

As delivered

**Meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Secretary-General's  
in-depth study on violence against women  
16-17 February 2006  
Conference room 8, UN Headquarters**

**Closing comments  
by  
Ms. Rachel Mayanja  
Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser to the  
Secretary-General on Gender Issue and Advancement of Women**

Distinguished Advisers,  
Chapter writers  
Dear colleagues,

We have come to the end of two days of very intense discussions. I am sorry that I was not able to be with you throughout these two days due to other pressing responsibilities.

I understand that you had a very productive and constructive meeting. I express my sincere appreciation for the careful consideration you have given the draft chapters of the study, the very incisive and pertinent guidance and advice on their approach and content, as well as the gaps and overall structure of the drafts.

We are very grateful for the many specific points you have made on the chapters, the messages that should come out clearly and unambiguously from the study, and the types of recommendations it should contain so that the study can indeed convey to the international community and the national and local level what needs to be done next in our efforts to prevent, reduce and ultimately eliminate violence against women.

The next few weeks will be very busy time for us in the Secretariat, together with our chapter writers, in further shaping and revising the chapters so as to produce a study that we can all be satisfied with and, critically, that will indeed send clear signals about the direction ahead and the way forward.

You have been generous all along in supporting our work. We hope to be able to continue to call on you, individually and as a group, for advice and support. We would be grateful if we could continue to seek your open and constructive feedback on particular issues, ideas and recommendations. As the work proceeds, and if we find it necessary, we may also need to bring the entire group together for a second meeting. Should this be the case, we would again welcome and appreciate your time and effort.

We will certainly call on all of you to support the efforts at broadly publicizing the study once completed, and advocate for implementation of its recommendations. Together with you, we will seek out opportunities to present the study in different countries, and will welcome your ideas and suggestions about how best to sustain the momentum for effective follow-up.

Again, I thank you for your support and commitment, and look forward to your continuing active involvement in the next phase of the preparation of the Secretary-General's indepth study on violence against women.

The meeting is closed.

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