



PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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**Statement by Ambassador WANG Min at the Third
Committee of the Sixty-sixth Session of the UN General
Assembly on Advancement of Women (Agenda Item 29)**

(10 October, 2011, New York)

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation associates itself with the statement made by Argentina on behalf of the G77 + China.

My delegation welcomes the presentation by Mrs Lakshmi Puri, UN Women Deputy Director and Assistant Secretary-General, on the work of UN Women. Since its establishment, UN Women has carried out effective work in addressing pressing challenges to which China will contribute to express its appreciation. We hope that UN Women will continue to play a leading role in the field of international women's affairs, maintain the momentum of the global endeavor of the last six years and seek for new progress in this field.

Mr. Chairman,

The Chinese delegation has taken note of the report on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly. We are in favor of the Secretary-General's initiatives of incorporating the enhancement of the economic empowerment of rural women and children into national development strategies and plans and introducing gender perspective in inter-governmental processes. As stated in the Women Strategic Plan 2011-2013, at the threshold of the second decade of the 21st century, the cause of world's women faces both opportunities and challenges. We are encouraged to see that the international community has become increasingly aware of the need for gender equality and women's empowerment. Various multilateral and regional mechanisms have been set up towards this end. Currently many countries are incorporating gender equality into their development strategies and there are more and more outstanding females in politics, economy and academic fields.

progress has been made in legislation on gender equality, education for girls and women's health care. However, it is also the disturbing reality that

"discrimination against women remains widespread around the world, and family violence and trafficking of women and children continue despite repeated attempts to curb them. Problems like the financial crisis, social instability, natural disasters, digital divide and inadequate social service seriously hinder women's development. We still have a long way to go before the full realization of gender equality and women's empowerment."

Under these circumstances how to realize women's development and effectively elevate their status should be a subject of attention and serious consideration for the United Nations and the international community as a whole.

China addresses the priority areas of work identified by UN Women, namely, expanding women's voice, leadership and participation, enhancing women's economic opportunities, and ending violence against women and promoting the agenda of women's peace and security. In addition, China is of the view that:

"Women must be given the safeguarding the rights and interests of women in the post-economic crisis era. It is often said that "poverty has a woman's face", meaning that women are the primary victims of poverty. In this increasingly globalized world, women bear the brunt of the effects of economic and social crises.

The feminization of poverty is becoming more pronounced and challenges to women's development and empowerment are growing. Countries must take effective measures to provide women with vocational training, legal guidance, legal advice and other services and help them address the difficulties in employment, medical care and so on etc.

Finally, China believes that the development and empowerment of women ultimately is the issue of development. Only through steady development can countries provide strong material and technical support for the empowerment of women; and only through the empowerment of women can women's potential be fully tapped as a driving force for social development. Therefore, China advocates mainstreaming, integrating women's empowerment in the strategy for political, economic and social development, and realizing the empowerment of women in the process of promoting social development.

This international cooperation should be strengthened in a joint effort to advance the cause of women. Unity produces power and cooperation is the only way to achieve win-win results. The cause of world's women is the cause of women of each nation and every country and for the whole humanity. As such, it needs the close cooperation of all countries for its advancement. China expresses its support for the United Nations' coordinating role and leading role in world women's affairs and for UN Women's important role in carrying out the principle of national ownership to

women-related work in developing countries. We also support UN Women in carrying out exchanges and cooperations with governments on the basis of mutual respect, resilience, consultation on an equal footing and seeking common ground through bridging differences, and working together with them to strive for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Mr. Chairman,

China has always attached great importance to the cause of women and worked conscientiously to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. This year, my government promulgated the Outline for National Medium- and Long-Term Plan for Women's Development, which identifies major goals and policy measures in the seven areas of health education, economy, political participation, social security, environment and law. China has adopted legislative and other measures to promote women's participation in political life. Currently, we have eight women members at the national level, three women ministers, and more than 670 women mayors. In the coming decade, China will make comprehensive efforts in the afore-mentioned seven areas further to advance the rights of women.

Mr. Chairman

Attaching high importance to international cooperation on the field of women, China has been working in earnest to implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and has taken an active, friendly and constructive part in the work of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Woman and the Executive Board of UN Women. Chinese government will continue to work relentlessly to expand and deepen international cooperation, further strengthen communications, consultations and dialogues with various parties, in order to safeguard women's rights and interests, improve their status and promote the development of the international cause of women.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

and the Chinese government has been working hard to improve its environment. In recent years, China has made significant progress in reducing air pollution, particularly in major cities like Beijing and Shanghai. The government has implemented strict regulations on industry and transportation to curb emissions. Additionally, China has invested heavily in renewable energy sources such as wind and solar power, which now account for a significant portion of its electricity generation. This shift away from fossil fuels is helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

Mr. Chairman

China has always attached great importance to the cause of women and gender equality. The Chinese government has adopted various policies and programs to promote women's empowerment and ensure their rights are protected. One key area is education, where girls have equal access to primary and secondary schools. China also has a strong tradition of female leadership, with many women holding important positions in politics, business, and academia. Women in China enjoy legal protections against discrimination in the workplace, including equal pay for equal work. The government has established laws to prevent gender-based violence and protect women's reproductive rights. Overall, China's commitment to gender equality is evident in its policies and actions, although there is still room for improvement in some areas.

Mr. Chairman

China plays a significant role in international cooperation in the field of women's rights. It is a member of the United Nations and actively participates in UN Women's global efforts to advance gender equality. China has also been involved in the development of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which sets out a comprehensive agenda for gender equality. The Chinese government has provided financial support to UN Women's programs and has engaged in partnerships with NGOs and other organizations to promote women's empowerment. China's experience and expertise in this area can contribute to the global effort to achieve gender equality and empower women around the world.

Thank you Mr. Chairman