First Regular Session of the Executive Board of UN
Women
January 2015

Swiss Statement

Mr. President,
Madam Executive Director
Members of the Executive Board,

First of all, we would like to congratulate the President and Vice-Presidents on their Election to the Bureau and thank them for their engagement. We would also like to thank the Executive Director for her visionary and action oriented statement.

Post 2015 Development Agenda – 20th Anniversary Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action

This year is a special year, as we are all closely involved in framing a post 2015 development agenda, where a diversity of stakeholders unites in formulating and pursuing common sustainable development goals. One specific goal on gender equality has been formulated while gender dimension has been integrated in several targets. We need to assure that gender remains prominent, we know that sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be achieved without inclusive development and therefore gender equality.

We welcome and further encourage UN Women to bring its expertise to support gender quality goal and gender integration in all the indicators as well as to nurture and inform the discussions on financing for development, as it is also key to achieve gender equality.

As we are celebrating this year the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, it is time to recommit to this on-going
agenda, which is of utmost relevance and importance to today's world and its future. UN Women is best placed to promote the 2015 agenda in cooperation with member states and other stakeholders to further translate women empowerment and gender equality into reality.

Renewed partnership is key. We strongly encourage UN Women to pursue its efforts in building partnerships with International financial institutions, private sector and civil society to operationalize its mandate in areas such as women economic empowerment through access to productive resources and increased participation in higher skilled employment.

Evaluation function
2015 is also the international year of evaluation. We are pleased with the conclusion of the Global Evaluation Advisory Committee which confirms that UN Women has a strong evaluation function. This is determinant to shape UN Women normative, operational and coordinating work, as well as to contribute to UN system wide efforts to reach gender equality. We are strongly supportive of every effort to strengthen the quality of decentralized evaluation.

Financing UN Women Strategic Plan 2014-2017
We will continue to pay particular attention to the financing of the UN Women Strategic Plan 2014-2017. We welcome the different avenues explored to help mobilize additional funding as well as to diversify the resource base. Expanding contributions from non-traditional donors, such as the private sector, does not only bring additional financial resources but also complementary expertise and networks. We welcome steps taken by UN Women to find common ground for cooperation with International Financial Institutions, such as the World Bank and the Regional Development Banks.

I thank you for your attention