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Madame Chair,

1. It is a great honour for me today to address the 57<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women. This year's session with the priority theme "Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls" presents the issue of utmost importance for women and girls worldwide. This is also a great opportunity for all of us to exchange views

and work, while at the same time important initial steps in implementation have already been made. However, this is only the starting point to tackle such issues. Spectrum of violence is

Madam Chair,

10. Much work remains to be accomplished before we and the international community will be able to achieve the various targets set by documents relating the promotion of gender equality, empowerment of women as well as violence against women. We share the same view expressed in the Report of the Secretary General that a systematic and holistic approach is required to prevent all forms of violence against women and girls, including legislative and policy measures, protection of survivors, and data collection and research. We agree that ~~efforts have mainly been focused on responses for survivors after violence has occurred~~



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Dear Chairperson,  
Distinguished Participants,  
Ladies and Gentlemen

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