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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation  
and Development  
Sixth session  
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**COMMENTS MADE BY MEMBER STATES\* ON THE OUTCOME OF THE  
EXPERT MEETING ON MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN ORDER TO PROMOTE  
OPPORTUNITIES, GENEVA, 14-16 NOVEMBER 2001**

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\* The texts of the comments are reproduced in the form and language in which they were received (with minor editorial changes). The comment was received after the publication of the note prepared by the secretariat (TD/B/COM.3/44) entitled "Mainstreaming Gender to Promote Opportunities Through the Increased Contribution of Women to Competitiveness".

## **Republic of Kazakhstan**

The National Commission on Family and Women's Affairs under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan welcomes the efforts of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development and the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities on mainstreaming gender in order to promote opportunities.

In our point of view, recommendations of independent experts on this issue could be used by the UNCTAD member countries and be taken into consideration in the elaboration of Plans of Actions at national level.

Development of entrepreneurship among women is one of the major directions of the activities of the National Commission on Family and Women's Affairs under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan. So, we support the adoption of the Special Technical Assistance Programme on this matter. Kazakhstan is interested in:

Mainstreaming gender in the area of commodities:

Reviewing laws, policies and administrative practices, including customary and traditional laws, to ensure equal access to land ownership, right to property and earning, and credit in rural areas.

Providing business support services, such as marketing and business planning for women. Investments in developing microcredit, small and medium businesses for women.

Mainstreaming gender in ICT policy:

The issue of IT development in order to provide active participation of women in business demands more in-depth studies. The experience of Pakistan on providing computers and telecommunication at affordable prices to low-income families and the experience of other countries in IT development in rural areas should be taken into account.