Dear Chair, Dear Pannellist, Dear ECE colleagues,

Spain fully aligns with the opinions expressed by the EU.

The National Reports on Beijing+20, the ECE Report for this event and also the Report of the European Institute for Gender Equality for the Italian Presidency of the EU, reveal that progress in gender equality has been made in the last 20 years in the European Union and the ECE region, but also reveal that important gender gaps still exist in education, employment, salaries and pensions.

This is also true for Spain. Women and men are more equal right now, but gender gaps still persist in spite of the different legislative reforms and action plans that the Spanish Governments have put in place over these 20 years, closely aligned with the objectives and goals of the Beijing Platform for Action and the European policies to promote gender equality at all levels.

In this regard, the main goals for the Spanish Government are the four following ones:

**Promoting** women’s economic independence by increasing women’s labour market participation and combating the gender pay gap:

**Fighting** gender stereotypes and supporting corresponsibility and the reconciliation of labour, family and private life;

**Promoting** equal opportunities for women and men in the educative system;

**And guaranteeing** the equal incorporation of women and men to the information society are key goals for the Spanish Government.

For these reasons and besides the current **Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for the period 2014-2016**, new initiatives will soon see the light: the **Special Plan for Equality between Women and Men in the Labour Market and against the Gender Pay Gap**, the **Action Plan for Equality between Women and Men in the Information Society** and the future **Integral Plan for Family Support**.

Dear colleagues,
The European Region has responsibilities before the International Community and before every single woman and girl in the world. We must ensure our firmest commitment to generate a horizon of equality for women and men which is also an unavoidable condition for sustainable development.

In this regard, Spain is actively advocating for a **stand-alone goal in the post-2015 development agenda** to achieve gender equality, women’s rights and women’s empowerment grounded in Human Rights. Spain is also claiming for the integration of gender equality concerns throughout the other priority areas and goals of the post-2015 agenda with clear targets and indicators, including on multiple discrimination.

My question for the panelists will be the following one:

- Bearing in mind that more women than men participate in part-time work and that part-time work can have consequences in the social protection of women, what have been the trends in the ECE region to avoid the indirect discrimination of women with respect to their social protection and particularly, their pensions?.