UN WOMEN EXECUTIVE BOARD
1 July 2015 – Italy’s Statement
Item 3 – Evaluation

Thank you M.me President,

Let me first thank UN Women for the clear presentations on the evaluation work performed as illustrated in three reports before us as well as the related management responses.

Italy attaches great importance to the independence, effectiveness and usefulness of UN Women’s evaluation function. It is a critical instrument for improving performance and cultivating stakeholders’ confidence in the quality of UN Women’s work.

We appreciate the management’s commitment in the past five years to further improve evaluations at all levels while putting this policy into practice. We commend UN Women and the Evaluation Office for their efforts in 2014 to build an in-house culture around this function among management and staff.

The Report on the evaluation function provides meaningful evidence of what works and what does not. It proposes four key result areas on which the independent Evaluation Office should focus its 2015 programme of work. We appreciate the proposed programme of work and support the creation of an independent budget line to carry it out.

We value the findings contained in the corporate evaluation on women’s economic empowerment and concur with the five proposed recommendations. The management’s response fully recognizes the importance of these recommendations and indicates strong commitment on their implementation by defining specific actions.

We call on UN Women to strengthen its strategic vision and programmatic focus also by integrating micro-level projects into the broader programmatic context of its work on Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan.
The review of the policies and practices to promote gender-responsive evaluation systems is a very useful document that clearly outlines the importance and scope of this type of evaluation. While providing a picture of the existing capacities and mechanisms in the United Nations and its Member States, it also offers specific indications as to where and how improvements to gender-evaluation systems can be made.

Finally, M.me President, Italy will continue to support UN Women in its specific role of strengthening gender-responsive evaluations to ensure that gender inequality is eradicated by 2030.

Thank you M.me President.