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increases in the gross budget for development co-operation. We aim to see a steady increase in the overall percentage traced to gender equality as a principal or significant objective.

Investing in women and development is not only morally right it is also good economics, as argued by our Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg in ECOSOC last year:

”My main message today ... is that the greatest gains countries can achieve, economically as well politically, come with empowering women, ensuring equal opportunity, health care, and increasing the ratio of women’s active participation in working life.”

Pushing for change in the multilateral institutions

We strongly support the UN Reform Panel’s recommendations for a new gender entity that is financially strengthened and independent. The ne