



The Republic of Angola to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY

HER EXCELLENCY.

**MRS. ANA PAULA S. SACRAMENTO NETO,
VICE-MINISTER FOR FAMILY**

**COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Fifty-Fourth Session.**

**15-Year Review of the Implementation of the
Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995),
and the Outcome of the Twenty-Fifth Special
Session of the General Assembly (2000)**

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Mr. Chairperson,

At the outset, allow me on behalf of the Government of Angola and my Delegation, to congratulate you upon your election as Chairperson of the Commission. My congratulations also go to the other members of the Bureau. I would like to assure you of my delegation's support and cooperation.

Angola fully associates itself with the statements made by the Ministers of Education of Guinea on behalf of the African Group on behalf of the Member Countries of the G77 and China.

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished Delegates,

I am convinced that the sharing of information on good practice, progress and constraints, will bring benefits to the Nations gathered here.

In that context, the assessment of progress on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for action, the resolution of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly entitled "Women, 2000 and Beyond: Women in the Twenty-First Century" and the Millennium Development Goals, is considered a positive step towards the identification of barriers and constraints regarding the situation of women.

Mr. Chairperson,

In Angola, the process of empowerment, integration of gender perspectives in policies and programs for the eradication of poverty, education and training of women, women and women in decision-making process and gender violence has been successfully implemented by my Government.

The implementation of micro credit and other financial mechanisms since 1999 as a way of encouraging the development of small and medium-sized enterprises is enabling the expansion of opportunities and thus contributing to the economic and social empowerment, with particular emphasis to women living in rural and urban areas.

Regarding education, it should be noted that with the broadcast television network, the capacity for the admission of new students in general education increased from 100,000 in 2006 to 71,000 in 2009, of which 44% are women.

Pivoting national health service has been a priority in our country. Steady steps for an efficient health care and health services have been put

in place. In the last years, Angolan women have seen access to these services increased. In fact in the last 7 years, several health facilities have been constructed, going from 11 in 2004 to 223 in 2010, of which 14 provide counseling to pregnant women.

It is noteworthy that midwives have been Government partners, and have benefited from training and technical assistance, contributing to improve health network coverage.

The girl has been given special attention in respect of the prevention of early pregnancies, the prevention of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases, and professional courses as well as sensitization campaigns to fighting school dropout.

Mr. Chairperson,

In order to prevent the spreading of violence within families and in particular against women and girls, the Government has established nationwide Family Counseling Centers, as well as strengthened similar facilities established by civil society. All these centers are equipped with specialized staff, psychologists, sociologists, lawyers and active in legal and psychosocial claims in victims of violence.

The participation and representation of women in decision-making processes has registered a considerable growth. As underlined in the Secretary General's report, Angola is amongst the 30 countries in the world with highest representation of women in parliament, with 33%. Moreover, tangible steps have been taken to consolidate these achievements and the positive developments registered after the promulgation of the new Constitution and subsequently the newly appointed Government, where women are represented at a national level of 20%.

To conclude, Mr. Chairperson, the Angolan Government reaffirms its commitment to fulfilling the Beijing Declaration and the Strategies for Accelerating the Implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action, mainstreaming them into our national policies and programmes in order to make them the central goal of our gender agenda.

I thank you.