very timely in providing us with a better understanding and a wider perspective of UN Women's work. My delegation commends the Independent Evaluation Office for its informative and comprehensive evaluation. We hope UN Women continues to make use of such evaluations to refine its systems, business processes and approaches as well as disseminating relevant information among its staff.

Interestingly the Meta Analysis, which covers programs and evaluations that predate the establishment of UN Women, demonstrates how fast UN Women has developed its organizational and operational capacity. It is highly commendable that many recommendations made only one or two years ago have already been put in place, such as results-based reporting, an on-line tracking system, and full delegation of authority to 50 field offices.

It is still important, however, to continue to improve and strengthen UN Women's capacity and structures. For instance, as program and operation manuals mandate explicit theories of change for every program, all programs should have a clear theory of change, a results framework and a monitoring system. Also, as the regional structure and partnership initiatives roll out, it is imperative to strengthen knowledge management systems. We look forward to having concrete achievements soon in these areas as well.

As for the consultation on structured dialogue and financing, we welcome UN Women's efforts to consult member countries to abide by the resolutions of the General Assembly and ECOSOC on the QCPR. As UN Women has been facing financial constraints despite high expectations for immediate impact, we hope this consultation will provide an opportunity for UN Women and member states to discuss how to identify funding gaps and attract good quality resources to deliver results of its Strategic Plan. Also, we would like to ask UN Women to consult and engage with other Funds and Programs in order to identify a harmonized approach for responding to the QCPR mandates.

Regarding UN Women's implementation of humanitarian strategy, my delegation notes that various field work has been done by UN Women in many countries suffering from humanitarian crises, such as South Sudan, Iraq, and DRC among others. While it is important to incorporate gender equality and women's empowerment in the humanitarian context, we believe UN Women needs to continue to better strategize its approaches and prioritize its working areas in doing so. In this regard, we welcome UN Women's closer partnership with OCHA to advance gender equality programming in humanitarian action. We also hope UN Women will obtain standing invitee membership to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee as soon as possible.

Thank you. /End/