

MESSAGE FROM RACHEL MAYANJA

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to share with you the good news: the General Assembly adopted yesterday a resolution on *System-wide coherence* (A/63/L.103, attached) that paves the way for the establishment of a new gender entity for women's rights and gender equality. The GA expressed its strong support to the Secretary-General's proposal to consolidate the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women (OSAGI), the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) into one composite entity to be led by an Under-Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General has expressed his commitment to move swiftly and to provide expeditiously the GA with a comprehensive proposal concerning the mission statement and organizational arrangements, including an organizational chart, funding and executive board oversight of its operational activities in order to allow the launching of the new entity without further delay.

Let us pause and celebrate this moment as this bodes well for the upcoming celebrations of the 15th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing plus 15), the 30th anniversary of CEDAW and the 10th anniversary of Security Council Resolution 1325.

I count on your steadfast support and I thank you for all your contributions to the UN's work for women around the world.

Best regards,
Rachel Mayanja