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INFORMATION NOTES

STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION (ACC) ON GENDER EQUALITY AND MAINSTREAMING



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The Secretariat is pleased to submit herewith, for the Executive Board's information, the ACC Statement on Gender equality and mainstreaming in the work of the United Nations system. The document is available in English only.

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9 October 1998

ACC Statement on Gender equality and mainstreaming in the work of the United Nations system: A commitment for action

- 1. The United Nations Charter affirms "...faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women...".
- 2. We reiterate our commitment to working with all members of the international community to uphold these principles of the Charter by promoting gender equality.
- 3. We are firmly convinced that the overriding United Nations goals of peace, sustainable development and human rights cannot be achieved without the elimination of all forms of gender discrimination. The United Nations system is uniquely placed to bring about change and provides a platform for the effective realization of gender equality.
- 4. Gender equality is a major strategic objective of the international community. The global United Nations conferences, in particular the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace (Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985) and the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 4-15 September 1995), have set out a comprehensive global agenda for achieving this goal.
- 5. We commit ourselves to give strong support to national, regional and international efforts to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and other global agreements.
- 6. The United Nations system has to date made considerable progress in advancing the status of women and their human rights. We are determined to accelerate these efforts and pledge to mainstream a gender perspective in all our institutions, policies and programmes by implementing the specific recommendations on gender mainstreaming as elaborated in the 1997 ECOSOC Agreed Conclusions.
- 7. We shall be accountable to ensure that institutional culture is both gender-sensitive and gender-responsive, and that our staff policies, programme budgets and resource allocations reflect our commitment to gender equality goals.

