



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20 March 2007

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to enclose herewith an informal summary of the proceedings of the informal thematic debate on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women that took place on 6-8 March 2007.

A number of key findings and common concerns emerged from the debate. The debate emphasized the importance and relevance of gender equality, and that there are great challenges in implementing existing commitments in this regard. The importance of the UN in promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women was also confirmed.

I was encouraged by the interest in this debate. In the general debate there were more than 80 speakers, including 20 Ministers. The panel discussions on women in decision-making and economic empowerment including microfinance provided important insights regards lessons learned and obstacles.

I would like to thank all Member States for their support and active participation in the thematic debate.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Haya Al Khalifa". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that extends to the left and right.

Haya Rashed Al Khalifa

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York