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GUEST: **PATRICIA LICUANAN**
Chairman, Thirty-Ninth Session
UN Commission on the Status of Women

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MODERATOR: Michael Littlejohns

THE STATUS OF WOMEN

PATRICIA LICUANAN, Chairman of the thirty-ninth session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, discusses a number of issues concerning the work of the Commission and the forthcoming World Conference on Women. Improvement in the status of women since the first World Conference on Women some 20 years ago has been limited due to social, cultural and religious barriers in many countries of the world. The Beijing Conference will address 11 areas of concern vital to achieving equality among men and women. Eradicating poverty and expanding health, educational and economic opportunities are prerequisite factors for women's economic and social development. Ms. Licuanan believes that the issue of accreditation to the Conference is handled according to the accreditation norms followed by the United Nations and that China will issue entry visas to all those accredited by the World Organization.

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