

**Statement by South Africa on Resolution A/HRC/6/L.32/Rev.1**

**Mr. President,**

**South Africa wishes to make the following statement on Resolution A/HRC/6/L.32/Rev.1, titled "Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system", and we request that it be taken, in full, into the official records of the Human Rights Council.**

**Mr. President,**

**South Africa pays tribute to the prominent and decisive role played by women of all persuasions in the liberation of our country.**

**In our very short history, since the advent of democracy in 1994, we have placed the promotion, protection and fulfillment of the rights of women, as well as the political and socio-economic empowerment and advancement of women, at the top of our national agenda.**

**In the 13 years of our democracy we have made great strides and registered achievements which have exceeded expectations in terms of gender equality and women's rights.**

**We therefore speak on this topic not only from deep conviction, but also from recent practical experience.**

**Mr. President,**

**On the resolution before us, South Africa has serious misgivings on specific paragraphs of this resolution, and on the path it will place the Human Rights Council.**

**The resolution would appear to give a mandate to the Council that it does not possess, and take away from the mandates of the already established United Nations bodies and institutions, whose mandates needs to be respected and protected.**

**Consequently, if this resolution is to be voted on, we would have to vote against specific paragraphs. These include paragraphs relating to Security Council resolution 1325, and to the International Conference on Population Development and the World Summit for Social Development, as well as those relating to the CSW and its New York based support system.**

**We also have concerns regarding operational paragraphs that seem to give the Human Rights Council the mandate to integrate gender mainstreaming and a gender perspective throughout the United Nations system. This approach is unhelpful and clearly contradicts the mandate of the Human Rights Council.**

**Mr. President,**

**Finally, if this resolution is passed by this Council by consensus, South Africa reserves its position on all those paragraphs it has difficulty with.**