



## STATEMENT

By

His Excellency Sunil Sitaldin

**Ambassador of the Republic of Suriname to the Permanent Mission of Suriname to the  
United Nations**

on the occasion of the 69<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

General Discussions (Item3)

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the  
outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

New York

14 March 2025

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Excellencies,

Suriname aligns itself with the Statement delivered by the distinguished representative of Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of the Caribbean Community, and wishes to add the following in its national capacity.

It is an honor to address you today as we commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Suriname, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the global community for this milestone. For three decades, the Beijing Platform for Action has served as a guiding light in our pursuit of gender equality.

Yet, the impact of the challenges we are facing globally clearly shows that the vision of the Beijing Platform for Action is more relevant than ever to achieve gender equality, peace and sustainable development.

Suriname has been steadfast in its commitment to realizing the goals set forth in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, despite socio-economic and other challenges. We firmly believe that sustainable development cannot be achieved without gender equality.

In recent years, there has been significant progress in enhancing legislation, policies and programmes towards achieving gender equality. Legislative measures include the adoption of the Law on Equal Treatment Regarding Labour Matters, the Law on Violence and Sexual Harassment in the Workplace and in 2024 the adoption of the New Civil Code in which significant amendments have been made, therefore eliminating the systemic discrimination against women across various domains.

In collaboration with various stakeholders there are ongoing efforts to eradicate violence against women, including awareness raising and capacity building of service providers. Through the Joint SDG program, gender awareness has been strengthened, notably through the empowerment of female pineapple farmers.

Mr.Chair,

Cooperation and equality between men and women is fundamental for a just development of our society. In this regard we recognize that continuity of programmes is an essential condition for establishing well-functioning structures.

Suriname is actively working to bridge development gaps, including through access to quality education, training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and by providing 24-hour electricity including through renewable energy, clean and safe drinking water, and other livelihood improvements, while prioritizing the specific needs of women and girls, including in rural, Indigenous and Tribal communities.

Mr. Chair,

The impact of climate change on our societies cannot be underestimated. Climate change, environmental degradation and related disasters magnify existing gender inequalities and pose unique and urgent threats to the rights, livelihoods, health, and wellbeing of women and girls worldwide.

In addressing climate change, Suriname, a carbon-negative nation, collaborates with international, regional and national partners on disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation, exemplified by a successful EnGenDER program.

In closing Chair, Suriname reaffirms its unwavering commitment to the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action and we believe that the Pact for the Future and its annexes provide a good basis to step up efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

I thank you.