



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TO THE
UNITED NATIONS**

201 EAST 42ND STREET, SUITE #1700
NEW YORK NY 10017
TEL: 1-212-972-9160
FAX: 1-212-682-5232



**PERMANENT MISSION OF
IRELAND TO THE
UNITED NATIONS**

1 DAG HAMMARSKJÖLD PLAZA
885 SECOND AVENUE, 19TH FLOOR
NEW YORK NY 10017
TEL: 1-212-421-6934
FAX: 1-212-752-4726

17 June 2008

Dear Mr President,

As you are aware, as Co-Chairs on System-wide Coherence, we have been holding ongoing consultations on the issue of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the General Assembly. Most recently, we facilitated open informal consultations for the entire membership yesterday, Monday, 16 June.

At these consultations, member States agreed that the Co-Chairs should request the President of the General Assembly to seek from the Secretary General a paper, by mid-July, which could present a range of institutional options which would help the UN System to improve its performance in the area of Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. The Secretary-General could then give a comprehensive and comparative assessment of each of these options and their implications for the strengthening of the UN System with regard to Gender. We believe the paper will give a focus to the Assembly's consideration of this matter and help it to advance towards an agreed outcome.

In drawing up this paper, we would encourage the Secretary-General to take into account the specific points and questions which were made by delegations in the two sessions of open informal consultations, which took place on 16 May and 16 June respectively. We enclose, for information, a copy of our opening and concluding statements at yesterday's informal consultations.

To facilitate further consideration of this matter, it is, in our view, important that this paper of the Secretary-General should be provided to member States in the agreed time frame. You may wish accordingly to be in touch with the Secretary-General in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Ambassador Augustine Mahiga
Permanent Representative of the United
Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations

Ambassador Paul Kavanagh
Permanent Representative of
Ireland to the United Nations