## Statement by Carolyn Hannan, Director, Division for the Advancement of Women Department of Economic and Social Affairs

## The achievements of the Commission on the Status of Women

2006 NGO consultation Plenary 1: 50 years of CSW 26 February 2006

Madame Moderator Participants, colleagues and friends

It is always a pleasure to collaborate with non-governmental organizations in the work of the United Nations. There is a particularly positive tradition of cooperation around the Commission on the Status of Women. I am delighted that once again large numbers of women have registered for participation in the Commission, especially at this important 50<sup>th</sup> session.

I would like to begin by expressing our appreciation for the two very successful joint panels organized by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in collaboration with the Division for the Advancement of Women on the substantive themes of the Commission, as well as for all other collaboration in preparation for this session of the Commission.

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A number of significant achievements resulted from the work of the Commission over the past five decades. The Commission ensured that provisions for equality between women and men were included in the *Universal Declaration for Human Rights* - a milestone in the struggle for equality. The Commission was also active in the development of other important conventions and resolutions. One example is the *Convention on the Political Rights of Women* adopted by the General Assembly in 1952.