International Womens Day commemorated in New York around the UN System

Anne Hathaway UN Women Global Goodwill

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USPA NEWS - "Today, on International Women's Day, I'd like to thank all those who went before in creating our current policies," Hathaway said. "Let us honor them and build upon what they started by shifting our language, and therefore our consciousness, away from gender and towards opportunity." Anne Hatthaway

"As we meet today to celebrate the positive developments that have taken place over the years in the promotion and protection of women and girls' human rights, let us pause to recognize that this progress has often been slow, fragile and uneven, "? said Mr. Thomson.

He called on the even to recall that "if we are to achieve a future in which all women and men enjoy equal rights, empowerment, and opportunity, then we must commit to decisive action to overcome the entrenched obstacles still preventing progress."

Noting the theme of this year's International Day "" "Women in the Changing World of Work: Planet 50-50 by 2030' "" brings focused attention to a critical driver of gender equality, he said that if governments and other stakeholders are serious about achieving a "Planet 50-50 by 2030,' specific action must be taken now to accelerate the realization of gender equality.

Also today, the Organization's Rome-based agencies "" the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) "" reminded the world that women and girls play a crucial role in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular, the goal of eradicating hunger and extreme poverty. Leaders from the three agencies reinforced their commitments to step up efforts to invest in the capacities of rural women as key agents of change in building a world without hunger. Source: United Nations (UN).M2-UN-WomenDay

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