Draft policy messages from ECOSOC Special Event on Engaging Philanthropy to Promote Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

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Ms. Geena Davis Academy Award Actor and Founder, See Jane

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President Ali, Honorable Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honor to address you today to present the key policy outcomes of the

Distinguished delegates,

We all agreed at the meeting that it is critical to engage all sides and work handin-hand with Governments, the United Nations, Philanthropies, the Private Sector, leading individuals and members of other civil society groups, if we are to make progress in ending violence against women and girls and promoting their economic empowerment.

We agreed that strong leadership was indispensable in both the public and private sectors. CEOs should promote and inculcate a culture of respect for women and girls

the recently formed Network of Men Leaders under the leadership of the Secretary-General is another solid example on which to build.

On the issue of woment economic empowerment, we stressed the importance of enhancing their access to property and economic assets, including agricultural inputs, finance and markets, while initiating legal reform to protect their property and land rights. We urged that these opportunities be supported by local governments.

It was also recognized that education and training for women and girls is indispensable for making these opportunities viable. We also underlined that as more women are integrated into the work force, increased efforts to implement decent working conditions, such as labor standards and freedom from harassment would be critical for success.