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**H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon**  
**Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council**

**Commission on the Status of Women**  
**Opening of the 59<sup>th</sup> Session and the twentieth commemoration of the**  
**Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action**  
**9 March 2015**

Madame Chairperson,  
President of the General Assembly,  
President of the Security Council,  
Mr. Secretary-General,  
Executive Director of UN-Women,  
Distinguished Ministers,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Economic and Social Council, I would like to commend the Commission on the Status of Women for being at the forefront in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, promoting gender mainstreaming in intergovernmental processes as well as in the work of the United Nations system.

Over the years, this Commission's convening power has attracted a wide range of stakeholders from all around the world. They bring diverse perspectives on how to achieve gender equality and

women's empowerment, while sharing a common passion for making a difference in women's and girls' lives.

As an indispensable member of the ECOSOC system, the Commission has contributed to the Council's work to advance the post-2015 development agenda by integrating different dimensions of gender equality. The Council also drew upon the Commission's reviews and lessons learned from the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in its own Annual Ministerial Review in 2010 on gender equality and women's empowerment. ECOSOC recognized the implementation gaps and outlined strategies to close those gaps, which are instrumental in considering cross-cutting gender implications in the international development goals.

Madame Chairperson, distinguished delegates,

With the recent strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, we have aligned the work of the broader ECOSOC system, including the Commission of the Status of Women, to the main theme of the Council. This helps connect the system's analytical work more efficiently to the High-Level Segment and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) convened under the auspices of ECOSOC.

In 2015, ECOSOC will focus on supporting the transition to the new development framework through the theme “Managing the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals: What will it take”. The HLPF will also address key aspects of this transition through its aligned theme "Strengthening integration, implementation and review - the HLPF after 2015."

We believe that the CSW will greatly contribute to the transition by aligning its focus to this year’s ECOSOC theme and providing substantive input from the perspective of gender equality and empowerment of women. The ECOSOC system working as a unifying platform will be key to setting a transformative and universal post-2015 agenda, and to strengthening linkages between norms and operations.

The Economic and Social Council stands ready to work with the CSW in pursuing these goals. I believe that our common efforts will help mobilizing the whole UN system to mainstream gender issues in the deliberations of a new development agenda and beyond.

Thank you.

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