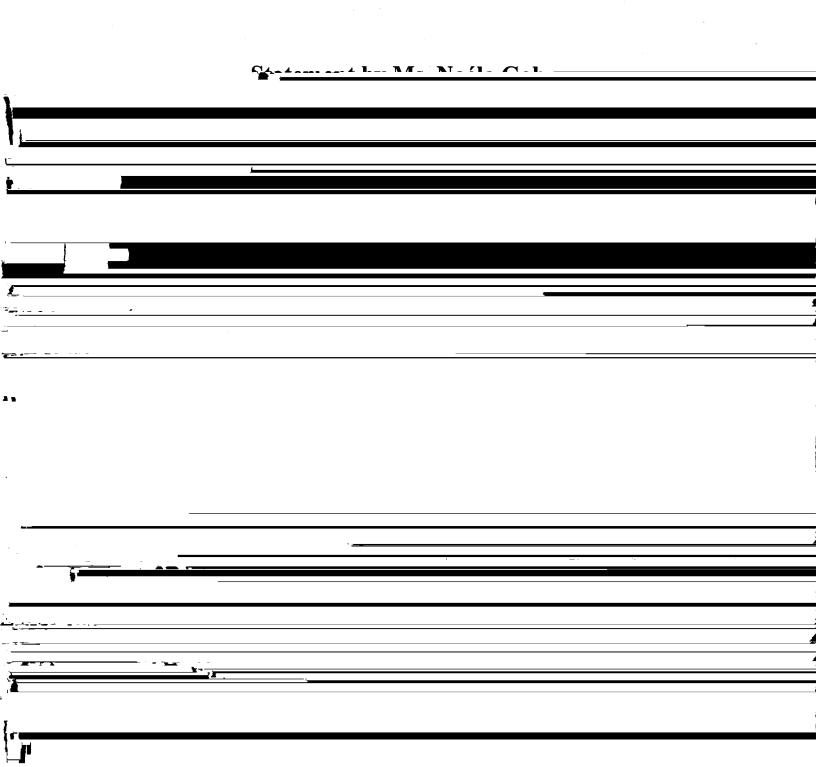
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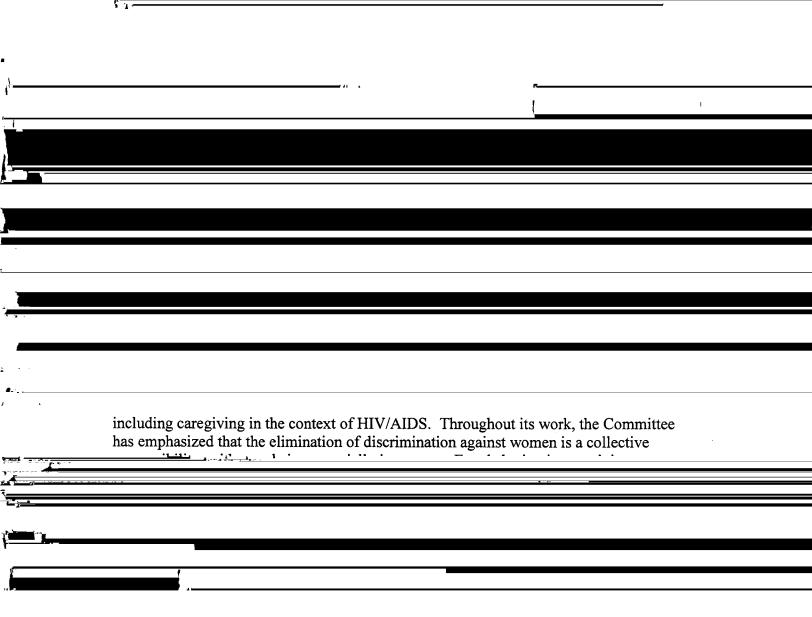




Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies
Distinguished delegates, colleagues from the NGO community and friends,

I have the honour to present to the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women the main outcomes of the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Committee's report on its forty-second session is available in the Committee's report to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly (A/63/38). The main outcomes of the forty-second and forty-third sessions, which ended on 6 February 2009, will be before the Commission for its information in document E/CN.6/2009/CRP.1.

Before I turn to issues relating to the Convention, its Optional Protocol and the Committee, I would like to congratulate the Commission on its work in relation to the important theme of the couple having of reconscibilities between two constants.



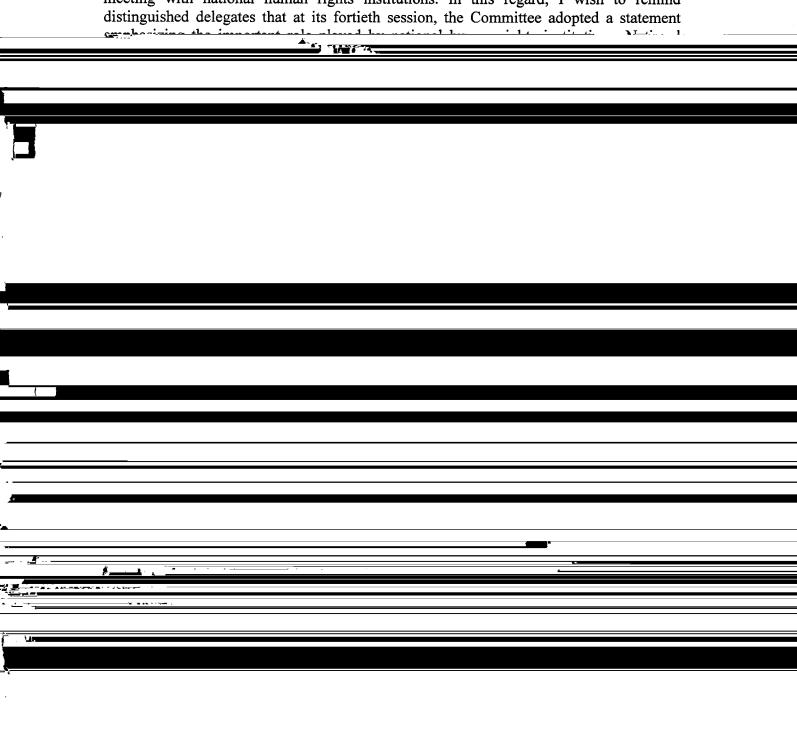
Committee has requested 20 States parties with long-overdue initial reports to submit their reports by a specified date. Failing receipt of the reports within the suggested time-frame, and as a last resort, the Committee will proceed with consideration of the implementation of the Convention in the States parties concerned in the absence of a report. As a result of this initiative, six of the States concerned have submitted their reports. Also, for the first time, at its forty-third session, the Committee considered the

presence of a delegation.

The Committee has resulted have to make a make disast a home time amount on d

of Women of Concern to UNHCR" currently scheduled to be held in New York in July 2009.

During its past sessions, the ILO, IOM, UNHCR and the Inter-Parliamentary Union have met with the Committee and provided information relevant to various areas of its work. The Committee has also begun the practice, implemented by most other treaty bodies, of meeting with national human rights institutions. In this regard, I wish to remind distinguished delegates that at its fortieth session, the Committee adopted a statement



Distinguished delegates, In concluding, I would like to remind the Commission that this year is a great opportunity to emphasize the importance of full implementation of the Convention and the steps that have been made to achieve elimination of discrimination and equality of women and men as we are celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention and the tenth anniversary of the adoption of its Ontional Protocol I know that a number of high nrofile events are heing planned to calabrate these important

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