



REMARKS BY Hon. Minister Consolée Uwimana

UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW70) – Rwanda National Statement

New York, 9 March, 2026

**Your Excellency Ms. Annalena Baerbock, President of the 80th
General Assembly;**

Madam Chair of CSW70;

Excellencies Heads of Delegation;

1. Rwanda is honoured to participate in the 70th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). We commend the adoption of the outcome document, of which we had the honour to co-facilitate together with Liechtenstein.

2. Access to justice is an important tool for achieving gender equality and challenging structural barriers to women’s rights and dignity.



3. In Rwanda, access to justice is understood, not only as having access to courts, but more importantly, benefitting from policies and legal frameworks that are responsive to women's realities.

Excellencies,

4. Among Rwanda's many interventions to promote women and girls, allow me to highlight:

5. First, the Isange One Stop Centres. These are holistic safe spaces that provide free, integrated, and care-based services - all over the country - to survivors of gender-based violence and human trafficking.

The package includes medical care, psychosocial support, legal aid, investigations, referrals to prosecution services, temporary shelter, and re-integration.

6. Second, in governance, Rwanda has by far exceeded the minimum quota for women's representation. Women hold 64% of seats in the



Chamber of Deputies, 46% in Senate, and 55% in the judiciary. The Chief Justice, the Prosecutor-General and Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission are women. Women are also visible in emerging sectors, such as biotechnology, space science and climate governance.

Lastly, Madam Chair, Excellencies,

7. Rwanda's commitment to advancing the rights, protection, and dignity of women extends its national borders, including through efforts to provide a safe environment for women and girls seeking refuge from conflict. In 2021, a girls' school from Afghanistan relocated to Rwanda, where the students have been able to continue their education in safety and are progressing well in their education.

8. Let me end by quoting the President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E Paul Kagame, in his International Women's Day message: "..... we celebrate the foundational role women continue to play in Rwanda's transformation. Your ingenuity and leadership continue to affirm a



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simple truth: a nation can only truly progress when inclusion and equality are upheld in every sphere.”

I thank you for your kind attention