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**Statement by Naéla Gabr
Chairperson
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**

64th session of the General Assembly
Third Committee
Item 62 (a)

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New York



Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,
Colleagues and friends,

I am honoured to address the Third Committee of the General Assembly in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that oversees the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by its 186 States Parties. The Convention's Optional Protocol, which mandates the Committee to receive and consider petitions and inquire into allegations of grave or systematic violations of the Convention, has now been accepted by 98 States parties, most recently by Turkmenistan and Guinea Bissau. There are 55 acceptances of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1 of the Convention concerning the Committee's meeting time. The acceptance of two-

amendment enters into force. I would like to encourage those States which are not yet parties to the

the assessment of follow-up reports submitted by States parties at its forty-fifth session in January 2010.

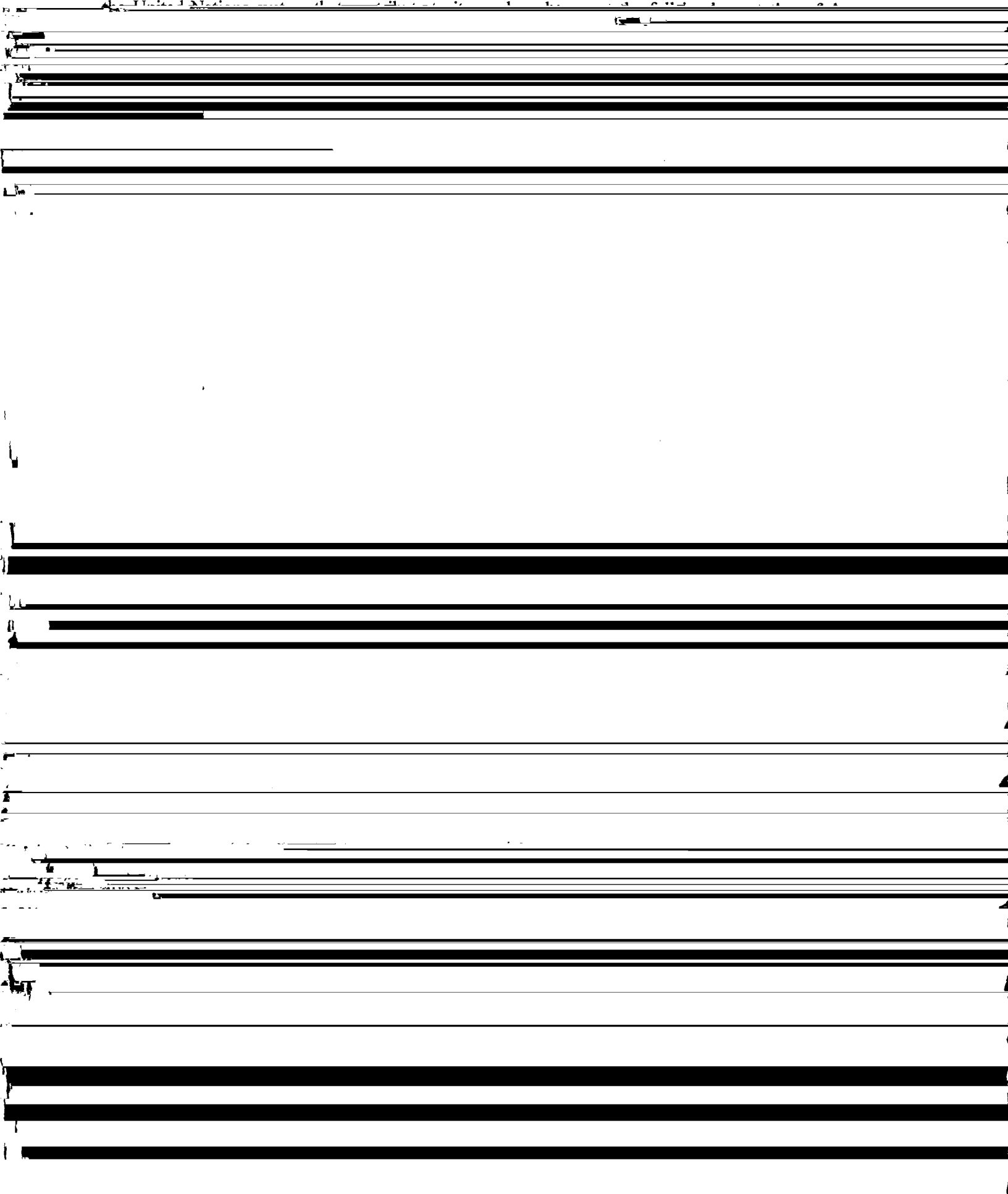
Mr. Chairperson,

~~As you know, after 25 years of work as of January 2009 the committee of the Convention~~

transferred from the Division for the Advancement of Women to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The collaboration between OHCHR and the Division for Advancement of Women has ensured a smooth transition. I particularly commend the Division for its excellent efforts in continuing to promote the Convention and the work of the Committee, especially at the national level. The High Commissioner has ensured that the strong links between the Committee and the intergovernmental machinery responsible for the promotion of gender equality have been maintained.

The Committee has taken a consistent interest in the question of the United Nations reform pertaining to its gender equality architecture and, in this regard, I wish to congratulate the General

The Committee continued its interaction with the specialized agencies and other bodies of



stakeholders pursue their efforts to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention at national level.

CEDAW Convention and tenth of the Optional Protocol, we should endeavor to raise their visibility and their impact on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. Our ultimate goal should be the increase of ratifications of both instruments and their effective implementation.

