

Mr. Chairman,

It my pleasure to address this assembly and share my country's perspective on the priority theme: The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS. At the outset, my delegation wishes to align itself with the statement made earlier by Sudan on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

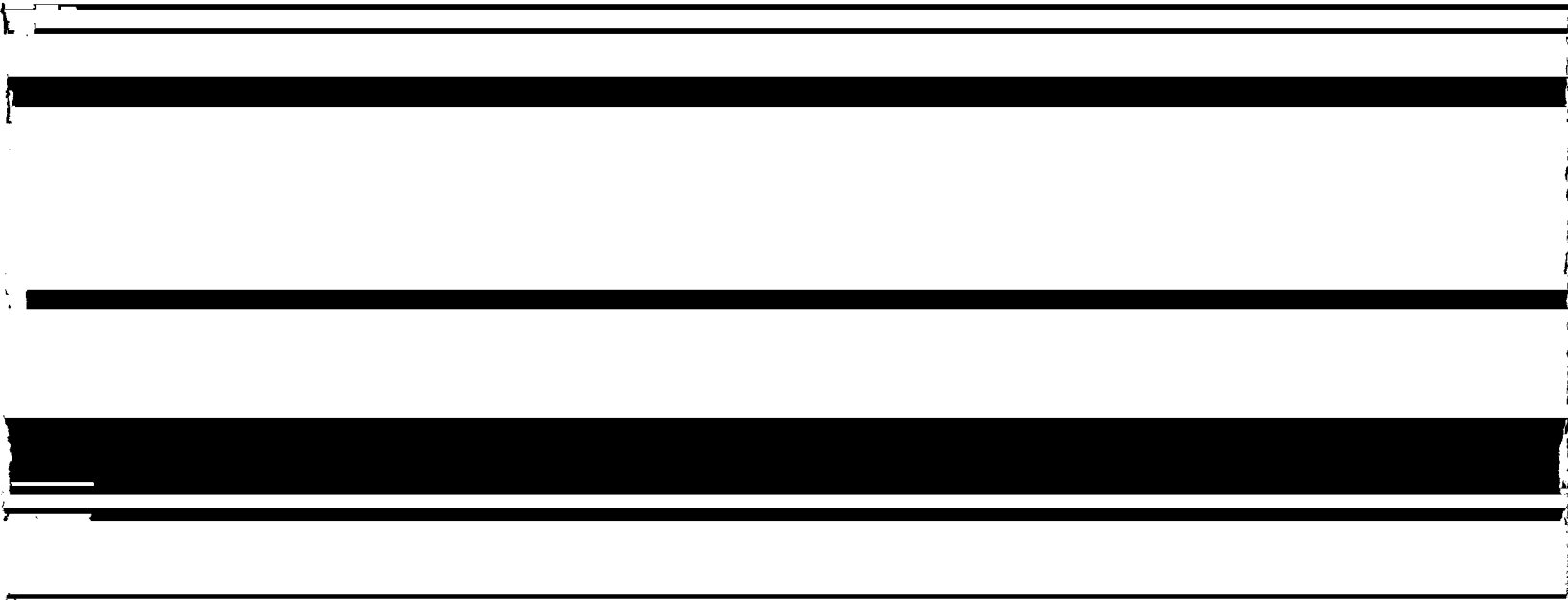
Barbados can proudly claim a tradition of respect for the rights of women and men. In spite of the absence of anti-discrimination legislation on the basis of gender, successive governments have adopted policies that seek to promote harmonious relationships between the sexes and have developed programmes for the equal benefit of women and men. We have made significant progress in attaining Millennium Development Goals Numbers Two, Four and Five and these have placed our population in the forefront of

recreational and sporting events. The absence of time use surveys prevents

this practice is more prevalent

work with social institutions to promote this initiative. Government will also ensure that the benefits accrued are fully appreciated by all concerned.

With an already identifiable trend of increasing male involvement in care activities, and the complementing work on reducing stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS, we are confident that in Barbados



we will be able to positively influence male participation in care activities in the home, community and institutional contexts.