Madame Administrator,

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Chair of the UNIFEM Consultative Committee – composed of Chile, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sudan and Estonia. The Committee has been tasked by the General Assembly to provide guidance to UNIFEM as well as to advise the Administrator of the UNDP about the activities of the Fund.

Following its discussion at its 48th and 49th Annual Sessions on the criteria for resource allocation the Committee recommended at its 49th Annual Session on 17-18 March 2009 that UNIFEM provide an analysis of the criteria for resource allocation for a review of these by the Committee at an inter-sessional meeting and its inclusion as an Annex to the Report on the implementation of the UNIFEM Strategic Plan for the Annual Session of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board.

Accordingly the Committee had an initial review of the requested briefing note following its receipt at its inter-sessional meeting on 22 May 2009.

In this respect, I would like to convey that at the meeting the Committee expressed its overall appreciation of the information received. The members agreed that the issue at hand is both complex and challenging and requires more time for deliberations than the session allowed for.

The meeting indicated a variance of views among the members regarding the basic options and possible methodologies, as well as the consistency between the information requested by the Committee and the response provided. It was also highlighted that the issue should be seen within the context of the ongoing gender reform discussions.

H.E. Ms. Helen Clark
Administrator, UNDP
One UN Plaza
New York, New York 10017
As a result of its deliberations on 22 May the Committee expressed its wish to further continue, within the scope of the mandate accorded to it in the Annex of resolution A/RES/39/125, consideration of the information presented at a next inter-sessional meeting.

Madame Administrator, please find enclosed herewith the briefing note provided by UNIFEM in accordance with the Committee’s decision mentioned above.

Please accept, Madame Administrator, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Tiina Intelmann
Ambassador
Permanent Representative