



Statement by the Director for Women of the Government of the Republic of Fiji
53rd SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
NEW YORK, 2nd – 13th MARCH, 2009.

THEME: *The Equal Sharing of Responsibilities between Men and Women, Including Care Giving in the*

Mr. Chairman

I thank you for giving me this opportunity to address this meeting.

As we meet in this 53rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women to deliberate on a very important theme, we are also reminded of the different challenges and global crises that we all face today, challenges and crises that have not only affected our economies but more importantly our livelihood and even the very

Mr. Chairman, bearing this in mind, in recent years, the growing number of HIV/AIDS cases in our country has also presented another aspect on the issue of care giving. To a great extent, in societies like ours, sexuality and reproductive health are not topics that are commonly discussed openly and frankly around the family.

table. Even though FIII is categorized as a low priority, we are aware of the fact that it is a