Thank you Mr President,

I would like to share a few remarks on behalf of The Netherlands and my own country Canada.

We welcome the annual workplan of the Executive Board of UN Women for 2013. We are pleased with the overall plan as outlined in the document before us.

2013 will be an important year for UN Women, not only is it a year of strategic planning for all Funds and Programs, which will constitute a new cycle of operational activities for development under the QCPR, it is also a year which will coincide with the preparation of a new policy on cost recovery, the first integrated budget, and the beginning of implementation of UN Women evaluation policy and regional architecture.

In this regard, we would like to make a number of observations:

- For the first regular session, we would like to see the item: ”Proposal for cost recovery” under Financial and Budgetary matters;
- We would like to suggest to UN Women to develop a ”Roadmap towards the next strategic plan”, just as other UN entities have done, with a view to plan the year, with due consideration to key milestones (integrated budget, evaluations etc.);
- For the Annual session, under item 4 (Strategic Plan 2014-17), we would like to suggest that a draft results framework be presented together with the draft Strategic Plan;
- Under item 5: Evaluation, we would like to request UN Women to present thematic, corporate or geographic evaluation reports that are relevant to the
elaboration of the next strategic plan. We believe that the plan should be informed by those evaluations and lessons drawn from programming.

- For the second regular session, we believe that under Item 9: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, it should read: “Integrated budget”, as this year will witness the first budget of this kind across UN entities.

Finally, in a spirit of coordination and adequate sequencing of meetings among Funds and Programs, we would like to encourage UN Women Secretariat to continue fostering collaboration, communication and working relations with the Secretariats and relevant Divisions of the other Funds and Programs (UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS); and this, with a view to increase consistencies and coherence in work programs, especially on substantive issues of common interests (such as cost recovery, joint evaluations etc.), and also to exchange on good practices for the efficient organization of work and conduct of Executive Boards.

Thank you.