

**STATEMENT**  
Delivered by  
**MARIA ANGELA PONCE**  
Minister

for the  
**International Day of Forests**  
**“Forests and Energy”**

Tuesday, 21 March 2017, 10:00 am -1:00 pm  
Economic and Social Council Chamber, UNHQ, New York

Thank you Chair and we thank the panelists for their insights on gender and the role of women and on emerging technologies on biomass and alternative fuels

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY  
Allocated speaking time: 3 minutes

The projected net carbon benefit of implementing these and other forest protection and rehabilitation or plantation development activities would be equivalent to 302,278,878 tons of carbon.

Finally, we assure you of the Philippines' continuing commitment to the protection of forests, and to the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and its six (6) Global Forest Goals.

Thank you, Mr. Chair and we congratulate you on this celebration.