

Third Committee, 12 October 2009

Statement by
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Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour to address the Third Committee to present several reports of the

Secretary-General under agenda item 62: Advancement of Women.

Under agenda item 62a "Advancement of Women," the momentum for action on violence against women has continued to accelerate. The adoption by the General Assembly of action-oriented resolutions on violence against women and the Secretary-General's "UNiTE to end violence against women" campaign have been critical to the increase in initiatives aimed at ending this scourge.

This year's report on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/64/151) focuses on the measures taken by entities of the United Nations system. The report highlights progress in several key inter-agency initiatives which have resulted in increased communication, coordination and collaboration: including the Secretary-General's global campaign; the joint programming initiative of the Task Force on violence against women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality; United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict; and the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women. The report summarizes a broad range of activities undertaken by entities of the United Nations system in support of national efforts to eliminate violence against women in the areas of legal and policy reform, data collection, awareness-raising, and training and capacity building. It also draws attention to the need for continued

has increased the volume of grants, the demand for support from the Trust Fund far exceeds available resources.

An update on United Nations system activities on violence against women was distributed to the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2009, and a further update in the "Inventory of United Nations system activities to prevent and eliminate violence against women" is available on the Division's website.

Based on the work of an expert group meeting in 2008, the Division developed a Handbook for legislation on violence against women, which provides detailed guidance

areas, including their access to productive employment and decent work, and notes the need to ensure older women's equal access to basic social services.

Mr. Chairman, Director, I I I

Let me now turn to agenda item 62 (b) "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly" and the annual report of the Secretary General on measures taken and

crises and the challenges of climate change. The Survey is also relevant to the Third Committee because it demonstrates the interdependency between economic and social development. It illustrates the importance of examining women's access to economic and financial resources in a broad sense and of considering the interlinkages between different types of resources, including resources generated at national level through budgets, trade, and development assistance; financial services such as savings, credit, remittance transfers and insurance; employment; land, property and other productive resources; and social protection measures.

In addition to the fascicle version already available, the Survey will also be available as a United Nations publication. It will be officially launched at an expert panel

also be launched at UNIDO in Vienna at the end of October and in ESCAP in November. It is hoped that other regional commissions will also organize regional launches.

Mr. Chairperson, Distinguished delegates,

