Statement by the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women

First Regular Session 2020, UN-Women Executive Board
14 February 2020

Advance annotated outline

Introduction

• Congratulations to the new President and Bureau
• Gratitude to the outgoing President and Bureau
• Senior recruitments at UN Women

The exceptional year ahead of us

• Preparations for CSW
  o High level of participation
  o Expected outcome
  o Support from Executive Board members for a successful session

• Generation Equality
  o Campaign and youth engagement
  o Preparations for the Generation Equality Forum in Mexico and France and satellite sessions
  o Engagement of civil society
  o Action Coalitions: themes, leadership model, modalities of engagement and timelines
  o Link to the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

• High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on Beijing+25

• 20-year anniversary of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security

• 10-year anniversary of the establishment of UN Women by the General Assembly

UN Women at 10

• Estimates of 2019 revenue and need to enhance contributions to regular resources

• Updates on change management:
  o Optimizing field presence and strengthening capacity in the field
  o Optimizing Headquarters structure and functions
  o Improving and streamlining business processes and workflows
  o Positively addressing workplace relations

• Midterm review of the Strategic Plan – getting to “UN Women 2.0”

• Audit updates
Repositioning of the UN Development System

- UN Women’s overarching priorities for the reform:
  - Positioning gender equality and women’s empowerment as a systemwide priority and leaving no one behind
  - Support to a strong normative agenda and inclusive participation of all stakeholders
  - More cost-efficient impact for smaller UN entities

- Changing the way we operate:
  - UN Women’s engagement in the development of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks
  - Strengthened Resident Coordinator system

- Leveraging the UN coordination mandate in support of systemwide results

Conclusion

- Expectations for the first regular session

- Engagement with the Executive Board in the year ahead