The General Assembly Second Committee,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly those held in Articles 2.1, 2.4, and 2.7 on sovereignty and Article 1.3 on international cooperation on issues of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian nature and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination as to sex,

Bearing in mind that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development identified gender equality and women’s empowerment as a key to sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of women as building blocks of any economy and the need to empower and encourage women facing difficult conditions and remove the obstacles for their involvement in the economy and the labor market,

Deeply concerned with the high level of women’s unemployment referenced in the UN Statistic development indicator archives, which looks at past and present unemployment rates, and the effects of unemployment on the societal role of women and the opportunities afforded to them;

Seeking to increase the scale and pace of changes regarding the women’s position as initiated in the ILO publication Women In Business and Management: Gaining Momentum which looks directly at economic mobility possibilities for women on a global scale,

Reaffirming the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in accordance with GA resolution 68/138, aligning with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which declares the eradication of all forms of discrimination against women that delay economic, social, and political progress,

Reminding all nations of the international Women's day on March 8th, recognizing women's empowerment through celebration of the economic, financial, political, and, social achievements of women in the past, present and future,

Fully supporting the 3rd Millennium Development Goal which served to make progress on gender equality and increased female participation, which has been incorporated in the post-2015 development agenda as well as significantly recognized in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Expressing concern with the slow development of women’s equality primarily in developing countries and its connection with adverse effects on development, which can be remedied by providing additional representation of women in national policy-making bodies,

Noting the importance of promoting self-sufficiency of developing countries by increasing their ability to conduct trade, which will benefit women’s development by providing additional capital enabling countries to provide national programs for women,

Further noting that women make up the majority of smallholder farmers, and that promoting agricultural development is essential to women’s empowerment, development, and human rights, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Stressing the importance of drawing attention to the large percentage of women working in the informal sector, such as illegal harvest aid, illegal underground activities, and unpaid work in family businesses, and the need to provide them with alternative employment opportunities according to their skills applicable in the formal sector,
Recognizing negative effects of poverty on women and the need for women's integration in leadership roles with regards to sustainable development as expressed in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,

Appreciating the work and efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women, specifically the annual reports resulting from the global meetings and their information concerning the current status of women in the global economy and areas that need focus and improvement,

Concerned by the impacts of unsustainable debt, which limits the ability of governments to provide for their populations, on the achievement of development for all women in developing countries, as noted in A/RES/68/202 titled External Debt Sustainability,

Encouraged by the positive impacts that innovative types of finance, such as microcredit, have had on promoting women's development,

Emphasizing the fact that the sovereign right of all States to utilize their natural resources, as recognized in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, will benefit women's development by promoting sustained economic growth and job creation for all,

Concerned by the potential impact of sanctions on the capabilities of Member States to promote empowerment of women,

Recalling A/RES/68/227, which emphasized the importance of promoting women’s access to land tenure and encouraged ownership of land in order to strengthen their economic and social development and increase their role in society,

1. Stresses that all the provisions of this resolution should be implemented with the utmost respect to state sovereignty, as held in Articles 2.1, 2.4, and 2.7 of the Charter of the United Nations, and with all due consideration to the differing economic, social, cultural, and political situations of each Member State;

2. Encourages the creation of initiatives involving cooperation between governments and the private sector in order to tackle the problem of women’s unemployment through the:
   a. Elimination of potential risks associated with investments in countries facing high women’s unemployment through a joint action of UN Women and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency from the World Bank Group to provide insurance on the political risk for business entities creating employment positions for women;
   b. Expansion of opportunities for women to increase involvement in various economic sectors;
   c. Creation of national programs establishing incentives for private sector firms to employ women and provide education and training to acquire skills necessary for integration in the labor market;

3. Notes that entrepreneurial opportunity for women should be emphasized and channeled to concrete and productive activities supported by:
   a. Flexible loans provided by various inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) and financial institutions, especially in underprivileged areas that lack access to resources and financial infrastructure;
   b. Business guidance from government and NGOs and Member State-provided incentives for employing women in their new ventures; and
   c. Applying and using business and entrepreneurship models, adjusted for a wide variety of specific situations and environments;

4. Encourages increased collaboration between relevant UN bodies, and Member States to promote gender equality by recognizing and implementing governmental legislation of with regards to:
a. Harnessing the rights of women on the underlying constitutional and legal framework whereupon society rests;

b. Women’s political rights and equal access to political representation in all governmental institutions in order to promote their ability to participate in the formulation of policies that affect women’s economic empowerment;

c. Affirmative action and legal rights to equal pay, such as through the national establishment and enforcement of equal employment legislation to close the gender wage gap;

d. Inheritance and property ownership laws; and

e. Domestic legislation for land reform, with the goal of promoting opportunities for women and conducted with full respect to the differing cultural situations of Member States;

5. Further recommends Member States and United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) to promote education of adolescent women in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals using strategies specifically ensuring that this vulnerable group acquires the necessary skills and tools needed to ensure a sustainable future, through:

a. Financial strategies, such as basic economics and financial education, savings initiatives, and encouraging entrepreneurship;

b. Employment strategies, with an emphasis on vocational training, school-to-work transition, workplace harassment;

c. Social support strategies like building social networks, reproductive health and gender equity education; and

d. Leadership strategies, including communication skills, mentoring and role model development;

6. Encourages individual Member States to consider the relative benefits of reducing trade barriers for the promotion of women’s development, specifically within multilateral and bilateral arrangements and for the creation of value chains to add value and refine raw materials into more profitable goods, as trade is an engine for development and is a key promoter of women’s rights, as noted in the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development;

7. Recognizes the need to foster further collaboration on programs such as the Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative by the Paris Club of debt-owning countries in order to further restructure debt and to aid developing Member States to increase the amount of available monetary resources that can be used to promote women in development, especially in the context of the upcoming Sustainable Development Goals;

8. Supports international lending organizations, such as the World Bank, regional development funds, and the International Monetary Fund, to promote the creation and expansion of sustainable industries in order to promote economies that can promote women’s development;

9. Strongly suggests all Member States to consider the negative developmental impacts of sanctions on civilian populations and further discuss with Security Council Member States to ensure that sanctions do not obstruct women’s development, in line with A/RES/69/180;

10. Further encourages the continued work of the Commission on the Status of Women, specifically the annual global sessions, to incorporate direct discussion focus on economic empowerment, which could include:

   a. Current successes in public private development partnerships as well as viable areas where partnerships could improve as well as be encouraged;
b. The effects and results of hiring incentives for women and how these can be improved for the following year;

c. Set realistic goals for the upcoming year in terms of women's economic development, specifically looking at labor force improvements, women's business start-up progress and equality quotas.