



**STATEMENT BY**  
**DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**  
**AT**  
**THE 68TH SESSION OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE**

**Delivered by:**

**H.E. MR. YUSRA KHAN**  
**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**Agenda Item 28: Advancement of Women**

Mr. Chairman,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a broadly acknowledged fact that eliminating gender disparities results in tremendous social improvements and leads to equitable and inclusive growth. By ensuring women and girls access to education, healthcare, productive resources, and in decision making process, we accelerate progress to reduce poverty, hunger, maternal mortality, and improve child health.

However gender disparities remain a challenge in many parts of the world. Despite intensified advocacy for women empowerment, there is uneven success among States in achieving gender parity. Discrimination and violence against women and girls still occur on a daily basis inside homes, and even in public spaces. The consequence is that women are unable to fully exercise their social and development roles.

We need to therefore multiply achievements and progress on gender equality to enable equitable and inclusive growth. Action and policies should be determined by each country, in the context of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and CEDAW. Indonesia's view remains unchanged that these two instruments should inspire and strengthen existing efforts by member states to ensure equal opportunities for women, and their participation in all spheres of life.

Mr. Chairman,

All Governments need to make good on their pledges, as underscored by the UN Secretary-General on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and in his report on the Advancement of Women. Gender equality, women empowerment, ending all forms of violence against women and girls help to advance human development in all countries.

As a country that upholds the rule of law, Indonesia underscores its steadfast commitment to the protection and empowerment of women and girls.

Indonesia subscribes to the use of gender-sensitive policies and programs in every aspect of the fulfillment of human rights and implementation of human development. Through Gender Responsive Planning and Budgeting (GRPB) mechanism, we are focusing on priority areas that are fundamental to close gender disparities and stimulate progress across various sectors of development. With this in mind, we have instituted the following measures:

First, to create a safe and enabling environment for women and girls, we have launched “*Zero Tolerance Policy*” in 2000 and since then several legal measures have been put in place to further protect women and girls, inter alia: *Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence*, *Law on Citizenship* and *Law on the Eradication of Trafficking in Persons*. A broader framework for the promotion of human rights of all namely *the National Action Plan on Human Rights* also outlines strategies to strengthen measures targeting violence against women.

At operational level, a set of specific action established through *The National Action Plan on the Prevention and Handling of Violence against Children (2010-2014)*. The Plan covers prevention, medical and social rehabilitation and reintegration for the victims, and law enforcement toward the perpetrators.

Second, to strengthen women’s roles as economic drivers, we have provided wider access for women entrepreneurs to financial sources such as credit through government-subsidized micro finance (KUR), revolving fund management institution (LDPB), community saving and loan groups or cooperatives. Access to market is also enhanced through increased use of ICT. Online business has reached a significant size in Indonesia. Until mid 2013, the online transaction in Indonesia is valued at an estimate of US\$ 4.1 billion. The higher accessibility to internet has significant impact on working women. It allows greater space for women to engage in more productive works in much simpler ways.

Micro entrepreneurs also receive literacy program in financial management, investment, and entrepreneurship trainings. Promotion of higher position for women in the private sectors is carried out through trainings on leadership, entrepreneurship skills and related programs

Third, to promote women full participation in decision making process, a number of activities on women empowerment in politics are carried out through harmonization of related law and policies. In preparation for the general election in 2014, we are conducting advocacy and capacity building for women civil societies, women parliament members and women members of political wing organization. Further, we also established women political party forum to increase women representation in legislative bodies.

Mr. Chairman,

This year Indonesia together with the Philippines will co-facilitate the biannual resolution on "The Protection of Women Migrant Workers". Thus, we call for the support and cooperation from fellow member states and other relevant stakeholders for the successful negotiations and outcome of this importance resolution.

Such call arises from the belief that gender equality and women's empowerment requires collective measures from all stakeholders. In this connection, Indonesia calls on the UN's leadership to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective into its system and mandate.

Indonesia also values the inter-governmental works within UN framework to integrate and address gender equality and women empowerment, and will support further accommodation of this issue to various appropriate and relevant resolutions

To conclude, please rest assured that Indonesia will continue to support efforts at all level aimed to promote the full enjoyment of the rights of women, including through equal and mutually beneficial partnerships with all relevant stakeholders.

I thank you.