

UNITED NATIONS



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**Statement by
MR. SHA ZUKANG
UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
TO THE 53rd SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
New York, 2 March 2009**

Madam Deputy-Secretary-General,
Madam President of the Economic and Social Council,
Mr. Chairperson,

public health: Implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGS”. This theme is particularly relevant to the Commission’s work, as the health of women and girls is one of the areas of the global public health agenda most in need of urgent attention.

Next year, the Annual Ministerial Review will focus on “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women”. The year will mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and