

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

21–27 September 2011

The Gender Index includes all references to gender, women, females, girls, gender equality, violence against women and participation made in statements delivered during the General Debate.

Introduction:

For two weeks, heads of state, foreign ministers, or other high-level representatives had the opportunity to address the entire international community with their concerns, priorities, and opinions about a variety of topics during the General Debate of the 66th General Assembly – under the **theme of “Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution”**. This document contains all the gender related extracts from the statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly 21–27 September 2011. The Gender Index includes all references to gender, women, females, girls, gender equality, violence against women and participation made in statements delivered during the General Debate.

Statistics:

Out of **196** statements, a total of **89** speakers included references to gender or women in their statements. **16** speakers made *general* references to women and **73** made *specific* references to women, peace and security. **107** speakers made *no* reference to gender and/or women.

These statistics can be compared to last years General Debate (65th session) where **100** speakers included references to gender or women out of which **47** were more specifically related to women, peace and security.

Highlights:

Noteworthy mentions included Brazil and Nigeria, which expressed their commitment to women’s empowerment and participation in politics, the need to include women in transitional stages through conflict. Lichtenstein stated: "Most importantly though, we must once and for all eradicate all instances of sexual abuse committed by peacekeepers themselves. It is not enough to simply repatriate blue helmet soldiers that have committed such crimes. "Zero tolerance" for sexual abuse must finally become a reality." Ghana made the connection between gender stereotypes and gender inequality, as well as the need to address gender imbalances and improve the conditions of women and girls in order to address the other Millennium Development Goals. Papa New Guinea has taken concrete steps to increase women’s political participation and representation by reserving 22 parliamentary seats for women.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

Gender Index:

General Reference to Women and Gender (See the Full Country Statements)	Specific Reference to Women, Peace, and Security (See the Full Country Statements)	No Reference
Albania DR Congo El Salvador Equatorial Guinea Ethiopia European Union Georgia Haiti Iceland Iran Italy Jordan Montenegro Surinam Switzerland Ukraine	Angola Antigua and Barbuda Australia Austria Bangladesh Barbados Belgium Brazil Burkina Faso Canada Cape Verde Chad Chile Cote d'Ivoire Croatia Denmark Djibouti Egypt Estonia Fiji Finland Gabon Ghana Grenada Guinea Guinea-Bissau Honduras	Afghanistan Algeria Andorra Argentina Armenia Azerbaijan Bahamas Bahrain Belarus Belize Benin Bhutan Bolivia Bosnia and Herzegovina Botswana Brunei Darussalam Bulgaria Burundi Cambodia Cameroon Central African Republic China Colombia Comoros Republic of the Congo Cuba Cyprus

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

	India	Czech Republic
	Ireland	Dominica
	Jamaica	Dominican Republic
	Kuwait	DPR Korea
	Kyrgyzstan	Ecuador
	Lebanon	Eritrea
	Liberia	France
	Liechtenstein	Gambia
	Lithuania	Germany
	Libya	Greece
	Marshall Islands	Guatemala
	Mauritius	Guyana
	Micronesia	Holy See
	Monaco	Hungary
	Morocco	Indonesia
	Netherlands	Iraq
	New Zealand	Israel
	Nigeria	Japan
	Norway	Kazakhstan
	Oman	Kenya
	Pakistan	Kiribati
	Palau	Republic of Korea
	Palestine	Laos
	Papua New Guinea	Latvia
	Paraguay	Lesotho
	Peru	Luxembourg
	Philippines	Macedonia (FYRO)
	Portugal	Madagascar
	Portugal	Malawi
	President of GA, 66th Session: H.E Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser of Qatar (closing)	Malaysia
	Romania	Maldives
	San Marino	Mali
	Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon	Malta
		Mauritania

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

	Sierra Leone	Mexico
	Slovakia	Moldova
	Slovenia	Mongolia
	Solomon Islands	Mozambique
	Spain	Myanmar
	Sweden	Namibia
	Thailand	Nauru
	Trinidad and Tobago	Nepal
	Tunisia	Nicaragua
	Uganda	Niger
	United Arab Emirates	Panama
	United Kingdom	Poland
	United States	President of GA, 66th Session: H.E Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser of Qatar (opening)
	Uruguay	Qatar
	Yemen	Russian Federation
	Zimbabwe	Rwanda
		Saint Kitts and Nevis
		Saint Lucia
		Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
		Samoa
		Sao Tome and Principe
		Senegal
		Serbia
		Singapore
		Somalia
		South Africa
		South Sudan
		Sri Lanka
		Sudan
		Swaziland
		Syria
		Tajikistan
		Tanzania
		Timor-Leste

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

		Togo Turkey Turkmenistan Tuvalu Uzbekistan Vanuatu Venezuela Viet Nam Zambia
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Extracts:

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/secretary-general-united-nations>

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon

21 September 2011

“Women hold up more than half the sky and represent much of the world’s unrealized potential. They are the educators. They raise the children. They hold families together and increasingly drive economies. They are natural leaders. We need their full engagement — in government, business and civil society. And this year, for the first time, we have UN Women — our own unique and powerful engine for dynamic change.”

PRESIDENT OF THE 66TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/president-66th-session-unga-opening>

H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

21 September 2011

No references.

PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (CLOSING)

H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/president-66th-session-unga-closing>

27 September 2011

“Member States noted that the full and effective participation of women in mediation efforts is vital, and that the involvement of civil society is becoming increasingly important.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

AFGHANISTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/afghanistan>
H.E. Mr. Zalmay Rassoul, Minister of Foreign Affairs
22 September 2011

No references.

ALBANIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/albania>
H.E. Mr. Sali Berisha, Prime Minister
24 September 2011

“However, I invite Serbia to cooperate in the finding and the return of the remains of 1500 men, women, children and elderly that were abducted from their homes and were massacred in the territory of Serbia only because they were Albanians.”

ALGERIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/algeria>
H.E. Mr. Mourad Medelci, Minister for Foreign Affairs
26 September 2011

No references.

ANDORRA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/andorra>
H.E. Mr. Gilbert Saboya Sunyé, Minister for Foreign Affairs
26 September 2011

No references.

ANGOLA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/angola>
H.E. Mr. Georges Rebelo Chikoti, Minister of External Relations
26 September 2011

“We are also pleased with the creation of UN-Women, and we are certain that it will give further impetus to the promotion and empowerment of women and the achievement of their legitimate rights.”

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/antigua-and-barbuda>
H.E. Mr. Winston Baldwin Spencer, Prime Minister
24 September 2011

“By making the necessary investments to develop quality human capital with equally strong measures to promote gender equality with the active promotion of women and youth participation in all spheres

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

of life, we will create the enabling conditions for transforming the economies of developing countries in order to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally-agreed development goals.”

“We know that rescuing the planet will require us to invest in people, particularly women and youth; it will require us to reemphasize prevention, both of conflicts and natural disasters; and it will require us to devote new efforts to assist nations in transition – from war to peace, autocracy to democracy, poverty to prosperity.”

ARGENTINA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/argentina>

H.E. Ms. Cristina Fernández, President

21 September 2011

No references.

ARMENIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/armenia>

H.E. Mr. Serzh Sargsyan, President

23 September 2011

No references.

AUSTRALIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/australia>

H.E. Mr. Kevin Rudd

22 September 2011

“Lifting the full participation of women and youth in the economies of the developed and developing world, given the findings by Goldman Sachs that closing the gap in workforce participation between women and men in emerging markets could increase projected per capita income by 20 percent by 2030. Narrowing the gender gap in Australia would boost our GDP by 11 percent; And doing the same with education, skills and training to boost the ability of the youth of the world to fully participate in the global economic opportunities of the future”.

“The crisis in the Horn of Africa brings the discussion we had in this place last year, at the Millennium Development Goals Summit, into sharp relief. Last year, we gathered to see how we were tracking on our collective pledge to lift a billion people out of poverty by 2015. The report card was very poor.

Most of the MDGs are unlikely to be achieved, including maternal health, gender equality and environmental sustainability”.

AUSTRIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/austria>

H.E. Mr. Michael Spindelegger, Deputy Prime Minister

24 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“Last year's 10th anniversary of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security reminded us that the promise of women's full and equal participation in all efforts of maintaining peace and security, including in mediation processes, has not yet come true and that we all need to intensify our efforts.”

AZERBAIJAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/azerbaijan>

H.E. Mr. Elmar Mammadyarov, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

BAHAMAS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bahamas>

H.E. Mr. Theodore Brent Symonette, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

No references.

BAHRAIN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bahrain>

H.M. King Hamad bin Issa Al Khalifa, King

22 September 2011

No references.

BANGLADESH

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bangladesh>

H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“To demonstrate our strong commitment to conflict resolution, Bangladesh has partnered in many of UN's endeavors for peace, democracy and development. Our contribution to UN peacekeeping has so far been 102, 294 peacekeepers in 52 missions and 36 countries. This included the sad loss of life of 103 brave Bangladeshis. Our involvement also includes UN's first ever all women police unit in Haiti”.

“For development, we have integrated women's education in our state policy. They say, "If you educate a boy, you educate a person, if you educate a girl you educate a family and a whole nation." Therefore, during our first term from 1996-2001, we adopted a National Women's Development Policy revised during this tenure to make it more relevant. The Policy provides for the empowerment of women, their participation in decision-making and their protection and gender equality. Education for girls is free till class 12 and steps are on for their free tuition till graduation”.

“Following the 2008 general elections, women's participation in politics increased with their election to 12,828 reserved seats in local government and 64 members in the parliament. We also have

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

five women cabinet ministers (in charge of Agriculture, Home, foreign Affairs, Women and Children Affairs, and Labor), a female opposition leader, the Deputy Leader, a female Whip, and of course, the Prime Minister is a woman. For the first time in our history, two women MPs have been made chairperson of Parliamentary Standing Committees. Women now occupy high positions in High and Supreme Courts, in civil, police and armed services and in UN Peacekeeping missions. Female business ventures also receive support from the Small and Medium Enterprise Foundation.”

“Throughout my half a century in politics, I have always been a crusader of peace. I believe that peace is achievable with the removal of injustice, which includes repression and absence of rule of law, inequality and economic disparity, deprivation and poverty, suppression of self determination, denial of secularism and multi-ethnicity, negligence of equal rights for women and the marginalized, and the lack of transparency and accountability of governments. These types of injustices, according to the Uppsala Conflict Data program, have led to the loss of over 5 million lives from 1964 to 2011. I believe these deaths may be avoided by strengthening the UN's mediation instruments, and by placing people at the center of peace and development”.

BARBADOS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/barbados>

H.E. Mr. Freundel Stuart, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“Even if she earns a comfortable living, a woman who lives in fear of daily violence and has no say in how her country is run is not truly free.”

BELARUS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/belarus>

H.E. Mr. Sergei Martynov, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

BELGIUM

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/belgium>

H.E. Mr. Steven Vanackere, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs

24 September 2011

“Leaders who believe that pointing guns at their own people, that sending death squads on the streets, that stoning women to death is acceptable, lost touch with mankind and are bound to lose all support from their own people and from the world.”

“Warlords who think that they can get away with sexual abuse of women or recruiting child soldiers, should be stopped and held accountable by a united and firm international community”.

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Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

BELIZE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/belize>

H.E. Mr. Wilfred Elrington, Attorney General, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

BENIN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/benin>

H.E. Mr. Nassirou Bako Arifari, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

BHUTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bhutan>

H.E. Mr. Lyonchoen Jigmi Yoezer Thinley, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

BOLIVIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bolivia-plurinational-state>

H.E. Mr. Evo Morales Ayma, Constitutional President

21 September 2011

No references.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bosnia-and-herzegovina>

H.E. Mr. Željko Komšić, Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina

21 September 2011

No references.

BOTSWANA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/botswana>

H.E. Lieutenant General Mompoti S. Merafhe, Vice-President

24 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

BRAZIL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/brazil>

H.E. Ms. Dilma Rousseff, President

21 September 2011

“We women know better than anyone that unemployment is not just a statistic. It strikes at families, at our children, and at our husbands. It snatches away hope and leaves behind violence and pain.”

“Brazil has found that the best development policy is combating poverty and that a true human rights policy must be based on reducing inequalities between people, regions, and genders.”

“In my country, women have been fundamental in overcoming social inequalities. Mothers play a central role in our income distribution programs. It is they who manage the resources that allow families to invest in the health and education of their children.

Yet my country, like every country in the world, still has much work ahead of it when it comes to empowering women. I congratulate Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon for making women a priority during his tenure at the head of the United Nations. I welcome in particular the creation of UN-WOMEN and pay tribute to its Executive Director, Michelle Bachelet.”

“Mr. President, I feel that here today, I represent all the women of the world. The nameless women, those who starve and cannot feed their children. Those who are wracked by illness and cannot receive treatment. Those who suffer violence and who are discriminated in their jobs, their societies, and their family life. Those who labor in the home to raise future generations. I add my voice to those of the women who dared to struggle, who dared to participate in politics and in the workforce, and who forged the political space without which I could not stand here today. As a woman who was tortured in prison, I know how important the values of democracy, justice, human rights, and liberty are.”

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/brunei-darussalam>

H.R.H. Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Crown Prince

26 September 2011

No references.

BULGARIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/bulgaria>

H.E. Mr. Nickolay Mladenov, Minister of Foreign Affairs

23 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

BURKINA FASO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/burkina-faso>

H.E Mr. Djibrill Ypene Bassale, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“Burkina Faso gives particular importance to all issues linked with the enhancement of women and to this end has spared no effort in social and political participation of Burkina women. We are pleased for this reason by the launching of UN Women and our hope is that this new body, which is in need of adequate resources, will a true catalyzer of UN activities for the defense of the rights of women. More specifically, we expect UN Women to provide greater support for politics promoting the status of women in developing countries.”

BURUNDI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/burundi>

H.E Mr. Pierre Nkurunziza, President

23 September 2011

No references.

CAMBODIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cambodia>

H.E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

No references.

CAMEROON

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cameroon>

H.E. Mr. Henri Eyebe Ayissi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

24 September 2011

No references.

CANADA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/canada>

H.E. Mr. John Baird , Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“As citizens of the global community, we have a solemn duty to defend the vulnerable, to challenge the aggressor, to Protect and promote human rights and human dignity, at home and abroad: Women, Christians, Baha'i and other victims of persecution in Iran.”

“Or when blatant violators of women's rights are welcomed to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, often despite reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the convention. Canada has consistently opposed the debasement of multilateral

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

institutions by conduct that is inconsistent with their values.”

CAPE VERDE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cape-verde>

H.E. Mr. José Maria Pereira Neves , Prime minister

26 September 2011

“We are also concerned about wars and tensions that thrive a little bit everywhere, but now more localized and in high intensity in Africa, the Middle East and Asia, to the delight of the dealers of misery, those who invest in the war industry and to the suffering of millions of human beings, especially children, women and elderly. We must reach a global consensus that security, peace and stability arises from economic and social development of States and Peoples. We must deconstruct war, conflict and tension between countries and peoples and ensure the commitment of the Sixty-sixth General Assembly for this noble goal. We must reiterate that mediation is essential to settle disputes whether in Africa or the rest of the world.”

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/central-african-republic>

H.E. Mr. Antoine Gambi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

CHAD

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/chad>

H.E Mr. Idriss Deby Itno, President

22 September 2011

“Our gender policies and our youth policies in which we have them participate in decision making at all levels is a cornerstone of our new policy.”

CHILE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/chile>

H.E. Mr. Sebastián Piñera Echeñique, President

22 September 2011

“Chile also supports the launch of UN-Women, headed by our compatriot Michelle Bachelet, with the principal goal of ensuring that men and women have the same rights and opportunities.”

CHINA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/china>

H.E. Mr. Yang Jiechi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

COLOMBIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/colombia>

H.E Mr Juan Manuel Santos Calderón

21 September 2011

No references.

COMOROS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/comoros>

H.E. Mr. Ikililou Dhoinine, President

23 September 2011

No references.

CONGO (THE REPUBLIC OF)

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/congo>

H.E. Mr. Basile Ikouebe, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

COSTA RICA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/costa-rica>

H.E. Ms. Laura Chinchilla Miranda, President

22 September 2011

No references.

COTE D'IVOIRE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cote-d-ivoire>

H.E Mr. Alassane Ouattara, President

22 September 2011

“I note with satisfaction that for the first time, a woman, Mrs Dilma Roussef, democratically elected as head of Brazil in June 2010, has opened with verve our General Debate”.

“The recent ratification of the protocol on the use of child soldiers reflects our firm will to use all legal avenues to fight against violence and to see to the security of the most fragile of our population, notably women and children.”

CROATIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/croatia>

H.E. Mr. Ivo Josipović, President

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

22 September 2011

“Croatia continues to promote human rights at the universal level and supports the mainstreaming of human rights within the UN framework. In this context, we devote particular attention to issues such as abolition of death penalty, gender equality and fight against all forms of discrimination, as well as promotion of human rights of the most vulnerable social groups, including women, children, and persons with disabilities, Croatia strongly supports universality, interrelatedness and indivisibility of all human rights.”

“Croatia welcomes the establishment of UN Women, a body focused on supporting the gender equality and empowerment of women. Croatia supports relevant initiatives on the rights of LGBT persons and will continue to be actively engaged in the follow-up process to the 2008 Joint statement on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity.”

“It is also fundamental for the international community to seriously address the problem of illegal trafficking and misuse of small arms, which results in alarming number of casualties each year, particularly among women and children, and has harmful and destabilizing effects on societies. Croatia supports the process leading to adoption of an Arms Trade Treaty at the 2012 Conference. Croatia also has vast experience in humanitarian de-mining and is ready to assist others with its knowledge and expertise.”

CUBA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cuba>

H.E. Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

CYPRUS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/cyprus>

H.E. Mr. Demetris Christofias, President

22 September 2011

No references.

CZECH REPUBLIC

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/czech-republic>

H.E. Mr. Václav Klaus, President

23 September 2011

No references.

DJIBOUTI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/djibouti>

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

H.E. Mr. Ismaël Omar Guelleh, President and Head of Government
23 September 2011

“We are delighted about a long awaited creation of UN Women which announces the remarkable progress that had been majoring in the last century regarding the quest for gender equality and representation in parliaments. My government has made an improvement in women’s rights and improvements of their rights a top priority.”

DOMINICA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/dominica>
H.E. Mr. Vince Henderson, Permanent Representative
27 September 2011

No references.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/dominican-republic>
H.E. Mr. Leonel Fernández Reyna, President
22 September 2011

No references.

DPRK

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/democratic-peoples-republic-korea>
H.E. Mr. Pak Kil Yon, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
27 September 2011

No references.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/democratic-republic-congo>
H.E. Mr. Joseph Kabila Kabange, President
22 September 2011

“The DR Congo is preparing to hold general elections, the second such elections since those of 2006. It is important for us to grasp the full importance of this key period for our country. This period marks a confirmation of a definitive breaking with the spiral of violence and instability that has characterized our country over recent decades. We shall see it as a decisive phase that commits our people to a lasting democratic culture. Despite the multifaceted challenges that come with the electoral process, the National independent electoral commission, our people and the government are doing everything they can to hold transparent and credible elections despite a climate of calm. These elections are in the end are proof of a return to an effective peace that the men and women in our country have yearned for. Today, peace and security reign throughout the entirety of our nation. Our institutions are in place and operating correctly.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

ECUADOR

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/ecuador>

H.E. Mr. Francisco Carrión-Mena, Permanent Representative

27 September 2011

No references.

EGYPT

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/egypt>

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Kemal Ali Amr

24 September 2011

“During its chairmanship of the Movement, Egypt seeks to reinforce the Joint Coordinating Committee with the Group of 77 and China. In light of an international work agenda loaded with issues, ideas and initiatives, we set to put back the issue of development with its various dimensions as the top priority of the United Nations and together we adopted a number of important initiatives in the field of food security, the empowerment of women and the fight against human trafficking”.

EL SALVADOR

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/el-salvador>

H.E. Mr. Carlos Mauricio Funes Cartagena, President

23 September 2011

”Let us show this leadership from the smallest countries, such as my own, to the great powers. Let us show our unequivocal will to achieve peace, social justice and the well-being of men and women who place their faith in us.”

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/equatorial-guinea>

H.E. Mr. Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President

21 September 2011

“The most disadvantaged groups in this crisis are the children, women and youth. A youth without physical, intellectual or moral development cannot guarantee a generational relief that will assure the future of nations, thereby comes the need to provide mental and moral assistance to youth to assure the development of the continent in the future. In this respect, the leaders of the African Union of Sopo, Equatorial Guinea, adopted a program to promote the employment of youth and women in the struggle against unemployment and their professional and intellectual formation, a program that needs the support of the international community.”

ERITREA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/eritrea>

H.E. Mr. Isaias Afwerki, President

23 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

ESTONIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/estonia>

H. E. Toomas Hendrik Ilve, President

21 September 2011

“Notice, I said people. Not “Men”. Already two and half thousand years ago Aristotle noted that where the state of women is bad “almost half of human life is spoilt.” “This is no less true today and will remain so. The ongoing revolutions could not have occurred and cannot succeed without women. It is a profound source of concern for Estonia to notice that while women are welcome to protest against the corrupt regimes, they are not always welcome to participate in the political process.”

“Estonia, therefore, places great hopes on the UN’s new gender entity, UN Women, and will continue to insist that the UN as a whole, does its part globally standing up for women’s rights. We also expect that UN Women will play an active role in helping to turn the principles of the UN Security Council resolution 1325, “Women, Peace and Security” from paper to reality.”

ETHIOPIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/ethiopia>

H.E. Hailemariam Desalegne, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“What is even more crucial in the Horn of Africa is sustainable development. Our youth need to have their hope for the future not frustrated; and the condition of our women and children require much greater attention.”

EUROPEAN UNION

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/european-union>

H.E. Mr. Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council

22 September 2011

“Hope for the millions of men and women who recently climbed out of poverty – in Asia, in Latin America and fortunately more and more in Africa too. ‘Emerging economies’ become ‘emerged societies.’”

“Our aim is that the young men and women in our Southern Neighborhood feel they can build a future in their own country.”

“In a few weeks, a woman somewhere will give birth to a child -- to the 7-billionth human being on earth... The birth of a baby: the strongest sign of hope. But on what planet will this child live?”

FINLAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/finland>

H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

21 September 2011

“Empowerment of women and youth is vital for our goal. It is necessary to put into use all human resources for the development of our societies”.

“Peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and mediation are at the very heart of the United Nations. Mediation has to be used at every stage of the conflict. We need to enhance the capabilities of the UN in this field. Training and guidance are pivotal. Also, women’s participation as well as grass-roots activities and the work of NGOs are vital for our efforts”.

“Peace processes need to be more inclusive. I would like to stress the importance of full and effective participation of women in all stages of peace processes”.

“The record is far from impressive at the moment as the number of women around the negotiation tables continues to be strikingly low. I welcome the efforts by the UN Women to change the situation, and call upon us all to make a commitment to involve more women in this work. Women and men have marched together for a better future. It is important that they continue to participate side by side in building a democratic society. Democracy cannot be achieved without full participation of women.”

FRANCE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/france>
H.E. Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy, President
21 September 2011.

No references.

GABON

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/gabon>
H.E. Mr. Ali Bongo Ondimba, President
22 September 2011

“It should also be said that the participation of women should be important in all aspects of mediation since they are always the first victims of conflict along with children.”

GAMBIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/gambia>
H.E. Ms. Aja Isatou Njie-Saidy, Vice-President
26 September 2011

No references.

GEORGIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/georgia>
H.E. Mr. Mikheil Saakashvili, President
22 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“When that moment came, 20 years ago, for us, the former subjects of the Soviet bureaucracy—students, artists, dissidents, workers, men and women, old and young—it was hardly the end of History, but on the contrary, it was a new beginning of History.”

GERMANY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/germany>

H.E. Mr. Guido Westerwelle, Vice-Chancellor & Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

GHANA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/ghana>

H.E. Mr. John Evans Atta Mills, President

23 September 2011

“The United Nations Organization reached a significant milestone with the launch of UN Women, the United Nation’s Entity for Gender Equality and the empowerment of women. It is critical as members of the global community, to break the gender stereotypes which are the root causes of the myriad of gender inequality challenges currently facing most countries.”

”Ghana remains focused in addressing gender imbalances and misconceptions as well as improving the living conditions of its women and girls, bearing in mind that solving the gender issue would ultimately ensure the attainment of the majority of the Millennium Development Goals.”

GREECE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/greece>

H.E. Mr. Stavros Lambrinidis, Minister for Foreign Affairs

23 September 2011

No references.

GUATEMALA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/guatemala>

H.E. Mr. Álvaro Colom Caballeros, President

21 September 2011

No references.

GUINEA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/guinea>

H.E. Mr. Alpha Condé, President

23 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“Women and young people are key in our socio-economic development. They will receive the sustained attention of my government. The empowerment of young people and women is also important priority for us.”

GUINEA-BISSAU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/guinea-bissau>

H.E. Mr. Carlos Gomes Júnior, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“Let me once again welcome the creation of the "UN WOMEN", an entity that reflects the firm commitment of our organization to the struggle for gender equality and to ensure that women have the necessary conditions for a more representative and active participation in the process of transformation that is underway in our societies.

In this same context, my country is taking measures to uphold the dignity of women, including measures to promote their empowerment and the affirmation of their autonomy.

“I welcome the steps recently taken by the Guinean Parliament, which approved the criminalization of female genital mutilation and increased the penalties for trafficking of minors”.

GUYANA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/guyana>

H.E. Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo, President

21 September 2011

No references.

HAITI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/haiti>

H.E. Mr. Michel Joseph Martelly, President

23 September 2011

“How to promote sustainable development without quality education, which improves civic virtues, ensure equality between the sexes, value cultural identity, which opens up the world and brings with it tolerance.”

HOLY SEE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/holy-see>

H.E. Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States

27 September 2011

No references.

HOLY SEE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/holy-see>

H.E. Archbishop Dominique Mamberti, Secretary for Relations with States

27 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

HONDURAS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/honduras>

H.E. Mr. Porfirio Lobo Sosa, President

21 September 2011

“Violence and transnational organized crime, principally manifested in the form of committed crimes such as drug trafficking, kidnappings, assassinations, human trafficking, money laundering, arms trade, the commercial sexual exploitation of women and minors, among other things, are a serious threat both to populations and governments and to our ability to generate wellbeing.”

HUNGARY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/hungary>

H.E. Mr. Pál Schmitt, President

23 September 2011

No references.

ICELAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/iceland>

H.E. Mr. Össur Skarphéðinsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“In the middle of the democratic revolution brought on by the fresh breeze of the Arabic spring and induced not least by young people and women, it would be foolish to deny Palestine her right to statehood. It would be against reconciliation in the region.”

“Renewable energy, marine health, sustainable use of land, and not least - gender equality, always the core of the Icelandic foreign policy. These are the issues we shall bring to Rio next year.”

INDIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/india>

H.E. Mr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“Developing countries need investment, technology and market access for their products. They need assistance in the areas of education, health, women's empowerment and agriculture.”

INDONESIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/indonesia>

H.E. R.M. Mr. Marty M. Natalegawa, Minister of Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

IRAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/iran-islamic-republic>

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, President

22 September 2011

“All cultures, identities, lives, values and wealth of nations, women, youth, families as well as the wealth of nations are sacrificed to their imperialistic tendencies and their inclination to enslave and captivate others.”

IRAQ

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/iraq>

H.E. Mr. Jalal Talabani, President

23 September 2011

No references.

IRELAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/ireland>

H.E. Mr. Eamon Gilmore, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

“We must ensure that the democratic changes underway are consolidated. And that the promise of profound improvements in human rights in the countries concerned, in particular in relation to the role of women, is fully realized.”

ISRAEL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/israel>

H.E. Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

ITALY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/italy>

H.E. Mr. Franco Frattini, Minister for Foreign affairs

24 September 2011

“Our humanistic heritage defines the human being as the measure of all things. The principle of placing people first underpins our active support for United Nations campaigns on fundamental issues such as the abolition of the death penalty, the protection of freedom of religion or belief, and the ending of the practice of female genital mutilation.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

JAMAICA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/jamaica>

H.E. Mr. Kenneth Baugh, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

“In order for the UN to deliver on all our expectations, its organizational structure must reflect the geopolitical realities of the 21 st century. An effective response to global challenges requires a reformed and dynamic UN. Reform initiatives spanning a number of years, have led to the establishment of UN Women”

JAPAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/japan>

H.E. Mr. Yoshihiko Noda, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

JORDAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/jordan>

H.M. King Abdullah II Bin Al Hussein, Head of state

21 September 2011

“Men and women everywhere share basic concerns: a better life for themselves and their families security to plan for the future...a say in how society is organized rights they can depend on. For too many, these hopes have been unanswered. But a new era is beginning in my region, with new opportunities to move forward in democracy, security, and peace.”

KAZAKHSTAN

H.E. Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, President

21 September 2011

No references.

KENYA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/kenya>

H.E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki, President

22 September 2011

No references.

KIRIBATI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/kiribati>

H.E. Mr. Anote Tong, President and Head of Government

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

23 September 2011

No references.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/republic-korea>

H.E. Mr. Lee Myung-bak, President

21 September 2011

No references.

KUWAIT

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/kuwait>

H.H. Sheikh Naser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, Prime Minister

22 September 2011

“The United Nations; through the numerous conferences it has organized, the international conventions and agreements it has concluded, in addition to resolutions and statements it has adopted; was able to unite our visions, guide our endeavours, and mobilize our resources and our potential to consolidate our joint work to combat corruption, strengthen the rule of law and good governance, respect human rights as well as empowering women and bolstering their role in society.”

KYRGYZSTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/kyrgyzstan>

H.E. Ms. Rosa Otunbaeva, President

22 September 2011

“On the main topic of the 66th UN GA debates “The role of mediation in settlement of disputes” I wish to particularly turn to the role of women in times of crises. When peace is broken and men take up arms, it is the women who often take responsibility for ending violence and restoring peaceful life in their communities’. Only the leadership of mothers, wives, and sisters can force the politicians to agree on contradictions based on compromise and mutual understanding. Worldwide women are a force for peace! That is what is happening in my country. Women that constitute a third part of the Parliament, and are the Chairman of the Supreme Court, Prosecutor General, Chairman of the National Bank, Ministers, Governors, countless activists and local leaders make tangible contribution to the restoration of peace and strengthening democracy. I am convinced that under the visionary leadership of the very strong leader like Michelle Bachelet this newest important institution – the UN Women – will become a champion of women's rights around the world!”

LAO PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/lao-peoples-democratic-republic>

H.E. Mr. Thongloun Sisoulith, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

LATVIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/latvia>

H.E. Mr. Adris Bērziņš, President

21 September 2011

No references.

LEBANON

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/lebanon>

H.E. Mr. Michel Sleiman, President

21 September 2011

“In conclusion, and as we celebrate the centenary of International Women's Day this year, we are to take more advantage of the potentials and talents of half of the humanity, and not just seek to consecrate gender equality in principle. Indeed, women could greatly contribute to the upbringing and education, to giving the upper hand to the logic of peace, to reducing poverty, hunger, disease and environmental degradation, and to promoting sustainable development opportunities”.

LESOTHO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/lesotho>

H.E. Mr. Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili

24 September 2011

No references.

LIBERIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/liberia>

H.E. Mr. Joseph N. Boakai, Vice-President

26 September 2011

“In this endeavor, special emphasis has been placed on the empowerment of women and their participation in all aspects of national endeavor. A well crafted gender policy is enabling Government to address the concerns of women and girls. We consider the creation of the Gender Entity - UN Women to be an important positive development in the UN's effort to promote women's empowerment. Liberia pledges its fullest support for the success of this important UN body”.

LIBYA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/libya>

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Jibril, Chairman, Transitional Council Executive Office

24 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“Women must have a major role in this state. Women in Libya, about 50% of Libyan society, enjoy the highest level of education. They continue their education for the longest time following high school. We believe women have a genuine role that they must play in re-building and development Libya.”

“A foreign policy that puts youth and women at the very top of it priorities.”

LIECHTENSTEIN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/liechtenstein>

H.E. Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister for Foreign affairs

26 September 2011

“Fourth, have we done enough to include women in conflict prevention and resolution - to make them agents of change, instead of bystanders? Have we done enough to protect them during conflict - protect them in particular from sexual violence? We have collectively sent strong signals in this regard. Liechtenstein particularly supports the Security Council's work on women, peace and security. We welcome the new focus on the role of women that the creation of UN Women has brought about. Women have been a driving force in the Arab Spring. But as some countries are transitioning to a new era, women risk being left behind once again. The United Nations are often involved in transitional processes. If and where it is, it must ensure a strong role of women and apply a gender perspective. Most importantly, the UN must lead by example and appoint more women as leaders in mediation and other transitional processes. It was therefore with great pleasure that I signed the Joint Statement on Advancing Women's Political Participation earlier today.”

“Regarding protection of women and girls from sexual violence, we place high hopes in the new monitoring and reporting mechanism on sexual violence. We trust that expert teams will help strengthen domestic accountability mechanisms. The greatest responsibility, however, lies with peacekeepers on the ground. They are mandated to go into harm's way and protect civilians. They must fulfill this mandate more effectively when faced with situations of sexual violence. Most importantly though, we must once and for all eradicate all instances of sexual abuse committed by peacekeepers themselves. It is not enough to simply repatriate blue helmet soldiers that have committed such crimes. "Zero tolerance" for sexual abuse must finally become a reality.”

LITHUANIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/lithuania>

H.E. Ms. Dalia Grybauskaitė, President

22 September 2011

“Just a few months ago women leaders from all parts of the world met in Vilnius to experiences in enhancing the democracy worldwide. This event, organized by Lithuania as Chair of the Community of Democracies, confirmed my belief that the involvement of women is still very low in addressing common problems and concerns. Therefore, Lithuania strongly welcomes the resolution on peace mediation proposed by Finland and Turkey and adopted by the General Assembly. I am very pleased that this resolution advocates a stronger role of women in peace mediation. The full involvement of women in conflict resolution, peace talks and decisions on post-conflict reconstruction is essential. The same applies to the protection of women in conflict situations as defined in the historic UN Security

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions. Tam pleased to announce that Lithuania has drawn up its first national action plan for implementing Resolution 1325”.

LUXEMBOURG

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/luxembourg>

H.E. Mr. Jean Asselborn, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs

24 September 2011

No references.

MACEDONIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/former-yugoslav-republic-macedonia>

H.E. Mr. Nikola Gruevski, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

MADAGASCAR

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/madagascar>

H.E. Mr. Andry Nirina Rajoelina, President

23 September 2011

No references.

MALAWI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/malawi>

H.E. Mr. Arthur Peter Mutharika, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

MALAYSIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/malaysia>

H.E. Dato Sri Anifah Aman, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

MALDIVES

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/maldives>

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Waheed, Vice-President

24 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

MALI

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mali>

H.E. Ms. Cissé Mariam Kaïdama Sidibé, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

MALTA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/malta>

H.E. Mr. Lawrence Gonzi, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

MARSHALL ISLANDS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/marshall-islands>

H.E. Mr. John Silk, Minister of Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“The General Assembly witnessed a historic moment last week, in which, for the first time, General Debate was initiated by a woman - President Rousseff of Brazil. The Marshall Islands welcomes the Secretary-General's renewed priority on addressing gender, strengthened UN-Women institution, particularly in the Pacific.”

MAURITANIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mauritania>

H.E. Mr. Hamady Ould Hamady, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

MAURITIUS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mauritius>

H.E. Mr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“In this same spirit, we welcome the establishment of UN Women and its overarching vision of a world in which societies are free of gender-based discrimination, where women and men have equal opportunities, respect and consideration. A more inclusive world where the intellectual and economic potential of women is fully realized will promote Economic Security.”

MEXICO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mexico>

H.E. Mr. Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, President

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

21 September 2011

No references.

MICRONESIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/micronesia-federated-states>

H.E. Mr. Emanuel Mori, President and Head of Government

23 September 2011

“At the beginning of this Session, we witnessed history of another kind unfolding in this Hall. For the first time, a female president stood at this podium to open the General Debate. I join other world leaders in congratulating Her Excellency Ms. Dilma Rousseff of Brazil for her many achievements. The challenge for this Body is to continue to encourage women from all nations to participate on all levels of the political decision-making processes on an equal basis. After all, women are equal partners in families.”

MOLDOVA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/republic-moldova>

H.E. Mr. Alexandru Cujba, Permanent Representative

27 September 2011

No references.

MONACO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/monaco>

H.E. Mr. José Badia, Government Counsellor, Foreign & Economic Affairs

26 September 2011

“I would like to specifically emphasise the essential role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in the consolidation of peace; as well as the fact that women and girls must be at the center of our strategies for development. There is no need to demonstrate that a society which guarantees equality between the sexes and promotes the economic independence of women is a far more prosperous society. If one wants women to take advantage of their opportunities in the economic domain, they must remove the obstacles, including discriminatory regulations and they must ensure access for women, under equal conditions, to economic resources, notably at the base, to credit, to science and technology, to a professional education, to information, to communication and to the markets”.

“With regard to this, the Principality of Monaco wishes to renew its support for UN Women, and for its Director, Mrs. Michelle Bachelet”.

MONGOLIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mongolia>

H.E. Mr. Elbegdorj Tsakhia, President

21 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

MONTENEGRO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/montenegro>

H.E. Mr. Igor Luksic

24 September 2011

“Fight against poverty and diseases, gender equality, protection of mothers and children, education, environmental protection and sustainable development represent the main prerequisites for progress and prosperity of our societies and are set high in the Government agenda”.

MOROCCO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/morocco>

H.E. Mr. Taïb Fassi Fihri , Minister for foreign affairs and cooperation

26 September 2011

“We also reiterate the expression of our congratulations to Mr. Ban Ki-moon for his reelection as Secretary-General of the United Nations. We highly value the initiatives undertaken during his first mandate, in particular the establishment of UN Women, and fully support the priorities set for his second term.”

“The recent adoption of the new Constitution of the Kingdom...also strengthens the participation of women in politics and in social and economic development.”

MOZAMBIQUE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/mozambique>

H.E. Mr. Armando Emilio Guebuza, President

21 September 2011

No references.

MYANMAR

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/myanmar>

H.E. Mr. Wunna Maung Lwin, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

NAMIBIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/namibia>

H.E. Mr. Hifikepunye Pohamba, President

23 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

No references.

NAURU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/nauru>

H.E. Mr. Marcus Stephen, President

23 September 2011

No references.

NEPAL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/nepal>

H.E. Mr. Baburam Bhattarai, Prime minister

24 September 2011

No references.

NETHERLANDS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/netherlands>

H.E. Mr. Uri Rosenthal, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“Democracy means freedom and equal rights for everyone. It provides opportunities to empower women. Women represent fifty per cent of the world's human capital. It is in every country's own interest to ensure that women take an active role in society and the economy, as well as in the political process. I am convinced that, in free and fair elections, extremists who want to take away women's rights will not succeed. Real democracy also means that the rights of religious groups, including Christians, are respected. Society as a whole should be tolerant towards those with other religions and beliefs.”

NEW ZEALAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/new-zealand>

H.E. Mr. Jim McLay , Permanent representative

27 September 2011

“And we've heard from the President of Brazil about the challenge of empowering women to participate in political decision making.”

NICARAGUA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/nicaragua>

H.E. Mr. Samuel Santos López, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

NIGER

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/niger>

H.E. Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, President

23 September 2011

No references.

NIGERIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/nigeria>

H.E. Mr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces

21 September 2011

“Mr. President, gender equality and women empowerment strategy of the UN, especially through the creation of UN Women, deserve commendation and support. Nigeria’s support for UN Women, to which we have made substantial contributions, reflects our desire to harness the potentials of women in the task of nation building. Our national action plan on gender equality and women empowerment places strong emphasis on women’s effective participation in politics and adequate representation in public office. I am, indeed, proud to announce to this august Assembly that more than 30% of my Cabinet is made up of women. Let me also commend the Executive Board of UN Women on the successful take-off of the entity. UN Women can be assured of Nigeria’s strong support.”

NORWAY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/norway>

H.E. Mr. Espen Barth Eide, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“Promoting and strengthening human rights and gender equality is a common responsibility. Failing to adhere fully to universally agreed principles in this area is simply not acceptable. Investment in and empowerment of girls and women so that they can participate fully in the political and economic lives of states is also essential for economic growth and prosperity. There is fundamental evidence that states that fail on these accounts, and continue repressive and discriminating gender policies, will remain poor.”

“The Secretary General's Global Strategy "Every Women and Every Child" has been instrumental in this respect. But further progress must not be taken for granted. Norway will continue to focus on women’s rights and promoting the role of women in development. We will strongly oppose any efforts to reverse progress. We must maintain our resolve to implement the Beijing Platform for Action.”

OMAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/oman>

H.E. Mr. Yousef Bin Al-Alawi Bin Abdulla, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“To build and develop the capabilities of Omani women, a symposium dedicated to understand their needs was organized and His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, has adopted the recommendation of the symposium and those recommendations were considered as a plan of action for a new phase that will enable women to enjoy many privileges that ensure equality with men in rights and duties. As such, three centers were established for the care and rehabilitation of disabled women, and the seventeenth of October of each year has been designated as Omani Women's day. As a reminder, Oman has signed the International Convention on the elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women of 1979, and ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two protocols of the convention on the Right of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and the involvement of children in armed conflicts of 2000.”

PAKISTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/pakistan>

H.E. Ms. Hina Rabbani Khar, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“As a vibrant democracy, we are in the process of accomplishing a historic societal transformation. The challenges our people have dealt with empower and embolden us. We will remain unflinchingly democratic. We will defeat those that seek to terrorize us. We will empower women.”

PALAU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/palau>

H.E. Mr. Johnson Toribiong, President

22 September 2011

No reference.

PALESTINE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/palestine>

H.E. Mr. Mahmoud Abbas , President of the Palestinian Authority

23 September 2011

”In the midst of this massive national project, we have been strengthening what we seeking to be the features of our State: from the preservation of security for the citizen and public order; to the promotion of judicial authority and rule of law; to strengthening the role of women via legislation, laws and participation; to ensuring the protection of public freedoms and strengthening the role of civil society institutions”

“The time has come for our men, women and children to live normal lives, for them to be able to sleep without waiting for the worst that the next day will bring; for mothers to be assured that their children will return home without fear of suffering killing, arrest or humiliation.”

PANAMA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/panama>

H.E. Mr. Francisco Alvarez de Soto, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

27 September 2011

No references.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/papua-new-guinea>

H.E. Mr. Peter O'Neill, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“I am pleased to report that we have recently passed the first vote on a parliamentary bill that will provide for 22 reserved seats for women to contest in the coming Elections in 2012. This does not stop them from contesting any of the existing seats.”

“We also appreciate the push by multilateral partners like Asian Development Bank and World Bank on gender equality. But in the same breath, we urge them to support our financial institutions by specifically allocating funds without risk, to be lent to women entrepreneurs to develop business opportunities”.

“We note the recently adopted San Francisco Declaration by APEC countries last week under the leadership of the United States of America. This is a major step forward supporting Women in Business and is a powerful tool for women of APEC member countries. We will encourage our women in Papua New Guinea to take advantage of opportunities created by the Declaration.”

PARAGUAY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/paraguay>

H.E. Mr. Fernando Lugo Méndez, President

21 September 2011

“Placing men and women back in the center of the great scheme of concerns of the universe is a fundamental step to -barely- start to design a future with certainty that manages to replace the frustrations of the current development paradigm with the realities of a world where good-living is much more tangible.”

PERU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/peru>

H.E. Mr. Ollanta Humala Tasso, President

22 September 2011

“We cannot think of transformation outside the rule of law and its values. We are not trying to copy the models of others. We are governing through consultation, both domestically and externally; safeguarding all liberties, with tolerance, and above all, listening to our citizens without distinction based on class, race or gender.”

“Still in terms of social inclusion, my government prioritizes the needs of the most vulnerable, like children and the elderly. However we are also concerned with the need to protect the rights of women

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

who historically have been victims of discrimination. I would like to point out in this regard our support for the creation of UN Women. We call upon the international community to work together to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women.

PHILLIPINES

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/philippines>

H.E. Mr. Libran N. Cabactulan , Permanent representative

27 September 2011

“The Philippine Government recognizes women as agent of socio-economic growth and change and thus strongly advocates their full participation in nation building.”

“With around 800 men and women serving in peacekeeping missions around the world, the Philippines stands ready to do its part to ensure that the lines of peace are fortified and continuously expanded.”

POLAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/poland>

H.E. Mr. Bronislaw Komorowski, President

22 September 2011

No references.

PORTUGAL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/portugal>

H.E. Mr. Pedro Passos Coelho, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

“In this World of Change, the UN’s indispensable role is reflected in the tireless and courageous work of thousands of its staff members and collaborators. Civilians and men and women in uniform, from the military and the police, play a fundamental role in peace operations to protect civilians, avoid an escalation of conflicts and create the necessary space and time for political negotiations to bear fruit.”

“Portugal went through its democratic transition in 1974. We recognize how important the support and encouragement from external partners was to us. We are ready and available to share that experience now as a sign of our support and solidarity. An important element of that experience was the contribution and full participation, on equal footing, of Portuguese women to the post-revolutionary political process.”

“I would also like to express the importance we attach to the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, as well as the human rights of women, including their participation in political decision-making.”

QATAR

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/qatar>

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

H.H. Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Amir
21 September 2011

No references.

ROMANIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/romania>
H.E. Mr. Romulus Doru Costea, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
27 September 2011

“I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the valiant women and men who serve the cause of peace worldwide. Many of them, including Romanians, lost their lives or were wounded in mission. Our deepest gratitude and respect for them!”

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/russian-federation>
H.E. Mr. Sergey V. Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs
27 September 2011

No references.

RWANDA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/rwanda>
H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame
21 September 2011

No references.

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/saint-kitts-and-nevis>
H.E. Mr. Sam Terrence Condor, Deputy Prime Minister
24 September 2011

No references.

SAINT LUCIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/saint-lucia>
H.E. Mr. Donatus Keith St. Aimee, Permanent Representative
27 September 2011

No references.

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/saint-vincent-and-grenadines>
H.E. Mr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

24 September 2011

No references.

SAMOA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/samoa>

H.E. Mr. Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

SAN MARINO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/san-marino>

H.E. Ms. Antonella Mularoni, Minister for Foreign and Political Affairs

27 September 2011

“Gender equality is rightly placed high on the Agenda of the United Nations. In many countries, maternal mortality is still worrying, especially in the poorest areas of the world. Furthermore, young people, girls and women are the most affected by HIV.

Unfortunately, trafficking in women and children remains a serious problem. Women and girls continue to be subjected to humiliating practices, such as the payment of bride price, child marriage, kidnapping and sexual violence, including domestic violence. Protecting the rights of women in conflict and post-conflict situations continues to be another high priority for the United Nations. Women facing such situations are very often victims of sexual violence, mass rape, torture and arbitrary executions. Schooling and education are vital to counter discrimination and favor the empowerment of women. Improving quality and access to education for women and children means to provide them with instruments to improve their economic and social living conditions.”

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/sao-tome-and-principe>

H.E. Mr. Manuel Salvador Dos Ramos, Minister for Foreign Affairs & Communities

26 September 2011

No references.

SENEGAL

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/senegal>

H.E. Mr. Abdoulaye Wade, President

21 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

SERBIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/serbia>

H.E. Mr. Boris Tadić, President

23 September 2011

No references.

SIERRA LEONE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/sierra-leone>

H.E. Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma

23 September 2011

“We have also continued to build on the gains achieved in the area of human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment.”

“I have pledged my support and initiated processes that would make women constitute at least 30% of elective offices in our country.”

“As a State Party to many international human rights instruments we are committed to their implementation and respect our reporting obligations under the relevant conventions. We have for instance just completed our sixth periodic CEDAW report. We have ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and have commissioned a National Action Plan for the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 1325 and 1820.”

SINGAPORE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/singapore>

H.E. Mr. K. Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

SLOVAKIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/slovakia>

H.E. Ms. Iveta Radičová

24 September 2011

“Her Excellency Dilma Rousseff, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, opened her speech with these words: "For the first time in the history of the United Nations, a female voice opens the General Debate. It is the voice of democracy and equality.”

SLOVENIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/slovenia>

H.E. DR. Danilo Türk, President

21 September 2011

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“Recent experience in the exercise of development activities has strengthened the understanding about the links between development and human rights. The concept of the right to development is gaining in substance and recognition. Moreover, specific areas of development have provided further evidence of the importance of this link. The role of women in development is a pertinent example. Experience and research by FAO, for example, have shown that empowerment of women in agriculture can reduce hunger by 30 per cent – an impressive result by any measure. Gender equality and empowerment of women is essential to promoting peace, security and development. Slovenia strongly supports the work of UN Women, which will help to significantly boost UN efforts to promote gender equality, expand opportunities and tackle discrimination against women around the globe.”

SOLOMON ISLANDS

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/solomon-islands>

H.E. Mr. Danny Philip, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

”On the issue of Human Rights I am pleased to say Solomon Islands has submitted its national human rights report to the UN Human Rights Council. For a developing country, the right to development is the core of the country's policy. Putting people at the center of development, their meaningful participation and fair distribution of national wealth and benefits will bring peace to an angry man, feed a hungry child and empower our womenfolk.”

“On the issue of gender, Solomon Islands has huge gender challenges so much so that it will be seeking a regional seat within the Executive Board of the UN Women Entity. Solomon Islands is presenting its candidate as a Pacific Small Islands Developing States endorsed candidate and with the support of the Assembly it hopes to give an LDC and Sills flavor in the Board.”

SOUTH AFRICA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/south-africa>

H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma, President

21 September 2011

No references.

SOUTH SUDAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/south-sudan-republic>

H.E. Mr. Salva Kiir, President

23 September 2011

No references.

SPAIN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/spain>

H.E. Ms. Trinidad Jiménez, Minister for Foreign Affairs & Cooperation

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

24 September 2011

“Women's equality is one of the basic human rights, based upon the concept of equality among all human beings. Advancing women's equal access to the labour market, as well as to the political and social grounds, is not only ethically imperative, but an essential measure to overcome the crisis”.

“Since 1 January of the current year, the United Nations counts on UN Women as an instrument to assist its member States to achieve this goal. Its Executive Director, Ms. Michelle Bachelet, will boost this effort and she can be certain on Spain's full support. We will be at the side of all women who fight for freedom and equality”.

SRI LANKA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/sri-lanka>

H.E. Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa, President

23 September 2011

No references.

SUDAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/sudan>

H.E. Mr. Ali Ahmed Karti, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

SURINAME

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/suriname>

H.E. Mr. Desiré Delano Bouterse, President

22 September 2011

“In your inaugural statement as President, you referred to the enormous political, social, economic and environmental challenges facing the world. I could not agree with you more. Pandemics such as AIDS, malaria and NCD's; threats related to terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, human trafficking, illicit trade and use of small arms and light weapons, and illicit drug trade; risks posed by climate change; and the continuing vulnerability of our women and youth.”

SWAZILAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/swaziland>

H.E. Mr. Sibusiso Barnabas Dlamini, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

SWEDEN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/sweden>

H.E. Mr. Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

“Today, I would like to focus on one key area. It is an area where progress is still very slow. But since it affects half of the world's population and half of the world's human resources, it is of crucial importance. I am referring to maybe the most important human rights failure of all, at least the one that affects the largest number of human beings. I am referring to the unmet human, economic and social rights for 3.5 billion women and girls. They make up half of the world. But they are not allowed to fulfill their potential as powerful drivers of economic development as well as of peace and security. Let me just fill you in on the situation we have today: Women perform 66 percent of the world's work and produce 50 percent of the food. But they earn only 10 per cent of the income and own 1 percent of the property. 70 per cent of the world's poor population are women or girls. Every day, approximately 1000 women die from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. That adds up to about 350 000 deaths each year. We were this week witnessing a historic step in the history of the United Nation, as the Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff as the first woman ever opened the General Debate. At the same time, standing here, mid-2011, there are still countries who do not allow women to vote. And in only 28 countries has women's parliamentary representation reached a critical mass of 30 percent or more. Only 19 women are leading their countries as elected heads of state or government. And this is not fair. It is not just. And it makes no sense. Mr. President. To me, gender equality is first and foremost a question of ensuring equal rights for women and men.”

“It is about giving all individuals irrespective of gender - the same possibilities to education, to economic opportunities and to take part in society. In the year of 2011, there are women who are still not able to enjoy equal rights. They are refused the right to vote, inherit, work and even to drive a car.”

“And at the end of the spectrum, women are subject to gender-based violence and rape as a weapon of war. But shortfalls in these rights are not only the loss of the women affected. They are a loss to society as a whole. And I can tell you: This is very bad economic policy for the countries concerned. Not least in these times of global economic crisis, it seems obvious that we must realize the full potential of all human resources. I will give you a few examples. Closing the gap between male and female employment rates would have huge implications for the global economy. It would boost American GDP by as much as 9 per cent, Euro-zone GDP by 13 percent and Japanese GDP by 16 per cent. But increased gender equality does not only have immediate economic benefits. It's also an investment for the future. Evidence from a range of countries is clear. When women take greater control of the household income, more money is spent on the children's needs - such as food, health and education. The children grow taller, are less ill and get better jobs. Moreover, when women take greater part in society - by shaping institutions or taking leading roles in politics or business life - there are clear improvements for the public good and less corruption. When they are present at the building of peace, results improve. In short, I see gender equality not only as a crucial human rights issue, but also a question of smart economics. I would urge all representatives sitting in this room: Imagine what it would mean in terms of economic growth for your countries if women were allowed to fully participate in society.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

SWITZERLAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/switzerland>

H.E. Ms. Micheline Calmy-Rey, President

21 September 2011

“That is the challenge facing the countries concerned and the new social groups that have taken the lead in bringing about change - youth, women, the emerging middle classes and civil society as a whole.”

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/syrian-arab-republic>

H.E. Mr. Walid Al-Moualem, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

TAJIKISTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/tajikistan>

H.E. Mr. Hamrokhon Zarifi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

No references.

TANZANIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/united-republic-tanzania>

H.E. Mr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President

22 September 2011

No references.

THAILAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/thailand>

H.E. Mr. Surapong Tovichakchaikul, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“As Thailand continues to enhance our participation as a member of the Human Rights Council, we are determined to further contribute to human rights work and to strengthen the rights of vulnerable groups, both at home and abroad. We attach special importance to these vulnerable groups, be they children, women, persons with disabilities or the elderly. One notable example is in the area of women's rights. In December last year, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Rules for Treatment of Women Prisoners and Non-Custodial Measures for Women Offenders, or the "Bangkok Rules", which arose from the initiative of Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha. The Rules aim to enhance the human rights of female prisoners in the criminal justice system whereby gender sensitivity and the specific needs of women are fully recognized. Thailand is committed to promoting the implementation of the Bangkok Rules globally and looks forward to continuing to work closely

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

with all relevant stakeholders. Moreover, the advent of the country's first female Prime Minister has confirmed that Thai society is open to women and that gender equality and empowerment of women are continually promoted.”

TIMOR-LESTE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/timor-leste>

H.E. Mr. Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister

23 September 2011

No references.

TOGO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/togo>

H.E. Mr. Gilbert Fossoun Hounbo, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

TONGA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/tonga>

H.E. Mr. Lord Tu’Ivakano of Nukunuku, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/trinidad-and-tobago>

H.E. Mr. Surujrattan Rambachan, Minister for Foreign Affairs & Communications

26 September 2011

“Women are among the most vulnerable during conflicts whether internal or otherwise, and hence, must be involved in all vehicles relating to the settlement of disputes and conflict prevention. The absence of women in the process could result in the development of peace agreements which are not comprehensive in scope and which may not address those issues which affected women during the period of conflict and which continue thereafter. The inclusion of women in the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflict prevention is related to their involvement in the political process. The Honorable Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, continues to demonstrate her commitment to the participation of women in government in meaningful ways, both nationally and internationally. Her advocacy on this issue resulted in the hosting in Trinidad and Tobago of regional seminars to promote this democratic cause. Bearing in mind the significance of this subject, Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar together with other States, UNDP and UN Women, successfully co-hosted a High Level Colloquium on Women's Political Participation last Monday in the margins of the General Assembly. Mr. President, it was gratifying to see a room overflowing with mainly women from all over the world championing the common cause of gender equality. This event clearly demonstrated that the smallness of a country is not a deterrent to the realization of big dreams and the

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

fulfillment of wholesome ideals in the pursuit of human development. As part of the Colloquium, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago was among those leaders who signed a Declaration on advancing women's political participation. It is our hope that the outcome of this event would influence greater global consciousness and discussions on the participation of women in government and the advancement of democracy globally. In keeping with the objective of this seminar, Trinidad and Tobago calls on Member States to implement the provisions of resolution 65/283 on the inclusion of women as mediators in the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflict prevention. At the same time, we would also welcome greater efforts to recruit lead mediators from developing countries, particularly, small island developing states consistent with the principle of equitable geographic distribution in the recruitment of United Nations personnel. “

TUNISIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/tunisia>

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Mouldi Kefi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“Similarly, we have ratified the International Convention of the protection of all persons from Enforced Disappearance and withdrawn all the reservations related to the UN convention on Suppression of All Forms of Segregation against Women, which objective is the consecration and consolidation of gender equality”.

TURKEY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/turkey>

H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Prime Minister

22 September 2011

No references.

TURKMENISTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/turkmenistan>

H.E. Mr. Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, President

23 September 2011

No references.

TUVALU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/tuvalu>

H.E. Mr. Willy Telavi, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

UGANDA

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/uganda>

H.E. Mr. Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi, Vice-President

26 September 2011

“Besides, the role of women in mediation must be appreciated and enhanced. Experience has shown that women can contribute a lot to efforts aimed at peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution. It is, therefore, vital that women get increasingly involved in mediation efforts and processes”.

UKRAINE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/ukraine>

H.E. Mr. Viktor Yanukovich

21 September 2011

“A year ago we had a successful summit on the overview of the Millennium Development Goals. Ukraine is committed to its obligations in achieving national development goals. Among our main priorities are poverty reduction, ensuring quality education, environmental protection, improving health and reducing child mortality, curbing HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, ensuring gender equality”.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/united-arab-emirates>

H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister for Foreign Affairs

26 September 2011

“The UAE realizes that the success of women's empowerment is an essential component to building a modern and tolerant society. Therefore, the UAE has achieved a number of remarkable successes in the field of empowerment of women, which represents clear evidence of the absence of any conflict between the Arab, the Muslim, and the Modern. The UAE has a significant track record in the field of women's rights, 40 years ago females were not sent to schools; however, in today's society women represent 70% of all university graduates in the UAE. Women now also occupy around two thirds of government jobs, and 22.5% of seats in the Federal National Council, in addition to the fact that the federal government has four female ministers. We also have now the first UAE federal judge, and recently, three female pilots were accredited as women pilots in the UAE Air Forces.”

“Based on the above reasoning, the UAE sees the importance of supporting international efforts in the field of women's empowerment. In this context we would like to commend proudly the establishment of the United Nations for Women (UN-WOMEN), and we declare extending a contribution of USD5 million to this newly established organ.”

“The UAE constitution guarantees equal rights for both men and women, where women enjoy the same legal status, preserving their own family names and titles, the right to education, and the right of employment, as their male counterparts. The UAE Constitution prohibits any discrimination between women and men in salaries. The UAE further joined a number of international conventions on human rights, including the Convention on Eliminating All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which was signed in 2004.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

“The UAE has always been keen to integrate the principles of fundamental human rights stipulated in the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in its own Constitution and Laws. The UAE has also ratified the UN conventions related to human rights and child rights, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.”

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/united-kingdom-great-britain-and-northern-ireland>

H.E. Mr. David Cameron, Prime Minister

22 September 2011

“That means 700,000 new jobs every year in Egypt alone. And these jobs shouldn't just be for men. Let's be honest, it's not just the men of the region who want a job and a voice. The unemployment rate for Egyptian women is more than three times that for men. And it's not only the economy, they are denied the chance to play a fuller role in society, politics and culture too. But look at the crowds in Freedom Square and we see it is the women too finding their voices showing clearly that they want to play a part in building their future. So in this historic period, when the voice of this region is finally being heard there is now a unique opportunity for women to fulfill their ambitions too. This is not just in their interests as women. Its in the interests of their countries as a whole. Let's be clear, you can't build strong economies, open societies and inclusive political systems if you lock out women. So the Arab Spring will not succeed if the opportunities that are opening up are denied to half the population.”

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/united-states-america>

H.E. Mr. Barack Obama, President

21 September 2011

“And no country can realize its potential if half its population cannot reach theirs. This week, the United States signed a new Declaration on Women's Participation. Next year, we should each announce the steps we are taking to break down the economic and political barriers that stand in the way of women and girls. This is what our commitment to human progress demand.”

URUGUAY

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/uruguay>

H.E. Mr. Danilo Astori, Vice-President

26 September 2011

“Uruguay has an outstanding record in this area, not only because it is one of the countries that has adhered to the widest array of conventions, but also because it made specific contributions in fields as diverse as the defense of the rights of the child; mainstreaming a gender perspective into all United Nations system policies and programs, which allowed to establish and implement the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and promoting fundamental

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

freedoms, such as freedom of expression, among others.”

“Uruguay reaffirms its commitment to peacekeeping operations and to the strictest enforcement of mandates and standards regulating the conduct of field personnel. For this reason, in shaming and unacceptable cases of misconduct, such as the one carried out by five members of our military in Haiti, where since the beginning of MINUSTAH we have contributed several thousand men and women, some of whom have offered their lives, to help this brother country to consolidate peace and stability, we have not hesitated in acting with the utmost severity and rigor as the circumstances demand.”

UZBEKISTAN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/uzbekistan>

H.E. Mr. Elyor Ganiev, Deputy Prime Minister

26 September 2011

No references.

VANUATU

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/vanuatu>

H.E. Mr. Meltek Sato Kilman Livtunvanu, Prime Minister

24 September 2011

No references.

VENEZUELA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/venezuela-bolivarian-republic>

H.E. Mr. Nicolás Maduro Moros, Minister of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

VIET NAM

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/viet-nam>

H.E. Mr. Pham Binh Minh, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

YEMEN

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/yemen>

H.E. Mr. Abubakr A. Al-Qirbi, Minister for Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

“Yemen will provide a model for change where all parties will be winners and the status of women will be enhanced as a country that opted for dialogue as a means to overcome crisis.”

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

GENDER INDEX of statements made during the General Debate of the 66th session of the General Assembly

ZAMBIA

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/zambia>

H.E. Ms. Lucy Mungoma, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

27 September 2011

No references.

ZIMBABWE

<http://gadebate.un.org/66/zimbabwe>

H.E. Mr. Robert Mugabe, President

22 September 2011

“My country celebrates the UN-Women entity as it addresses the position of more than half of humankind in all our countries.”