Belgium has been a Member of UN-Women since its inception and will pursue its funding and political efforts for the universal achievement of gender equality and women empowerment through the UN-system as well as through governmental relations and through non-governmental organizations.

Resource levels reached recently by UN-Women are encouraging and a growing number of governments are contributing. Belgium considers that UN Women must be given the necessary resources to fulfill its strategic plan 2014-2017 and its mandate, which is unique in the United Nations system.

Indeed, UN Women combines the normative, coordination and operational mandates. This mandate is universal, it applies both to developed and developing countries and places it at the core of the upcoming sustainable development framework. It is therefore imperative that UN Women is financed in a stable and predictable manner, according to the principles of QCPR.

Belgian Development Cooperation has been providing a substantial support to UN Women by targeting its contribution on regular resources on a multi-annual basis, to meet predictability requirements. The Belgian contribution to UN Women increased to 4,000,000 EUR in 2014, the 2015 contribution amounted to 4,000,000 EUR as well. Belgium has recently reduced its list of multilateral partner institutions. This is to no disadvantage of UN-Women. Contributions will still be multi-annual and core, the first 4 year period starting in 2017.

Since Belgium is pursuing a policy of concentration of its multiannual contributions to ordinary resources, it pays attention accordingly to the achievement of organizational results at global level as well as at field level. Belgium is in favor of a strong integration of the field level activities of the UN specialized agencies into one consolidated country programme that will guide the operational activities of UN agencies. Such a consolidation will bolster the UN-system’s ability to fight poverty and to implement the sustainable development goals.