



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
24 April 2012

Original: English

---

### Substantive session of 2012

New York, 2-27 July 2012

Item 2 (c) of the provisional agenda\*

**High-level segment: annual ministerial review**

### **Statement submitted by Fédération européenne des femmes actives au foyer, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

---

\* E/2012/100.

## Statement

The annual ministerial review of 2012 is an opportunity to address the regrettable inability to agree on conclusions at the fifty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, in 2012.

Rural women are generally more at risk of poverty and exclusion than either urban women or rural men. In our opinion, much of this inequality would be reduced if unremunerated work were to be recognized and supported in accordance with strategic objective H.3 of the Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995. Rural women's access to basic services, especially education, should also form part of a proposal for action by the Economic and Social Council. International Labour Organization work on the social protection floor should be included in the discussions, as should the Statistical Commission.

Specifically, we request the assembled ministers and the Economic and Social Council not only to agree on plans in line with the Beijing Platform for Action but also to implement any plans with consultative and reporting structures that include rural women and civil society.

---