

# Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women



**Tuesday, 28 February 2012**

**3.00 to 4.30 PM in NLB CR 5**

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the World Food Programme (WFP) are joining forces to bring a comprehensive United Nations system response in support of rural women's and girls' economic empowerment; support the scale up of successful initiatives and strengthen partnerships with local partners in a number of countries. This interactive event provides an opportunity for Member States and other stakeholders to engage in a dialogue and make concrete suggestions on initiatives that work for enhancing women's economic empowerment. These will be taken into consideration in the finalization of the joint action plan.

## **OPENING REMARKS**

Ms. Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director, UN-Women  
Ms. Sheila Sisulu, Deputy Executive Director, WFP

## **PANELISTS**

H.E. Eleonora Menicucci de Oliveira, Minister, Secretariat of Policies for Women, Brazil  
H.E. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, State Minister of Women's and Children's Affairs of Bangladesh  
H.E. Guillermo E. Rishchynski, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, Government of Canada

## **INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE**

Ms. Lilly Be'Soer, Voice for Change, Papua New Guinea  
Ms. Elizabeth Atangana, President, Pan-African Farmers' Organization, Cameroon  
Ms. Claudia Serrano, Executive Director of the Latin American Center for Rural Development  
Representatives from governments and civil society will be invited to join in the interactive dialogue.

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

Ms. Ann Tutwiler, Deputy Director-General, FAO  
Ms. Cheryl Morden, Director of the North American Liaison Office, IFAD

## **MODERATOR**

Ms. Saraswathi Menon, Director of Policy, UN-Women



GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

