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**FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT, GENDER EQUALITY,
AND THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE MONTERREY CONSENSUS**

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** The views expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the United Nations.*

Background

The aim of the 2002 United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development held in Monterrey, Mexico was to discuss how to mobilize and channel financial resources to meet the various commitments that international community has agreed to over the period of years. Particular attention was paid to the 2000 Millennium Development Goals adopted just two years earlier. The intense global lobbying campaign and the presence at the meeting of representatives of civil society and women's organizations had ensured that among the many financial commitments that were promised was that to gender equality and the empowerment

2. Mobilization of International Resources for Development: Foreign direct investment

The phasing out of Multifibre Arrangement (MFA) at the end of 2004 meant that smaller developing countries that have in the past benefited from preferential quota for their textile and clothing exports now find themselves unfavourably exposed to the full force of competition in the global market, particularly from China. From the evidence thus far, the much-feared negative impacts have not yet materialized or at least not in a significant scale. The future, however, remain uncertain as the developed countries have started to impose temporary restrictions while developing countries are faced with the pressing need to upgrade

and the Pacific, donor-funded health programs are concentrated mainly in the more accessible provinces, causing the variation of provincial health indicators to widen. Evidence on gender-related activities of ODA is found for one country, Kazakhstan, where it was reported to represent only 1 percent of technical assistance given to the country. In the Philippines, the phasing out of USAID's support for contraceptives also means that new funding is needed for its reproductive health programs.⁷

In order to evaluate the gender implications of micro and macro economic policies, it is

