

Commission on the Status of Women
Forty-ninth session
28 February to 11 March 2005

Panel VI: “Integration of gender perspectives in macroeconomics”

Summary submitted by the Moderator (Mr. Oscar de Rojas)

1. At its 17th meeting on 10 March 2005, the Commission on the Status of Women held a panel discussion followed by a dialogue on “Integration of gender perspectives in macroeconomics”. The panelists were: Nenadi E. Usman, Minister of State for Finance, Nigeria; Danny Leipziger, Vice President and Head of Network, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management, World Bank; Marco Ferroni, Sustainable Development Department, Inter-American Development Bank; Yassine Fall, Senior Policy Advisor on Gender Equality, United Nations Millennium Project; and Jayati Ghosh, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. An issues paper prepared by the Division for the Advancement of Women provided the framework for the discussion.
2. Participants recognized the adverse impact of women’s inequality on economic growth, and pointed out ways in which reduction in such inequalities would enhance economic growth. Participants discussed opportunities for identifying and integrating gender perspectives into macroeconomic policies and programmes, and clarified the linkages between macroeconomic and social issues. Participants emphasized that in order to meet the objectives of the Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals, macroeconomic policies had to take account of gender dimensions.
3. Participants found that awareness of gender perspectives in macroeconomics was gradually emerging in Governments and international organizations. Although, traditionally, macroeconomics examined the behaviour and market interaction of economic agents, such as households, enterprises and the State, it was now increasingly recognized that macroeconomic analysis had to review separately the impact of macroeconomic

