

Statement by Portugal
Beijing+20 Regional Review meeting
6 – 7 November 2014

The main challenges to the implementation of Beijing platform and the direct link to the development agenda post-2015 continue to be many and the results will be limited if not considering the issues of gender equality and empowerment of women, the elimination of discrimination and the fight against all forms of violence against women and girls, as a clear manifestation of inequality between women and men and as one of the greatest scourges of humanity.

It is necessary to have a strong commitment in fighting all forms of violence against women and girls, including domestic and gender-based violence, sexual and psychological violence and harassment, rape, female genital mutilation, early and child marriages that hinder the full enjoyment of all human rights for women and girls and perpetuates inequalities and discrimination.

Portugal strongly supports a stand-alone Goal on elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, which some have called, over the past few years, the "Missing Goal" in the MDG's.

Also, Portugal strongly supports a stand-alone goal on gender equality and women's empowerment and mainstreaming gender equality in all other Goals.