High-level interactive dialogue

**Financing for gender equality: the way forward**

Friday, 13 March 2020, 10.00 – 11.30 am, United Nations Headquarters

**Concept note**

**Overview**

The Beijing Platform for Action highlights the need for financial resources for its full and effective implementation. This effort has been an integral part of the work of the Commission on the Status of Women which has called for significantly increased investment to close resource gaps. The present twenty-five-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action reveals that the persistent lack of financial resources continue to stymie progress across all critical areas of concern (E/CN.6/2020/3). The need for all public and private actors to vastly increase investments in gender equality and women’s empowerment is essential to close gender gaps. The objective of this high-level dialogue on **Financing for gender equality: the way forward** is to assess how gender equality goals can be integrated into national financing frameworks and identify the actions, strategic approaches and partnerships needed to accelerate progress.

This requires sustained political commitment at all levels, policy actions to strengthen links between financing and sustainable development plans and new partnerships. Integrated national financing frameworks, called for in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, provide an approach for countries to better align their policies to financing for sustainable development. As countries embark on these efforts, it is critical to align gender equality policy objectives with financing required for their implementation. This can be done by assessing the financing gap and implementing progressive gender responsive taxation and budgeting. Financing frameworks that fail to capture the financing needs for gender equality and women’s empowerment, mobilize all stakeholders to fill financing gaps and allocate the resources required, will impede progress in implementation of the Platform for Action.

**Format and participation**

The high-level interactive dialogue will be chaired by H.E. Mr. Mher Margaryan (Armenia), Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women. A moderator will support the Chair.

The event will start with a moderated dialogue among a group of panelists. Following these interventions, the floor will be open for comments and questions from Ministers/government
representatives and other stakeholders. Panelists will respond to the questions and make short concluding comments, time permitting. The Chair will wrap up and close the meeting.

**Leading questions**

Participating stakeholders in the high-level interactive dialogue are invited to address the following questions:

1. How can all financing sources – domestic, international, private and public – be mobilized to achieve gender equality objectives at the national level?
2. What policy reforms are needed, at national and global level, to direct financing to close gender gaps?
3. What partnerships have the potential to create innovative approaches to increase financing for gender equality?
4. What are good practices in the integration of gender equality objectives in the design and implementation of national sustainable development financing frameworks?

**Outcome**

The outcome of the high-level interactive dialogue will be in the form of a Chair’s summary, prepared in consultation with the regional groups through the members of the Bureau.