



Chairperson
Commission on the Status of Women

28 February 2020

Excellencies,

I have the honour to refer to the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which is scheduled to be held from 9 to 20 March 2020 at UN Headquarters in New York.

Today, I received a letter from the Secretary-General (attached) in which he recommended that Member States, in the light of the global COVID-19 situation and its implications for intergovernmental meetings, take a decision in regard to the format and conduct of the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Specifically, the Secretary-General recommended that Member States decide to shorten and scale down the session; and that Member States and the Secretariat cancel all side events. The Secretary-General asked that a decision be taken soonest so that government delegations, representatives of civil society and other stakeholders can adjust their plans accordingly. He also strongly recommended that capital-based representatives refrain from travelling to Headquarters for the session.

Following consultations by the Bureau of the Commission, we recommend that Member States take a decision along these lines. We already had a briefing scheduled for Monday, 2 March, at 10.00 am, in preparation for the session. That meeting should enable us to agree on the recommendation of the Secretary-General.

I look forward to your support and participation at the meeting on 2 March.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mher Margaryan', written in a cursive style.

Mher Margaryan
Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia

All Permanent Representatives to the United Nations
New York