



PERMANENT MISSION OF
THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Let me first align myself with the statement presented by the Czech Republic on behalf of the European Union.

Mr Chairperson,

The discussion on the topic of this years' CSW comes at a very timely moment. Equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men is on top of the agenda of many women's organisations and it is intensely debated in The Netherlands.

The economic crisis underlines once again that stakeholders around the world need to invest in an equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men. When the economic position of families is under pressure, old patterns may turn out to be even harder to change and positive trends might

reverse. More needs to be done to...

time available for family and household...

feminisation of the HIV/AIDS pandemic as women are less able than men to exercise control over their own bodies and lives.

In addition, women are the ones who bear the heaviest burden in food production and care giving. The Netherlands recognizes the urgent need for robust policies and programmes to support households affected by HIV/AIDS. These have to be responsive to women's gender-specific interests and needs. Women affected by HIV/AIDS risk to lose access to shelter, food and health care if their husbands die. In this respect, Governments have to promote and protect women's equal rights to land, inheritance and property, thereby supporting women and advancing their economic and social status.