

51<sup>st</sup> session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women 26 February to 9 March 2007

## Interactive expert panel

Capacity-building on mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child

27 February 2007

## Moderator's Summary

- 1. At its fourth meeting, on 27 February 2007, the Commission on the Status of Women held an interactive panel discussion on "Capacity-building on mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national policies and programmes for the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child".
- 2. The panel, moderated by Dicky Komar (Indonesia), Vice-Chairperson of the Commission

- 4. Notwithstanding these commitments, participants noted that significant gaps in implementation and continued inequalities between girls and boys remained in many areas. Such persistent inequalities and violations of the rights of girls were often grounded in complex sets of factors and root causes, all of which had to be taken into account in developing effective responses. Since many of these factors were specific to the local and community level, it was important to undertake comprehensive assessments that included the local level.
- 5. While many measures had been taken, further efforts were necessary to strengthen capacity for effective mainstreaming attention to the girl child in all policies and programmes. Participants noted that capacity-building for mainstreaming was a long-term and ongoing process. Measures had been taken to create or strengthen the requisite base of knowledge and skills, as well as to increase awareness about the need for the effective use of the gender mainstreaming strategy in relation to the girl child.
- Participants noted that successful gender mainstreaming required not only technical 6. skills, but also political will to advance the policy objectives. Participants suggested that an integrated and cross-sectoral approach should be used in gender mainstreaming that involves Government institutions at the national and local level. In addition, it was necessary to cooperate with a broad range of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to achieve specific goals in eliminating discrimination and violence against girls. Emphasis was placed on the need for effective and ongoing coordination among different stakeholders so that policy objectives could be successfully and effectively pursued. Participants provided examples of institutional mechanisms that had been established or strengthened to support gender mainstreaming, and to coordinate the use of the mainstreaming strategy across all levels of government, as well as with other stakeholders, for the benefit of girls. Some mechanisms were also charged with carrying out the research and data collection required to support implementation of the mainstreaming strategy and enhance knowledge about the situation of girls. It was pointed out that adequate human and financial resources, authority and capacity were necessary for carrying out this responsibility.

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used. For example, a study on child traffickin

eliminate discrimination and violence against the girl child. It was suggested that the international community should provide enhanced support aimed at capacity building for mainstreaming attention to the girl child. Partnerships with the private sector could also lead to increased resources for implementation of specific policies. Technical cooperation programmes by the United Nations system could strengthen capacity for implementation of gender mainstreaming and for increased attention to the situation of the girl child.