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The 43<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council  
High-level panel discussion commemorating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and  
Platform for Action  
Geneva, 25 February 2020

## **Statement of the MIKTA Group of Countries**

Thank you, Madam President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the MIKTA group of countries, namely Mexico, Indonesia, Turkey, Australia and the Republic of Korea.

We have a long way to go until the full realization of our common vision set out in BDPA, but we recognize the achievements made and must build on them for further progress. We now have more girls in school than ever in history and women's political representation has doubled<sup>i</sup> since 1995.

It is time for us to take these positive narratives to the next level. In this respect, BDPA will remain our guiding document and we encourage all countries to intensify our efforts through concrete actions. The MIKTA countries will also join these efforts, as made clear in our Joint Communiqué adopted two weeks ago in Mexico City.

As the Secretary-General pointed out in his report<sup>ii</sup>, diverse global shifts, such as technological advances, climate change, ageing and migration, are not gender neutral and impact our endeavor to fulfill the human rights of women and girls everywhere.

Thus, we should join forces to prevent the potentially adverse implications of these changes for women and girls and integrate a gender perspective into our policies to

address them. We should also harness the potential of digital technologies to advance gender equality by closing the gender digital divide.

In our way forward in accelerating the implementation of BDPA, it is crucial to ensure that the voices of women are heard and acted upon. In this regard, we welcome the upcoming sixty-fourth session of CSW in New York and take note of a number of initiatives by MIKTA countries, including the Generation Equality Forum to be held in Mexico City and the preparation to establish Southeast Asian Network of Women Peace Negotiators and Mediators by Indonesia.

I thank you.

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<sup>i</sup> According to UN-Women calculations based on Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) data, as at 1 January 1995 and 1 January 2019, women's representation in national parliaments has doubled over the past 25 years from 12 per cent in 1995 to an average of 24.3 globally in 2019. See paragraph 179 of E/CN.6/2020/3.

<sup>ii</sup> Report of the Secretary-General to the Sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2020/3), *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*.