Mr. President,

Like many delegations here today, Sweden is concerned with the fact that UN Women suffers a serious funding gap.

Sweden has increased its support to UN Women every year since its establishment. Last year Sweden was the largest donor to UN Women, due to an additional core contribution. In 2014, Sweden will maintain a high level of funding and will contribute at least 70 million Swedish kronor (11 MUSD) in core support and approximately 138 MSEK (21 MUSD) in non-core, including secondments; a total of approximately 208 MSEK (32 MUSD).

Sweden will thus remain one of the biggest donors of both core support and soft-earmarked support to UN Women. The advantages with both core resources and soft earmarked funding is that it gives UN Women maximum flexibility and predictability in implementing the Strategic Plan.
We therefore encourage other donors to increase their core and soft earmarked funding. We also request UN Women to increase the incentives for donors to raise their core support and make their non-core resources less earmarked.

In this context I would once again like to take the opportunity to highlight the importance of structured financing dialogues as a strategy for UN Women to avoid funding gaps and other unpredictable situations that affect the organization’s performance.

Let me conclude by assuring you of Sweden’s continued strong commitment to the financial stability of UN Women.

Thank you.