INTERVENCION DEL REPRESENTANTE PERMANENTE DE CHILE

Embajador Milenko Skoknic

UN-Women at 10 years

Side event of the second regular session 2020 of the Executive Board

Excellencies

Ambassador Jukka Salovaara, President of the Executive Board Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director UN Woman

It is an honor to speak at this UN Women celebratory event. In the context of UN Women's 10th Anniversary, we recognize UN Women's tireless work to address violence against women and girls and to enhance women's participation in the political and economic spheres. In this 10th Anniversary, we recognize as well to Executive Director, former President of Chile, and current Commissioner for Human Rights, Mrs. Michelle Bachelet.

Since the COVID19 pandemic began, Chile's Ministry for Women and Gender Equality in collaboration with UN Women have taken measures to relieve the disproportionate effect of the crisis on women. For example, a campaign for the prevention of violence focused on women living in rural areas and also for the purchase of tablets to make remote care possible at Women's Centers.

However, efforts in just one dimension of women's vulnerabilities is not enough. This pandemic has shown once again the lack of incorporation of the gender perspective in crisis analysis and response, and the urgent need for major woman representation in the institutions and decision making processes.

In addition to this, it will be necessary to analyze the effect that this crisis will have on women in other areas, particularly, in the labor force. Given the growing and important role of women in national economies, it is of utmost importance to address the collateral impact of the pandemic to already existing burdens women face, such as domestic duties and non-remunerated care, as well as activities that involve higher exposure to the virus.

The economic crisis generated by COVID 19 has a significant impact on sectors where women predominantly participate, such as the informal sector, the service sector and education. Chile deems it necessary to emphasize women's role in the post-pandemic economic recovery with a specific emphasis to ensure that women have the same opportunities as men.

This motivated my country, with the guidance of UN Women to participate in the Coalitions for Action of Generation Equality as leaders of the coalition on "technology and innovation for gender equality". In addition, we have developed a new Technical Cooperation to strengthen and promote a community care model that allows women to re-enter the workforce.

Exellencies,

Chile remains concerned by how staying at home measures and other movement restrictions have contributed to the increase in gender-based violence globally. In Chile, the Ministry of Women and Gender Equity indicated that calls to the helpline 1455, available 24 hours for women who need help, increased by 70% in this period. For this reason, a strong and comprehensive response to prevent and penalize gender violence is necessary, and for this, the support of UN Women has been fundamental.

Indeed, and just as an example, yesterday the Ministry of Women and Gender Equity of my country, together with UN Women Chile, launched the first survey at the Latin American level on the impact of Covid19. This data will help to create specific, targeted and more effective public policies with a gender perspective.

The support of UN Women has been invaluable to my country and its dedicated work to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women has accelerated progress in the living conditions of women globally. Therefore, in the context of the 20th anniversary of the resolution 1325 resolution on Women, Peace and Security, we must do our part by continuing to contribute to initiatives and agendas that enable women to sit in the table, as the leaders and peacemakers that they are.

We appreciate the work done, and we are committed as a country to support UN Women's future endeavors, which are crucial for gender equality and women and girls empowerment.