



Geneva NGO FORUM - Beijing+20  
UN ECE Regional Review

3-5 November, 2014

Palais des Nations - Geneva, Switzerland

act | advance | achieve | women's rights

# ♀ 20 IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

## GENEVA NGO FORUM BEIJING+20 – FINAL REPORT



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The NGO CSW Geneva wishes to thank the nearly 700 women's rights advocates and their organizations who committed time and resources to participate in the Forum and give substantive input for the Beijing+20 review process, including the speakers, moderators and rapporteurs of all the sessions, and all those who contributed abstracts, recommendations and other relevant information.

The NGO CSW Geneva is most grateful to its financial sponsors, beginning with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Forum main sponsor, as well as the State of Geneva, the City of Geneva, UN Women and the Permanent Mission of the United States in Geneva.

The NGO CSW Geneva wishes to express its sincere appreciation to the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UN ECE) for the close collaboration in preparing for this Beijing+20 Regional Review, as well as to the UN Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the UN Women Office for Europe and Central Asia in Istanbul for their commitment and assistance in the organization of the Forum.

Other forms of support were also received from the permanent missions of Canada and the Netherlands, as well as generous in-kind donations from individuals.

### Special thanks go to:

- Martine Brunschwig Graf, former National Councillor and former President of the State Council of Geneva
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- Elissa Golberg, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in Geneva
- Enkhtsetseg Miyegombo, Programme Specialist, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
- Ursula Funk, Senior Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation
- Ingibjorg Gisladotir, Director, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia
- Robin & Julia Goldsby, FAWCO Cultural & Youth Ambassadors (Forum Theme Song)
- Tarja Halonen, former President of the Republic of Finland
- Malinka Koparanova, Senior Social Affairs Officer & Gender Focal Point, UN ECE
- Anna Krahotin, 2<sup>nd</sup> Secretary, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations
- Monika Linn, Principal Advisor, UN ECE
- François Longchamp, President, State Council of the Canton of Geneva
- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women
- Michael Møller, Acting Director General, UNOG
- Anastasia Outkina, Head of NGO Services, Geneva Welcome Center (CAGI)
- Lakshmi Puri, UN Women Deputy Executive Director,
- Reinout Vos, Deputy Permanent Representative, Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Anne Woelfli, Interpretation Coordinator
- Soon Young Yoon and Ilona Graenitz, Presidents of the NGO CSW New York and Vienna

As well as all the volunteers and coordinators from IC Volunteers and Centre Genevois du Volontariat

# Geneva NGO Forum Beijing+20 Organizing Team

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Vice-President: **Make Mothers Matter Intl. (MMM)** / Valerie Bichelmeier

Treasurer: **The Salvation Army** / Sylvette Huguenin

Secretary: **Soka Gakkai International (SGI)** / Hayley Ramsay-Jones

Secretary: **Inter African Committee (IAC)** / Adebisi Adebayo

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Heli Bathija, Global Fund for Women

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Hayley Ramsey-Jones, Soka Gakkai International

Colette Samoya, Bangwee & Dialogues

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Elly Pradervand, WWSF

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Jocelyne Bruyère, Staff

Alice Santamaria, Tricia Cook & Thayvie Sinn, Interns

## PREFACE

### Beijing Plus 20: If Not Now, When?

The gathering at the NGO Forum convened by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW Geneva) for the UN Economic Commission for Europe region on 4-6 November, 2014 sort to precisely answer that question of the moment. It has been twenty years since the 4<sup>th</sup> Women's World Conference was held in Beijing in 1995 where the world governments under the auspices of the United Nations adopted the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in which twelve critical areas of concern were identified, and strategies agreed on how to achieve women's empowerment and human rights and contribute to a world of development, peace and equality.

The 700 participants who gathered in Geneva for the NGO Forum represented the diversity of experiences, economies, realities and history within the UNECE region. The women came from civil society networks, women's national and community groups, including persons with disabilities, the elderly, youth, rural and indigenous women. They gathered to claim the commitments of Beijing, to assert that the issues raised then were still as important today, and indeed that there are emerging issues and realities that must be addressed or taken into account in the world of today.

This report captures the experiences that were shared in the plenary sessions and the interactive roundtables. It captures the discussions and the recommendations that shaped and formed the key recommendations and the overall outcome document of the Forum. This report does not attempt to summarise all the details, but seeks to capture the key elements.

We are all indebted to the extensive collaborative work that went into producing this report, especially from the Task Force chairs, the roundtable convenors, moderators, speakers and organisers. It was an extraordinary feat to put the event together and much more so the report together. This document is an attempt and effort to honour the special moment,

knowing that each individual who participated in the Forum will always carry one all two lessons for applying in their own lives.

As NGO CSW Geneva Members, Bureau, and Task Force members, we whole heartedly extend our appreciation to all the partners who sponsored this forum, through financial or in-kind contribution. We extend our special appreciation to the Swiss Federal Government (SDC), the Canton of Geneva, and the City of Geneva; UNECE, UNOG, UN Women, and the many volunteers and friends.

As Co-Chairs, we also want to extend a special acknowledgment to Valerie Bichelmeier, Make Mothers Matter, and Vice President of the NGO CSW who coordinated this report, worked tirelessly with all stakeholders to enable us publish this report.

We invite you to read and share, as well as use this document in your daily efforts to advance gender equality and empowerment of women. If Not Today, When?

Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda  
Chair, NGO Forum Beijing+20 UNECE Review  
President, NGO Committee on the Status  
of Women, Geneva  
General Secretary, World YWCA

Simone Ovard  
Co-Chair NGO Forum Beijing+20 UNECE Review  
Main Representative UN Geneva, ZONTA Intl.







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## INTRODUCTION

This document voices the commitment and passion of the participants who gathered together on 3-5 November 2014 November in the Palais des Nations in Geneva to **Act, Achieve, Advance Women's Rights**.

The declaration and recommendations synthesizes input from around 700 women's rights advocates from 50 countries of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and beyond, representing more than 300 organizations from civil society, the UN system, governments and other stakeholders, and coming from very diverse cultural, ethnic, religious, economic and social backgrounds.

Over the three days, the Forum participants re-examined the Beijing message which was clear, to the point; and which is as relevant today as it was 20 years ago: *Women's rights and gender equality are central to the world's attainment of equality, sustainability, development and peace.*

Today, we still aspire for a world where we, women in our diversity and everywhere, enjoy our human rights, realise our full potential, and are fully respected members of society; a world in which our lifestyles, economies and relations contribute to the harmony of society, ecology and human wellbeing. We want a world free of violence; a world of peace, where democracy thrives and women can enjoy and exercise our full rights as citizens. **A world of accountability for all and by all.**

Beijing was about redistribution of power, resources, and opportunities between women and men. There was recognition and acknowledgement of the significant achievements made in the UNECE region - impacting women's lives, as well as at policy and institutional levels. However a clear consensus emerged that much still need to be done, and that *since 1995* progress has been stagnant, uneven, with a reversal of gains in some areas.

Globally and regionally we are at a tipping point with the convergence of multiple crises: financial, energy, climate and food. The austerity measures and tax or fiscal consolidation response to the economic and financial crises have resulted in unprecedented unemployment, drastic cuts to public expenditures, and

household level and overall social and economic insecurity, disproportionately impacting women and girls.

There is a global demographic shift to an aging population - particularly relevant to our ECE Region. The global gap between rich and poor grows daily.

We face a myriad of threats to the Beijing commitments. Women experience time poverty, over-burdened by unrecognised unpaid work deriving from their stereotypical role in reproduction and motherhood. In addition to gender mainstreaming approaches, we must emphasize addressing the root causes of inequality. Violations of and threats to girls and women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, call for protection and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and prior commitments,

### Outcome document

The Forum outcome document reflects the voices of the participants including those who did not have the opportunity to voice their opinion at the Forum who were given the possibility to submit written comments and give input after the forum. It is a collective outcome that also reflects the diversity of views on some issues.

In addition to the declaration itself, the Forum outcome document offers detailed recommendations on what must be done to strengthen and further the implementation of the BPfA, advance women's rights and gender equality, and achieve what women and girls need and want.



These recommendations are structured in 10 clusters, listed below in relation to the BPfA 12 critical areas of concerns:

- 1 Women's Rights are Human Rights: Accountability and Resource (Human Rights of Women)
- 2 Violence Against Women and Conflict: Building a Culture of Peace (Women and Armed Conflict)
- 3 Poverty, Economics and Social Development: Money Matters (Women and the Economy, Women and Poverty)
- 4 Participation and Decision-Making: Shifting Power (Women in Power and Decision-Making, Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women)
- 5 Environment and Climate Justice: People and Planet (Women and the Environment)
- 6 Human Rights and Migrant Women: Together in Solidarity (Women and Poverty)
- 7 Women and Health: Wellbeing for all (Women and Health)
- 8 Girls, Ageing and Intergenerational Justice: Building a Common Future (The Girl Child)
- 9 Education, Science, Technology and Innovation: Transformation for All (Education and Training of Women)
- 10 Media and Communications: Breaking Stereotypes (Women and the Media)

A shorter version of the outcome document was submitted to the UNECE for inclusion in the UNECE report to the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW59) and to the next UN General Assembly. An oral statement was also delivered at CSW59 during the session on regional reviews that highlighted some key points of the outcome documents.

We need an inclusive society in order to achieve the world we all want and achieve the desired global objectives for a just and fair society. To achieve this we cannot afford to ignore and exclude 50% of the citizens of this world.

Manjit Dosanjh,  
Chair of the Editing Committee

# FORUM PROGRAM

## MONDAY, 3 NOVEMBER

All sessions held in room XVII

### 15:00 – 16:00 **Opening Ceremony**

Master of Ceremony: Simone Overt, Forum Co-chair; UN Representative, ZONTA Intl.

- Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women (video message)
- Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair; General Secretary World YWCA
- Mr. Michael Møller, Acting Director-General, UN Office Geneva
- Mr. François Longchamp, President of the State Council for the Canton of Geneva
- Ms. Monika Linn, Principal Advisor UN ECE
- Ms. Ursula Funk, Senior Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation
- Ms. Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF); Elected Representative, Women's Major Group (WMG)

### *Musical interlude*

- Ms. Nihan Atalay, Flutist; Associate professor, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts State University, Istanbul



16:00 – 17:00 **act | advance | achieve women's rights – Where we stand in the UN ECE Region**  
**Critical overview – Sub-regional realities**

Moderator: Ms. Ingibjorg Gisladdottir, UN Women Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia

- Ms. Malinka Koparanova, Senior Social Affairs Officer & Gender Focal Point, UN ECE
- Ms. Joanna Maycock, General Secretary, European Women's Lobby (EWL)
- Ms. Kinga Lohmann, Founder & Executive Director, the KARAT Coalition
- Ms. Anna Arganashvili, Project Manager, Partnership for Human Rights, Georgia
- Ms. Monika Kocaqi, Freelance expert in Gender Responsive Budgeting & Gender Based Violence, Albania
- Ms. Barbara Byers, Secretary-Treasurer, Canadian Labour Congress

17:00 – 18:15 **A call for transformation**

Keynote by Prof. Dr. Ervin Laszlo, Founder of the Club of Budapest, President of the E. Laszlo Center for Advanced Studies; Philosopher of science and systems theorist, Editor of World Futures: The Journal of new paradigm research; Advisor to the UNESCO Director General; twice nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize

**Women's Rights: A Power to Create Change**

Panel & Interactive Discussion

Moderator: Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Gva President; Forum Chair; GS World YWCA

- Ms. Paivi Kannisto, Senior Gender Advisor, Government of Finland
- Mr. Patrick Taran, President, Global Migration Policy Association (GMPA)
- Ms. Selma Acuner, International Relations Coordinator, Women's Coalition, Turkey; UN Women GCSAG member
- Ms. Meliya Asanova, Director, "Independent Life" Assistance Center for People with Disabilities
- Ms. Katja Iversen, CEO, Women Deliver, USA

From 18:45 **Reception at the Palais Ariana, sponsored by the City of Geneva**

Welcome remarks by Martine Brunschwig Graf, former National Councillor and former President of the State Council of Geneva

## TUESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER

9:00 – 9:30

### Introductory Session – Room XVII

Greeting messages from NGO Committee on the Status of Women New York & Vienna

- Ms. Soon Young Yoon, President, NGO CSW New York; UN Representative IAW
- Ms. Ilona Graenitz, President, NGO CSW Vienna; UN Representative IFUW

Introduction to the Interactive Roundtables & Organization of Work

- Ms. Elly Pradervand, Chair, TF Beijing+20/Substantive Issues, NGO CSW Geneva; Founder & CEO WWSF

9:30 – 11:00

Interactive Roundtables on 2 critical areas of concern & 2 emerging issues

In parallel sessions

### 1) Women and Poverty – Room XXIII

Conveners: Ms. Renate Bloem, UN Rep., CIVICUS

Ms. Elly Pradervand, UN Rep., Founder & CEO, WWSF

M. Melik Ozden, UN Rep., CETIM

Moderator: Ms. Renate Bloem, UN Rep., CIVICUS

Speakers: Ms. Caren Grown, Senior Director, Gender, World Bank Group

Ms. Francine Mestrum, Researcher, CETIM & Global Social Justice, Belgium

Ms. Diana Skelton, ATD Fourth World (Quart Monde)

Ms. Marilou McPhedran, Professor and Director, Institute for International Women's Rights at Global College, University of Winnipeg

Ms. Bettina Fredrich, Social Policy Desk, Caritas, Switzerland

Ms. Margaret Owen, Director, Widows for Peace through Democracy, UK

### 2) Education and Training of Women – Room XVII

Conveners: Ms. Hayley Ramsay-Jones and Kazunari Fujii, UN Rep., Soka Gakkai Intl.

Ms. Sabine Kinzer and Ms. Wilfrida Hendrickx, UN Rep., Soroptimist International

Moderator: Ms. Danièle Castle, Executive Director, Intl. Federation of University Women

Keynote: Ms. Maria Luisa Frosio, University Professor and Education & Training Advocate

Roundtable Ms. Claire de Lavernette, Main UN Rep. Geneva, OIDEL

Facilitators: Ms. Susanna Hast, Specialist in Feminist Security Studies

M. Richard Hart, Trainer and Consultant on Gender Equality

**i) Human Rights and Migrant Women – Room IX**

- Conveners: Ms. Joyce Jett, International Representative, Solar Cookers Intl. & MCDI  
 Ms. Colette Samoya, Fondatrice de BANGWE et Dialogue  
 M. Patrick Taran, President, Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA)
- Moderators: Ms. Joyce Jett & Colette Samoya
- Speakers: Ms. Krishna Ahooja-Patel, International Representative, WILPF  
 M. Patrick Taran, President, GMPA  
 Ms. Gloria Moreno Fontes, Senior Labour Migration Specialist, ILO  
 Ms. Monica Cristea, Vice-chair, RIFFI; Board member, EnoMW  
 Ms. Nunu Kidane, Director, Priority Africa Network

**ii) Science, Technology & Innovation for the Advancement of Women – Room XI**

- Convener: Ms. Manjit Dosanjh, UN Rep., IFUW; CERN; Chair of Editing Committee, Taskforce Beijing +20, NGO CSW Geneva
- Moderator: M. Jose Mariano Gago, Professor at IST and LIP, Lisbon, Portugal  
 Ms. Ewa Ruminska-Zimny, President, International Forum of Women in Science and Business, Poland
- Speakers: Ms. Susan Schorr, Head of Special Initiatives, ITU  
 M. Stephan Monterde, Director, CISCO Systems  
 Ms. Zoya Apevalova, Coordinator of International Relations, Federation of University Women, Russia  
 Ms. Audrey Van Belleghem, Anita Borg Institute, USA

**11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break**

**11:30 – 13:00** Interactive Roundtables on 3 critical areas of concern and an emerging issue  
 In parallel sessions:

**4) Violence against Women – Room XVII**

- Convener: Ms. Marie-Claude Julsaint, Global Program Manager for VaW, World YWCA
- Moderator: Ms. Triin Käpp, Pastor, Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church
- Speakers: M. Jackson Katz, filmmaker and Co-founder, Mentors in Violence Prevention  
 Ms. Marilou McPhedran, Professor and Director, Institute for International Women's Rights, Global College, University of Winnipeg  
 Ms. Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard, President, Zonta International  
 Ms. Pierrette Pape, Policy Officer & Project Coordinator, European Women's Lobby



### 6) Women and the Economy – Room XXIII

- Conveners:** Ms. Valerie Bichelmeier, UN Representative, Make Mothers Matter (MMM); Vice-President, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva  
 Ms. Catherine Bosshart, UN Representative, International Federation of Business & Professional Women (IFBPW)
- Moderator:** Ms. Valeria Esquivel, Gender Focal Point, UNRISD
- Speakers:** Ms. Joanna Manganara, President, International Alliance of Women (IAW)  
 Ms. Anne-Claire de Liedekerke, President, Make Mothers Matter (MMM)  
 Ms. Margunn Bjørnholt, Feminist Economist & Director, Policy and Social Research AS, Norway  
 Ms. Subada Shiralayeva, Director, International Center Women & Modern World (CWMW), Azerbaijan  
 Ms. Amelia Espejo, Policy Advisor, International Organization of Employers (IOE)

### 10) Women and the Media – Room IX

- Conveners:** Ms. Elly Pradervand, UN Rep., Founder & CEO, WWSF  
 UNESCO represented by Alton Grizzle, Program Specialist, Communication and Information Sector UNESCO Designated Manager, Global Alliance on Media and Gender (GAMAG)  
 Lois A. Herman, Coordinator WUNRN, Women’s UN Report Network
- Moderator:** Annika Nyberg Frankenhaeuser, Director, European Broadcasting Union
- Speakers:** Alton Grizzle, Program Specialist, Section Media & Society, UNESCO  
 Donatella Martini, WECAMS/Donne in Quota, Women’s European Coalition Against Media Sexism  
 Frieda L. Werden, Veteran Media Specialist & Women’s Advocate, Women’s International News Gathering Service  
 Oleksandra Kunovska Mondoux, UN Representative, World Federation of Ukrainian Women’s Organizations

**iii) Older Women – Room XI**

- Conveners: Ms. Silvia Perel-Levin, UN Rep, International Longevity Centre Global Alliance (ILCGA)  
 Ms. Ursula Barter Hemmerich, UN Rep., International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)
- Moderator: Ms. Bridget Sleap, Senior Rights Policy Adviser, HelpAge International, UK
- Speakers: Ms. Elizabeth Sclater, Executive Officer, Older Women's Network (OWN), UK  
 Ms. Irene Hoskins, President, Chevy Chase at Home; Immediate Past President of International Federation on Ageing (IFA), USA  
 Ms. Andrea Ferenczi, President, Association for Women's Career Development, Hungary  
 M. Israel Doron, Head, Department of Gerontology, Haifa University, Israel  
 Ms. Lisa Warth, Technical Officer, Department of Ageing and Life Course, WHO; Coordinator of WHO Global Network of Age-friendly Cities Communities

**13:00 – 14:30 Lunch Break**

**14:30 – 16:00** Interactive Roundtables on 4 critical areas of concern  
 In parallel sessions:

**3) Women and Health – Room XXIII**

- Conveners: Ms. Manjit Dosanjh, UN Rep., International Federation of University Women (IFUW)  
 Ms. Afton Beutler, UN Rep., Mothers Legacy Project
- Moderator: Ms. Alanna Armitage, Director, UNFPA
- Speakers: Ms. Elizabeth Carll, Coordinator, CMH Global Mental Health Action Plan & NCDs Initiatives, USA  
 Ms. Iliana Balabanova-Stoycheva, Coordinator of the Bulgarian Women's Lobby; Member of Gender Research Foundation, Bulgaria  
 Ms. Katja Iversen, CEO, Women Deliver, USA  
 Ms. Nancy B. Finn, Healthcare Journalist, Global Alliance for Women's Health

**7) Women in Power and Decision-making – Room XI**

- Conveners: Ms. Heli Bathija & Ms. Catherine D'arcangues, UN rep., Global Fund for Women
- Moderator: Ms. Claudia Zwart, Global Women Leadership Foundation
- Speakers: Ms. Torild Skard, International Alliance of Women, Norway  
 Ms. Natalia Karbowska, Chair, Ukrainian Women's Fund, Ukraine  
 Ms. Staminira Hadjimitova, Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation, Bulgaria

**8) Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women – Room IX**

Convener: Ms. Simone Ovar, UN Representative, Zonta International; Forum Co-Chair

Moderator: Ms. Erika Kvapilova, Social Scientist, UN Women Representative, Georgia

Speakers: Ms. Kareen Jabre, Head of partnership between men and women, IPU  
 Ms. Annette Lawson, UN Representative, NAWO, UK  
 Ms. Jean Bolen, UN Representative and 5WCW, Pathways to Peace, USA  
 Ms. Kathleen A. Lahey, Faculty of Law, Queen’s University, Canada  
 Ms. Dilovar Kabulova, Director, Civic Initiatives Support Center, Uzbekistan

**9) Human Rights of Women – Room XVII**

Convener: Ms. Rita Muyambo, Head of Programs, World YWCA

Moderator: Ms. Ilona Graenitz, Austrian Board Member, European Women’s Lobby;  
 President, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Vienna

Speakers: Ms. Veronica Birga, Chief, Women’s Human Rights and Gender Section,  
 OHCHR  
 Ms. Ana Paradowska, Young women Gender Advocate, Poland  
 Ms. Helga Konrad, International Consultant and Coordinator of the ‘Regional  
 Implementation Initiative on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking’  
 Ms. Donika Godaj, Executive Director of YWCA, Albania

16:00 – 16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30 – 18:00 Interactive Roundtables on 3 critical areas of concern and an emerging issue  
 In parallel sessions:

**5) Women and Armed Conflict – Room IX**

Convener &  
 Moderator: Ms. Krishna Ahooja Patel, UN Rep., WILPF

Speakers: Ms. Madeleine Rees, Secretary General, WILPF  
 Ms. Mia Gandenberger, Expert on Military Expenditures  
 Ms. Kateryna Levchenko, Director of La Strada, Ukraine  
 Rehana Hashmi, refugees expert from Pakistan

### 11) Women and the Environment – Room XXIII

- Convener: Ms. Adebisi Adebayo, Senior Advocacy Officer, IAC
- Moderator: Ms. Lorena Aguilar, Global Sr. Gender Advisor, IUCN
- Speakers: M. Michel Jarraud, Secretary General, WMO  
 Ms. Hilary Gbedemah, CEDAW member  
 Ms. Nadejda Vakhitova, Representative, Women of Mountains Group, Uzbekistan  
 Ms. Irene Dankelman, Adviser, WEDO  
 Ms. Corrine Hart, Director, Cleanstoves  
 Ms. Ewa Larsson, President, Green Women  
 Ms. Liliya Abbazova, Youth Program Coordinator, Association for the Environmentally Clean Fergana, Uzbekistan

### 12) The Girl-Child – Room XI

- Convener & Moderator: Ms. Anne Guyaz, Coordinator, NGO-Coordination post Beijing Switzerland
- Speakers: Ms. Petra Stipanic, Ambassador, World Association of Girl Guides & Girl Scouts  
 Ms. Natalie Trummer, Executive Director, TERRE DES FEMMES, Switzerland  
 Ms. Susan O'Malley, Vice Chair, NGO CSW/NY

### iv) Men & Boys for Gender Equality – Room XVII

- Conveners: Ms. Elly Pradervand, White Ribbon Secretariat; UN Rep., Founder & CEO, WWSF  
 M. Ricardo Espinosa, Head of Development and Global Initiatives, Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue (GCHRAGD)
- Moderator: M. Ricardo Espinosa, Swiss White Ribbon Ambassador
- Speakers: M. Mehmet Carikci, Ambassador, Perm. Mission of Turkey to the UN  
 M. Nago Humbert, Founder & President, Médecins du Monde-Suisse; Swiss White Ribbon Ambassador  
 Dr. Ervin Laszlo, Founder, Club of Budapest; President, E. Laszlo Center for Advanced Studies; Advisor to the UNESCO Director General

## WEDNESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER

All sessions held in Room XVII

### 9:00 – 10:00 **The future women and girls need: how can we make it happen?**

Panel & Interactive Discussion

Moderator: Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, President NGO CSW Geneva; General Secretary World YWCA

- Ms. Lakshmi Puri, UN Women Deputy Executive Director, Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships Bureau & Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Ms. Kristin Engvig, Founder & CEO, Women's International Networking (WIN)
- Ms. Jensine Larsen, CEO & Founder, World Pulse
- Ms. Alanna Armitage, Director, UNFPA Office in Geneva
- H.E. Ms. Elissa Golberg, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in Geneva

### 10:00 – 10:30 *Coffee Break*

### 10:30 – 11:30 **Key Conclusions & Recommendations from the Interactive Roundtables**

Presentation & Interactive Discussion

- Ms. Manjit Dosanjh, Chair TF Beijing+20/Editorial Committee; UN Representative for IFUW
- Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair; General Secretary World YWCA

### 11:30 – 12:30 **Closing ceremony**

Master of Ceremony: Simone Ovar, Forum Co-chair; UN Representative, ZONTA Intl.

- Ms. Tarja Halonen, former President of the Republic of Finland
- Ms. Ingibjorg Gisladdottir, UN Women Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia
- Ms. Jane Connors, Director, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Mr. Reinout Vos, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Chair UNECE
- Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair; General Secretary World YWCA

#### **Forum Theme Song: "Maybe It's You"**

Music by Julia Goldsby; Lyrics by Robin Goldsby  
Performed by

- Ms. Julia Goldsby, FAWCO Youth Ambassador
- Ms. Robin Goldsby, FAWCO Cultural Ambassador



12:30 – 15:00 *Lunch Break*

15:00 – 17:00 **Advocacy/Lobby Session for participants attending the UN ECE meeting – Room XXIII**

Convener &  
Moderator: Ms. Elly Pradervand, Founder & CEO – Women’s World Summit Foundation (WWSF)

Speakers: Ms. Sonia Heptonstall, UN Main Representative, Solar Cookers International (SCI)

Mr. Hamish Jenkins, United Nations Non-governmental Liaison Service (NGLS)

Ms. Pierrette Pape, Policy Officer and Project Coordinator, European Women’s Lobby (EWL)

Ms. Carolina Rodriguez, Head, International Geneva Perception Change Project, Office of the UN Director Geneva



# GENEVA NGO DECLARATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS



## Original outcome document in English

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*This outcome document is the direct result of the Forum including 16 roundtables which were organized during this 3-day event on the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action and 4 emerging and/or cross-cutting issues. A draft version was presented at the intergovernmental Beijing+20 UN ECE Regional Review meeting on 6-7 November 2014. This final version integrates participants comments received in the aftermath of the Forum.*

## French translation

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*Ce document résulte directement du Forum, notamment des 16 tables-rondes qui ont été organisées sur chacun des 12 domaines critiques de la Plateforme d'Action de Beijing, et sur 4 questions transversales et/ou émergentes. Une première version de ce document a été présentée à la réunion intergouvernementale de la CEE sur l'examen régional Beijing+20 qui s'est tenue immédiatement après le Forum les 6-7 novembre 2014. Cette version finale incorpore les commentaires des participants reçus dans les jours qui ont suivi le Forum.*

## Russian translation

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*Этот итоговый документ выступает непосредственным результатом работы Форума, во время которого в течение трех дней были проведены 16 круглых столов, на которых обсуждались 12 важнейших проблемных областей, обозначенных в Пекинской платформе действий, и 4 новых актуальных сквозных проблемных вопроса. Проект этого документа был представлен на межправительственном региональном совещании ЕЭК ООН по обзору Пекин+20, которое проходило 6-7 ноября 2014 года. Эта итоговая версия включает в себя комментарии, полученные после завершения Форума.*





## NGO DECLARATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

We, the 700 participants in our diversity from around 350 groups, networks, and institutions and 56 countries of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe region, gathered in Geneva from 3-5 November 2014 for the NGO Forum review of the Beijing Platform for Action and recommendations for the future. The 1995 Beijing Platform for Action for Equality, Development and Peace was a historic political commitment to women's rights and empowerment to advance gender equality and take forward the ethos of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The Beijing message, building upon the prior international conferences on women, population and environment, was clear, to the point and is as relevant today as it was 20 years ago: *Women's rights and gender equality are central to the world's attainment of equality, sustainability, development and peace.*

Today, we still aspire for a world – including our ECE region – where we, women in our diversity and everywhere, enjoy our human rights, realise our full potential, and are fully respected members of society; a world in which our lifestyles, economies and relations contribute to the harmony of society, ecology and human wellbeing. We want a world free of violence; a world of peace, where democracy thrives and women can enjoy and exercise our full rights as citizens. **A world of accountability for all and by all.**



NGO Declaration being handed over to Mr. Reinout Vos Deputy, Permanent Representative for the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Chair of the UN ECE

### CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE ECE REGION

Beijing was about redistribution of power, resources, and opportunities between women and men; and fundamentally addressed patriarchy and stereotyping.

We recognise and celebrate the significant achievements made in this region impacting women's lives, as well as at policy and institutional levels.

- 1 Tremendous progress has been made on **education** in many countries in the region. Many girls and young women have opportunities to access tertiary and vocational education, although regional disparities still exist.
- 2 Fewer women die in pregnancy and childbirth from preventable causes and more women have access to modern contraception. However, many still lack of access to information and services especially young women, minority, indigenous and migrant women.
- 3 Strong women's organizations and civil society networks in communities, and at all levels, support women's empowerment and advance rights and equality. In some countries there is restrictive space for civic engagement, and women's groups remain underfunded.
- 4 Increased numbers of women in decision-making, although uneven across sectors and regions.
- 5 Strong Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women at national and international levels, including the establishment of UN Women. However, these remain largely underfunded and poorly resourced, particularly in countries that have reduced their annual revenues through tax cuts and other fiscal measures.
- 6 Strong normative, legal and policy frameworks are being established to address a range of issues including women in decision-making, education

policies, and responding to violence against women. However, these are undermined by the lack of full implementation, compliance and accountability.

- 7 Data collection and dissemination has improved, but there is still an immense need for more gender, age, birth registration, marital status, geographical and income, and disability disaggregated data and information.
- 8 Gender responsive budgeting has been a positive approach in the region though not applied to all sectors by all countries.
- 9 UN Security Council Resolution 1325/2000, and subsequent resolutions focusing on violence against women, a result of women's organising, was landmark. However, impunity continues.

The ECE region is economically and socially diverse, and many changes over the last 20 years raise **deep concerns** for sustainability, women's rights and human rights. We are at a tipping point as a region with convergence of multiple crises: financial, energy, climate and food. The austerity measures and tax or fiscal consolidation response to the economic

and financial crises has resulted in unprecedented unemployment, drastic cuts to public expenditures, and household level and overall social and economic insecurity, disproportionately impacting women and girls. We recognize the global demographic shift to an aging population – particularly relevant to our ECE Region. The global gap between rich and poor grows daily. According to UNECE, *“Since 1995 progress has been stagnant, uneven and a reversal of gains in some areas. Measures dealing with the financial crisis have been gender [insensitive].”*

We face a myriad of threats to the Beijing commitments. Women experience time poverty; overburdened by unrecognised unpaid work deriving from their stereotypical role in reproduction and motherhood. In addition to gender mainstreaming approaches, we must emphasize addressing the root causes of inequality. Violations of and threats to girls and women's sexual and reproductive health and rights, call for protection and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and prior commitments, ICPD and CEDAW in the post 2015 agenda as well as regional instruments such as the convention on preventing and combating violence against and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention). Transformation requires addressing



the structural and macro issues that perpetuate inequalities, discrimination and exclusion.

The increase in violent extremism, bio-politics, and wide range of population phobias, has resulted in the restriction of individual freedom. Militarization is increasingly used as the answer to conflict, resulting in gross violations of human rights of women and girls not only in this region but globally, and increasing military and arms expenditures at the expense of social and human rights protections.

The approach to development cooperation has been shifting, inextricably linking development, aid, trade, investment and foreign policy; reducing women's rights to a sub-text of global capitalism rather than central to achievement of peace and sustainable development. Financing for civil society and women's organising has been reduced to government subcontracting, jeopardizing fundamental civil society self-organizing and partnership.

We are especially appalled by the situation of women in specific regions on certain issues. Increasing unemployment in Central Asia and Eastern Europe, and complacency toward women's issues in Western Europe and North America, reinforce and compound one another. Violence against women and girls remains pervasive, and is further perpetuated through technology and social media. Racial discrimination, especially against migrants who are often undocumented and have no public voice, results in gross violations of women's rights. Women in vulnerable situations, including indigenous women and women with disabilities, experience disproportionate rights violations; while girls and older women lack social protections. Girls and young women face psychological pressures, including sexualisation of their bodies and destructive body image.

Therefore, we call for:

**1** Fulfilment of the Beijing commitments to all interconnected and universal human rights and systematic implementation of a women's rights approach delivered through and monitored by strong well-funded Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women at every level of government; buttressed by an accountability, resourcing, tax and public fiscal and revenue framework capable of sustainably financing progressive realization of women's human rights.

**Every woman, every right,  
every minute.**

**Everyone is responsible.  
The time is now.**

*Declaration adopted on 5<sup>th</sup> of November, 2014  
at the United Nations, Geneva; Switzerland.*

- 2** Women are at the heart of sustainable development; the post-2015 SDG agenda must include a clear and **stand-alone goal on gender equality and women's rights** with clearly articulated means of implementation for women's rights and empowerment. Girls and women's rights must be recognized throughout the other SDG goals and specific strategies.
- 3** CEDAW must remain the framework for monitoring and accountability of government commitments.
- 4** We demand women's equal access to resources including land, credit and funding towards intergenerational social, cultural, development, environmental, economic, civil and political rights and justice;
- 5** Robust and sustained investment in women and girls' rights including Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights; ending violence against all women and girls; and particularly ending child, early and forced marriage as well as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM);
- 6** Urgent and systematic focus on women of all ages as users, shapers and leaders of new technologies.
- 7** Sharing power with young women and girls as leaders and agents of change and ensuring responsibility and accountability of men and boys for gender equality.

# SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE FORUM:

## 1. Women's Rights are Human Rights: Accountability and Resources

- a. Resource full commitment and implementation of CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, UN Resolution 1325, and all human rights instruments as the global policy framework for women's rights, empowerment, and gender equality and ensure mainstreaming across all post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and frame as **a stand-alone goal** with robustly resourced indicators.
- b. Partner and adequately fund women's organizations and civil society for advancing and implementing the commitments of the Beijing Platform for Action and the post-2015 agenda.
- c. Implement existing laws and policies that protect human rights for all women, every minute and everywhere, especially for girls, young women and older women, ethnic minorities, indigenous women, Roma women and girls, women with disabilities, rural women, and LGBTI persons.
- d. Ensure that all gender mainstreaming is 'twin-track,' with provision for special programmes for women and girls including women-only spaces.
- e. Ensure robust financial and human resources for national machineries and entities for gender equality, including bilateral and multilateral institutions such as the United Nations.
- f. Strengthen oversight mechanisms such as parliament and ombudspersons.
- g. Ensure comprehensive monitoring frameworks for gender equality through well-resourced national machineries, independent human rights institutions and comprehensive disaggregated data.
- h. Ensure access to justice redress and remedial actions in cases of violations of women's human rights.
- i. Ensure full civil and birth registration for all.
- j. Develop, implement and fully fund legal aid systems, accessible to all women especially in rural areas and vulnerable situations, ensuring competency of legal consultants to provide legal assistance including in economic, family, civil and criminal matters.
- k. Support the legal literacy of all women and girls.
- l. The promotion and protection of women's human rights is the responsibility of all, especially governments and society, including men and boys.



## 2. Violence Against Women and Conflict: Building a Culture of Peace

### Violence Against Women

- a. Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls
- b. All programmes to prevent and eradicate VAW must include women of all ages, including indigenous women, women with disabilities, widows, single mothers, child witnesses of domestic violence, women in armed conflict and post-conflict settings, women murdered under discourses of honour, lesbian and trans women, and rural women.
- c. Eradicate harmful practices including child, early and forced marriage, discrimination against widows, FGM and sexualisation of girls' and women's bodies.
- d. End criminalisation of victims and impunity of perpetrators through effective gender justice systems, and acting in solidarity with women and girls experiencing conflict, prostitution, occupation, violations of sexual and reproductive rights, and situations of crisis including in Ukraine and Palestine.
- e. Grant migrant women and undocumented women who are victims of prostitution and trafficking with residence permits, and develop prevention policies in countries of origin.
- f. Implement, with due diligence and accountability, existing laws and policies through protection, service provision, prevention, prosecution, and partnership with women's organizations.
- g. Sign, ratify and effectively implement the Istanbul Convention on Violence Against Women.
- h. Transform gender stereotypes that normalize and trivialise violence against women and girls.
  - i. Ensure national laws criminalize non-State torture perpetrated by non-State actors and hold perpetrators accountable for gender-based non-State torture crimes.
  - j. Redefine masculinities, re-socialize and educate boys to respect women and girls, and increase participation and accountability of men and boys in violence prevention and gender equality.
  - k. Partner with faith based communities and cultural leaders to prevent violence against women and girls.
  - l. Establish non-discriminatory reporting systems and support victims during legal processes as well as gender sensitive training of police and legal professionals.
  - m. Provide One-Stop Centres with medical/legal/social supports for victims, and fully resource short-term shelters and permanent affordable housing for women and children as well as vocational training for survivors to become self-supporting.
  - n. Address new and emerging forms of violence against women and girls, including violence such as increased pornography as a consequence of new technologies, and ensure cyber safety for girls.

### Women and Conflict

- a. Military expenditure has grown globally by 2% each year since 1995. Reduce military expenditure by a minimum of 2% per annum to bring compliance with the Beijing Platform for Action and robustly resource development to ensure progressive realization of social and economic rights from a gender perspective.
- b. Implement Resolution 1325 through applying affirmative action/quota systems for decision-making in conflict prevention, peace negotiations, peace making and peace building.

- c. Ensure conflict prevention by addressing power structures that facilitate and encourage conflict and occupation. The political economy of power, the cause of violence at all levels, is highly gendered.
- d. Implement and enforce a new norm of accountability and end liability of victims and impunity of perpetrators, including perpetrators of the violence of occupation as well as arms traders.
- e. Ensure the equal participation of women in peace processes providing financial support to them to organise during conflict and under occupation and engage in meaningful consultations.
- f. Ensure continued social, economic and psychological support for women after
  - agreements have been reached to maintain women's participation post-conflict.
- g. Prioritise support for women in situations of displacement to end their invisibility, address issues such as sexual violence, killings under the discourse of honour, civil status and statelessness, and trafficking and sexual exploitation including early marriage.
- h. Grant asylum to women and children who flee their country by recognizing sexual and gender-based violence as legitimate grounds for asylum.
- i. Consult with women in the military as to how to change military cultures which condone, encourage and deepen violence against women.

### 3. Poverty, Economics and Social Development: Money Matters

- a. Develop an alternative macro-economic framework, based on a women's human rights approach, that institutionalizes feminist economics at all levels and in all policy domains, particularly in the tax, fiscal and transfer domains. Ensure transparency and facilitate monitoring by women's organizations.
- b. Institutionalise and implement gender responsive budgeting at all levels and in all policy domains, including in government procurement policies.
- c. Reform all national and other fiscal systems to provide progressive redistributive tax revenues that generate annual revenues sufficient to finance the progressive realization of women's equality rights, and to eliminate all gender discrimination and sex role stereotypes embedded in tax and spending measures.
  - d. Eliminate the gender pay-gap and take necessary steps to ensure equal pay for work of equal value, implementing specific economic policies and measures for the lowest income segment.
  - e. Ensure labour market policies and practices recognise and value motherhood and family care work, and ensure opportunities and support to balance these responsibilities with flexible work and careers and take effective measures to close the gender pension gap.
  - f. Recognise the social and economic value of unpaid care work, and reduce the negative gendered impacts on women through redistribution of care services *within and* between households and adequate government services.
  - g. Address women's time poverty by resourcing and ensuring access to high-quality public services and infrastructure including clean

water, energy, transportation, ICTs, health care and childcare.

- h. Adopt, implement and enforce laws on social protection and against gender-based discrimination in the labour market and within the economy, including the informal economy.
- i. Promote women's entrepreneurship and economic autonomy/empowerment through education, training, resources and innovation; with special focus on women in vulnerable situations.
- j. Ensure and extend the provision of social protection in times of economic crisis, especially part-time workers, unpaid care workers, and women working in informal or other sectors in precarious jobs.
- k. Ensure women's access to safe, secure and adequately paid work, free of intimidation, harassment and violence.
- l. Ensure and monitor that investment and trade policies and practices respect local

ownership and management of natural resources, including water, minerals, energy resources and forests, in the region and globally.

- m. Regulate and hold companies based in ECE countries accountable for women's rights and abuses, including banks and multi-nationals, especially in extractive industries in countries around the world. Use the UN guiding principle for Business and Human Rights as a basis for legal frameworks.
- n. Introduce disability-responsive budgeting; invest in programmes to address lack of education and unemployment among women and girls with disabilities; ensure lifelong protection of human rights.
- o. Implement a broad-based program of study and knowledge mobilization on the causes of poverty, broadening the scope and understanding of the causes including impacts of divorce on women, in response to the unacceptable rates of people living under and around the poverty line in ECE countries.

#### 4. Participation and Decision-Making: Shifting Power

- a. Implement measures to achieve an equal distribution of decision-making power between women and men, including parity/quotas in political leadership, economic governance and all other sectors, and ensure leadership that advances women's rights.
- b. Ensure governance and electoral systems are women-friendly, replacing plurality with proportional representation or mixed systems, and adopt other critical measures to ensure women's access to political and economic decision-making.
- c. Develop effective communication strategies that support women's access to decision-

making and ensure leadership that advances women's rights, including gender equality in micro and macro- economic policy-making processes.

- d. Ensure adequate financial, moral, social support and opportunities for all women's effective participation in political and public life; including to women's organisations and networks.
- e. Include women's and feminist NGOs and lobby groups in legal and decision-making processes to ensure women's perspectives and realities are reflected and addressed in law and policy.

- f. Develop and strengthen mechanisms for young women's participation in political leadership.
- g. Abide by the duties to develop democratic societies and civic dialogue; support women's organisations and protect human rights activists/defenders.
- h. Make institutional arrangements for a Fifth World Conference on Women to address emerging gender equality issues, women's access to power and decision-making, and creating and strengthening institutional mechanisms for women's rights. Broadcast the Conference over the Internet.
- i. Ensure public sector and parliamentary accountability to women's rights and empowerment through gender-responsive policy, budgeting and programmes.
- j. Robustly resource, and reverse austerity funding cuts to institutional mechanisms that advocate for women's rights and gender equality.
- k. Ensure strong and robustly funded Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women to protect achievements from being eroded and to further advance gender equality and women's rights, and do not cut tax revenues which are an important source of funding for gender equality and women's rights.
- l. Ensure that the entire public sector is gender-aware and actively working for gender equality, including through public sector reform and networks to support gender-responsive policy and action.

## 5. Environment and Climate Justice: People and Planet

- a. Recognise women's rights and gender equality as central to the achievement of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.
- b. Systematically include a women's rights and gender equality perspective in all aspects of domestic and development environmental, climate, water, forest, biodiversity, transport and energy policy, research and data collection at all levels.
- c. Incorporate intergenerational and gender equality in climate and environmental policy and programmes through increased participation of young women in decision-making at all levels, including the UNFCCC.
- d. Ensure legal and policy protection of indigenous and women's rights in land and natural resources, extraction and pollution prevention, especially by private interests and corporations.
- e. Invest in innovative alternative technologies and recognise and value indigenous-owned knowledge for environmental and climate justice.
- f. Ensure effective participation of women for climate governance at all levels.
- g. Ensure women's access to, control over and ownership of land and natural resources, including in post-conflict, post-disaster and post-displacement situations.
- h. Prevent and monitor the trafficking of women and girls following environmental and climate-related disasters.
- i. Hold ECE-based corporations accountable for women's rights violations, including gender-based and sexual violence, in all communities where industries are located.



- j. Reduce the burden of climate change on women vis à vis commitments made by governments and the impacts of development and environmental policies.
- k. Ensure adequate resourcing for environmental and climate justice, including

for eliminating reliance on high-risk energy sources such as fossil fuels and nuclear energy, especially for communities at risk and for women's networks and organisations as partners for change.



## 6. Human Rights and Migrant Women: Together in Solidarity

- a. Uphold and promote equality and non-discrimination for all migrant women, recognizing first and foremost their humanity and dignity.
- b. Reframe the discourse and framework on migrant women to recognize that human rights are women's rights, which are inherently migrant women's rights.
- c. Extend the Beijing Platform for Action with specific reference to the condition of all migrant women and girls, regardless of status.
- d. Ratify and fully implement all international conventions on migration as well as international labour standards to strengthen the protection of migrant women.
- e. Empower migrant women to self-organize, support migrant women's organizations, and facilitate networking and advocacy by migrant organizations and women organizations.
- f. Recognize and regularize all migrant women and their children; extend social protection, social security, and full health care, including covering sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- g. Support migrant family unity and integrity by family reunification policies and an immediate end to deportation practices that separate families.
- h. Provide equal treatment for refugees, asylum seekers and displaced women.
- i. Provide quality secondary, vocational, and tertiary education and lifelong learning for migrant girls and women particularly to support integration and access to employment.
- j. Allocate robust financial, political, diplomatic and legislative resources and efforts to prevent trafficking of girls and women, recognizing the lifelong impacts of displacement, lack of legal protection, and associated trauma.

## 7. Women and Health: Wellbeing for All

- a. Protect women's rights and freedom of choice to control their body, fertility and sexuality.
- b. Ensure political will, commitment to and investment in making sexual and reproductive health and rights a reality for all, including ensuring access to age-appropriate evidence-based comprehensive sexuality and HIV education, as well as women's and girls' access to legal, safe, modern and free contraception, abortion services and family planning to end preventable maternal mortality and morbidity.
- c. Urgently address the emerging incidence of sex selection and foetal abortion in some ECE countries.
- d. Ensure accessible, affordable and quality health care services to all to ensure health for women and reduce women's unpaid care burden.
- e. Ensure gender specific health research and medical practices.
- f. Provide comprehensive mental health care services and support for all women of all ages.
- g. Provide effective health care services targeted at non-communicable diseases, including diabetes and heart disease.
- h. Provide free breast cancer screening and free access to testing for and treatment of cervical cancer, especially Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in young women.
- i. Leverage opportunities of technology for women's access to health information and services.
- j. Protect women's rights and choice to control our bodies, fertility and sexuality.
- k. Support and promote nutrition for holistic health and wellbeing.
- l. Protect and fulfil women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- m. Protect the right of women to decide freely whom to marry and whether and when to marry and have children.
- n. Ensure every woman has access to a clean and healthy environment, especially water, sanitation and clean cooking technologies.
- o. Ensure women's equal access to health care services throughout her life course, including women's shelters, without discrimination based on legal or migration status, disability, sexual exploitation, prostitution and/or sex work<sup>1</sup>, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age or religion.

1 There are divergent views on the issue on prostitution/sex work that were exposed during the Forum; in order to honor and respect both views reflective language is used in the document.



## 8. Girls, Ageing and Intergenerational Justice: Building a Common Future

- a. Adopt an intergenerational justice approach to women's human rights and empowerment, recognising the specific priorities, needs and circumstances of women at different of stages of their life course, especially for girls and older women, and mothers.
- b. Eliminate age-based stereotypes which undermine the full potential and effective participation and leadership of women and girls of all ages.
- c. Develop an international convention on the rights of older persons incorporating rights articulated in CEDAW.
- d. Raise and implement the legal minimum age of marriage to 18, as part of full implementation of CRC and CEDAW.
- e. Recognize young women as a critical population group in achieving development and ensure young women's effective participation in leadership and decision-making at all levels.
- f. Ensure older women adequate income to live in dignity and implement social protection laws and policies that enable older women to be autonomous, full participants in the development of society.
- g. Recognize and address the intergenerational dimensions of all forms of violence, abuse and neglect.
- h. Collect, analyse, report and utilize data disaggregated by sex, age, disability and marital status.
- i. Enable age-friendly rural and urban physical and social environments, structures and services accessible to, and inclusive of, older women with varying capacities, especially women with disabilities.
- j. Recognise and support intergenerational mentorship and solidarity through specific activities including in care work.
- k. Ensure that every girl enjoys full human rights, including mutual respect and equal partnership between girls and boys and among women and girls of all ages.

## 9. Education and Training; Science, Technology and Innovation: Transformation for All

- a. Fulfil every woman and girl's right to safe, quality free education including primary, secondary, tertiary, vocational and non-formal education.
- b. Ensure that every girl has access to age-appropriate evidence-based comprehensive sexuality and HIV education.
- c. Ensure leadership development, social and life skills for girls; enhance confidence, integrity, and critical thinking skills.
- d. Include human rights education in school curricula at all levels to promote of culture of peace, inclusion, respect for diversity and women's rights.
- e. Promote the importance of girls' education, providing incentives to encourage communities in vulnerable situations to send their daughters to school, and eliminate discrimination against children from minority ethnic and social groups.

- f. Bridge the gendered digital divide through increase the use of technology, for access to quality education, especially in conflict and insecure situations.
- g. Resource community-based safe spaces for inclusive, continuing and lifelong education.
- h. Actively promote initiatives to improve girls' awareness about and involvement in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) and encourage private companies in the ICT field to offer gender-balanced internship opportunities.
- i. Support and encourage educational programmes to increase the digital and scientific literacy of women and girls.
- j. Ensure use of ICTs in schools, include Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in curricula; enhance girls' awareness and involvement in STI, hence increasing the digital and scientific literacy of women and girls.
- k. Encourage the private sector to collect, analyse and share data on gender perspectives in STI to document the gaps in access for women and girls and develop strategies to address these gaps, including practical support to young women scientists.
- l. Build a new platform for cooperation and networking among all actors to facilitate advancement of women.

## 10. Media and Communications: Breaking Stereotypes

- a. Develop effective legislation and gender-responsive policy that prohibits sex/gender discrimination in all forms of media and communications, and establish regulatory mechanisms to monitor gender discrimination and stereotyping.
- b. Ensure media regulation to stop the proliferation of negative and violent images, videos and stereotypes that degrade, undermine the dignity of women, and violate their rights and privacy.
- c. Develop and regularize training on women's rights and gender stereotypes for all media professionals.
- d. Ensure support for, development and financing of alternative media, created and owned by women, that portrays women as leaders and positive role models working for development and peace.
- e. Ensure protection for women journalists and human rights defenders, especially in politically sensitive environments including conflict situations.
- f. Harness the potential of social media to advance women's human rights and empowerment while ensuring adequate protection, privacy and safety of women.



## NGO DECLARATION & RECOMMENDATIONS – French\*

Nous, les 700 participants, présents dans notre diversité, représentants d'environ 350 groupes, réseaux et institutions de la société civile des 56 Etats membres de la Commission économique européenne (CEE) des Nations Unies, nous sommes rassemblés à Genève du 3 au 5 novembre 2014 au sein du Forum des Organisations non-gouvernementales (ONG) afin d'examiner la mise en œuvre du Programme d'Action de Beijing, et de formuler des recommandations pour l'avenir. Le Programme d'Action de Beijing de 1995 pour l'Égalité, le Développement et la Paix fut un engagement politique historique en faveur des droits et de l'autonomisation des femmes, de la promotion de l'égalité des genres et de la mise en pratique des principes contenus dans la Convention sur l'élimination de toutes les formes de discrimination à l'égard des femmes (CEDEF). Le message de Beijing, renforçant ceux de conférences internationales antérieures sur les femmes, la population et l'environnement, était clair, précis, et aussi pertinent aujourd'hui qu'il l'était il y a 20 ans: «*Les droits des femmes et l'égalité des genres sont essentiels pour que le monde réalise les objectifs d'égalité, de durabilité, de développement et de paix*».

Aujourd'hui, nous aspirons toujours à un monde – y compris dans notre région de la CEE – où toutes les femmes dans leur diversité et partout dans le monde jouiraient de leur droits humains, réaliseraient tout leur potentiel, et seraient respectées par tous les membres de la société; un monde où nos styles de vie, nos réalités économiques et nos relations humaines participeraient à l'harmonie de la société, de l'environnement et au bien-être.

Nous voulons un monde libre de violence, un monde de paix, où la démocratie prospère et où les femmes puissent jouir et exercer l'ensemble de leurs droits en tant que citoyennes; **un monde de prise de responsabilité pour tous et par tous.**

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### CÉLÉBRER LES RÉSULTATS ACCOMPLIS DANS LA RÉGION DE LA CEE

La conférence de Beijing a porté sur une redistribution du pouvoir, des ressources et des opportunités entre les hommes et les femmes et, fondamentalement, a abordé les problèmes de patriarcat et de stéréotypes.

Nous reconnaissons et célébrons les réalisations importantes de cette région et leur impact sur la vie des femmes, ainsi qu'aux niveaux des politiques et des institutions.

- 1 Des progrès énormes ont été accomplis pour l'éducation dans de nombreux pays de cette région. De nombreuses filles et jeunes femmes ont aujourd'hui accès à une éducation tertiaire ou professionnelle, même si des disparités régionales existent encore.
- 2 Moins de femmes meurent pendant leur grossesse ou à l'accouchement de causes évitables, et plus de femmes ont accès aux moyens de contraception modernes. Malgré cela, il subsiste un problème de manque d'accès à l'information et aux services, surtout parmi les femmes jeunes, de minorités, de communautés indigènes et parmi les femmes migrantes.
- 3 Des organisations féminines fortes et des réseaux de la société civile dans les communautés et à tous les niveaux, contribueront à l'autonomisation des femmes et à la promotion de leurs droits et de l'égalité. Relevons cependant que, dans certains pays, l'espace pour l'engagement civique est restreint et que les associations féminines manquent de financement.
- 4 Les statistiques concernant la présence de femmes au niveau des postes décisionnels sont en hausse, mais de façon inégale selon les secteurs et les régions.
- 5 Des cadres institutionnels forts pour la promotion de la femme, au niveau national et au niveau international, notamment ONU Femmes,

ont été mis en place, mais demeurent sous-financés et souffrent d'un manque de ressources, en particulier dans les pays qui ont réduit leurs revenus annuels par des réductions d'impôts et autres mesures fiscales.

- 6 Des cadres normatifs, légaux et politiques forts, existent pour aborder certains problèmes, notamment en ce qui concerne l'accès des femmes aux postes décisionnels, les politiques d'éducation et la réponse à la violence à l'égard des femmes. Ils sont cependant compromis par une application incomplète, un manque de conformité et un déficit de responsabilité.
- 7 La collecte et la dissémination de données statistiques s'est améliorée, mais les besoins en données désagrégées selon le sexe, l'âge, l'état matrimonial, le lieu géographique, le revenu et le handicap restent importants.
- 8 La budgétisation sensible au genre est une approche qui commence à se développer dans la région, mais elle reste à appliquer dans tous les secteurs dans tous les pays.
- 9 La résolution 1325/2000 du Conseil de Sécurité des Nations unies ainsi que les résolutions qui ont suivi sur les violences à l'égard des femmes, produits de la mobilisation des femmes, ont fait date. Malgré tous ces efforts, l'impunité continue.

La région de la CEE est économiquement et socialement diverse, et de nombreux changements survenus au cours de ces 20 dernières années suscitent de vives inquiétudes en ce qui concerne la durabilité, les droits humains et les droits des femmes. Nous sommes arrivés à un point critique, dans une région qui souffre d'une convergence de crises multiples: financière, énergétique, climatique et alimentaire. Les mesures d'austérité et les consolidations fiscales mises en place en réponse à la crise économique et financière ont entraîné un chômage sans précédent, des coupes drastiques dans les dépenses publiques, et une insécurité économique et sociale générale, y compris au niveau des foyers, qui affectent les femmes et les filles de façon disproportionnée.

Nous prenons acte qu'il y a une transformation démographique globale vers un vieillissement de la population – un phénomène particulièrement pertinent dans le cas de notre région de la CEE.

Globalement, l'écart entre les riches et les pauvres augmente quotidiennement. D'après la CEE-ONU, « depuis 1995, les progrès ont stagné, ou ont été inégaux, voire ont rétrogradé dans certaines régions. Les mesures adoptées pour faire face à la crise financière n'ont pas été sensibles au genre. »

Nous nous trouvons devant une multitude de menaces qui pèsent sur les engagements de Beijing. Les femmes font l'expérience de la pauvreté; surchargées de travail non rémunéré et non reconnu du fait de leur rôle reproductif stéréotypé. En plus de l'intégration du genre, nous devrions mettre l'accent sur des politiques qui s'attaquent aux causes profondes de l'inégalité. Les violations et les menaces sur la santé et les droits sexuels et reproductifs des femmes et des filles appellent à la protection et à la mise en œuvre du Programme d'Action de Beijing, et des engagements antérieurs, de la Conférence internationale sur la population et le développement et de la CEDEF dans l'agenda Post-2015, ainsi que des instruments régionaux tels que la Convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur la prévention et la lutte contre la violence à l'égard des femmes et la violence domestique (Convention d'Istanbul). Une transformation requiert d'aborder les causes structurelles et les problématiques de macro-niveau qui perpétuent les inégalités, la discrimination et l'exclusion.

La montée du fondamentalisme violent, de la biopolitique, et d'un large spectre de phobies populaires a conduit à des restrictions des libertés individuelles. La militarisation est de plus en plus utilisée face aux conflits, résultant d'une part en de graves violations des droits humains des femmes et des filles, non seulement dans cette région, mais également au niveau mondial et, d'autre part, dans des dépenses militaires toujours plus importantes au détriment de la protection sociale et des droits humains.

L'approche dans la coopération pour le développement a évolué, reliant inextricablement le développement, l'aide, le commerce, les investissements et les politiques étrangères, réduisant ainsi le sujet des droits des femmes à un sous-titre du capitalisme global, au lieu de le mettre au centre de la réalisation de la paix et du développement durable. Le financement de la société civile et des organisations féminines s'est réduit à une sous-traitance des gouvernements, mettant en danger la capacité de la société civile à s'organiser et à établir des partenariats.

Nous sommes particulièrement choqués par la situation des femmes dans certaines régions. Par exemple, la hausse du chômage en Asie Centrale et en Europe de l'Est, ainsi que la suffisance de l'Europe de l'Ouest et de l'Amérique du Nord vis-à-vis des questions concernant les femmes, sont des phénomènes qui s'additionnent et se renforcent mutuellement. La violence à l'égard des femmes et des filles reste omniprésente, et est exacerbée par la technologie et les réseaux sociaux. La discrimination raciale, en particulier à l'égard des femmes migrantes qui sont souvent sans papiers et n'ont aucune voix, conduit à de graves violations de leurs droits. Les femmes en situations précaires, notamment les femmes des communautés indigènes et les femmes handicapées, souffrent de façon disproportionnée de violations des droits humains, alors que les filles et les femmes âgées souffrent d'un manque de protection sociale. Les filles et les jeunes femmes doivent faire face à des pressions psychologiques, notamment en regard de la sexualisation de leur corps, et de leur propre image.

C'est pourquoi nous demandons :

- 1 La réalisation des engagements de Beijing sur tous les droits humains, universels et indissociables, et l'application systématique d'une approche basée sur les droits des femmes, mise en œuvre et contrôlée par des Mécanismes institutionnels pour la Promotion de la Femme qui soient solides et bien financés à chaque niveau de gouvernement ; épaulée par un cadre de responsabilisation, de ressources et de fiscalité capable de financer de façon durable la réalisation progressive des droits des femmes.
- 2 Les femmes sont au cœur du développement durable ; l'agenda post-2015 doit comporter un objectif à part, clairement affiché en faveur de l'égalité des genres et des droits des femmes, avec des moyens clairement énoncés de mise en œuvre des droits des femmes et de leur autonomisation. Les droits des filles et des femmes doivent être présents dans tous les autres objectifs de développement durable (ODD) et leurs stratégies spécifiques.
- 3 La CEDEF doit rester le cadre privilégié pour la surveillance et la responsabilisation des gouvernements vis à vis de leurs engagements.

## Chaque femme, chaque droit, chaque minute. Chacun est responsable. Et c'est maintenant.

*Déclaration adoptée le 5 novembre 2014  
aux Nations Unies, Genève, Suisse.*

- 4 Nous exigeons que les femmes aient égalité d'accès à toutes les ressources économiques, notamment la terre et le crédit, et que la réalisation des droits et la mise en œuvre d'une justice intergénérationnelle sociale, culturelle, de développement, environnementale, économique, civile et politique soit correctement financée.
- 5 Un investissement solide et soutenu dans les droits des femmes et des filles, notamment les droits sexuels et reproductifs ; l'élimination de la violence à l'égard de toutes les femmes et les filles ; et notamment la fin des mariages précoces et forcés ainsi que des mutilations génitales féminines.
- 6 Une attention urgente et systématique doit être portée aux femmes de tous âges en tant qu'utilisatrices, conceptrices et leaders dans le domaine des nouvelles technologies.
- 7 Partager le pouvoir avec les jeunes femmes et les filles en tant que dirigeants et catalyseurs de changement et assurer la responsabilité et l'obligation de rendre compte des hommes et des garçons en ce qui concerne l'égalité des genres.

# NOS RECOMMANDATIONS

## 1. Les droits des femmes sont des droits humains : responsabilisation et ressources

- a. Assurer les ressources nécessaires au plein engagement et à la mise en œuvre de CEDEF, du Programme d'Action de Beijing, de la Résolution 1325 des Nations unies et de tous les instruments des droits humains, comme cadre de politique globale pour les droits des femmes, leur autonomisation et l'égalité des genres; et assurer leur intégration dans tous les Objectifs de Développement durable post-2015 et les identifier sous un Objectif spécifique avec des indicateurs pourvus de ressources conséquentes.
- b. Créer des partenariats et assurer un financement adéquat aux organisations féminines et à la société civile pour l'avancement et la mise en œuvre des engagements du Programme d'Action de Beijing et de l'agenda post-2015.
- c. Appliquer les lois et les politiques en vigueur qui protègent les droits de toutes les femmes, chaque minute et partout, particulièrement en ce qui concerne les filles, les jeunes femmes et les femmes plus âgées, les minorités ethniques, les femmes des populations indigènes, les femmes et les filles roms, les femmes handicapées, les femmes qui habitent en zone rurale et les personnes LGBTI.
- d. Garantir que l'intégration du genre soit systématiquement appliquée dans les politiques, et complétée par des programmes spéciaux pour les femmes et les filles, y compris des espaces réservés aux femmes.
- e. Assurer des ressources humaines et financières solides aux organismes nationaux pour l'égalité des genres, ainsi que les institutions bilatérales et multilatérales telles que les Nations unies.
- f. Renforcer les mécanismes de surveillance tels que le parlement et les médiateurs.
- g. Garantir des cadres de surveillance complets pour l'égalité des genres via des mécanismes nationaux dotés de ressources importantes, des institutions pour les droits humains qui soient indépendantes et des données désagrégées détaillées.
- h. Assurer l'accès aux réparations et mesures correctives juridiques dans les cas de violations des droits des femmes.
- i. Garantir l'enregistrement des naissances et de l'état civil complet pour tous.
- j. Développer, mettre en application et financer intégralement des systèmes d'aide juridique, accessibles à toutes les femmes, particulièrement celles qui habitent en zone rurale et celles qui sont en situation de vulnérabilité, garantissant une assistance juridique compétente, y compris en matière d'affaires économiques, familiales, civiles et criminelles.
- k. Soutenir l'alphabétisation juridique des femmes et des filles.
- l. La promotion et la protection des droits des femmes est la responsabilité de tous, en particulier des gouvernements et de la société, y compris les hommes et les garçons.



## 2. Violence à l'égard des femmes et conflits : développer une culture de paix

- a. Eliminer toutes formes de violence à l'égard des femmes et des filles.
- b. Tous les programmes pour la prévention et l'élimination de la violence à l'égard des femmes doivent inclure des femmes de tous âges, y compris les femmes indigènes, les femmes handicapées, les veuves, les mères célibataires, les enfants témoins de violence domestique, les femmes dans des situations de conflit armé ou post-conflit, les femmes assassinées sous le couvert de « crimes d'honneur », les femmes lesbiennes et transgenre, et les femmes résidant en zone rurale.
- c. Eliminer les pratiques nocives telles que les mariages d'enfants, forcés ou précoces, la discrimination envers les veuves, les mutilations génitales féminines et la sexualisation des corps des femmes et des filles.
- d. Mettre un terme à la criminalisation des victimes et à l'impunité des auteurs d'agression par des systèmes de justice efficaces et sensibles aux questions de genre, et agissant en solidarité avec les femmes et les filles qui font l'expérience de conflits, de la prostitution, de l'occupation, de violations des droits sexuels et reproductifs, et de situations de crise en Ukraine et en Palestine.
- e. Accorder des permis de résidence aux femmes migrantes et aux femmes sans papiers qui sont victimes de prostitution et de trafic, et développer des politiques de prévention dans leur pays d'origine.
- f. Appliquer, avec diligence et responsabilisation, les lois et les politiques existantes au travers de la protection, la provision de services, la prévention, les poursuites judiciaires et le partenariat avec les organisations féminines.
- g. Signer, ratifier et mettre en œuvre de façon efficace la Convention d'Istanbul sur la Violence à l'égard des Femmes.
- h. Transformer les stéréotypes liés au genre qui normalisent et banalisent la violence à l'égard des femmes et des filles.
- i. Garantir que les lois nationales criminalisent la torture par des acteurs non-étatiques et demandent des comptes aux auteurs de crimes de torture non-étatiques perpétrés pour des questions liées au genre.
- j. Redéfinir les masculinités, resocialiser et éduquer les garçons à respecter les femmes et les filles, et accroître la participation et la responsabilisation des hommes et des garçons dans la prévention de la violence et l'égalité des genres.
- k. Former des partenariats avec des groupes confessionnels et des dirigeants culturels pour prévenir la violence à l'égard des femmes et des filles.
- l. Etablir des systèmes de compte-rendu qui soient non-discriminatoires et apporter un soutien aux victimes pendant les procédures légales ainsi que former les professionnels des domaines juridique et policier à la question du genre.
- m. Mettre en place des centres uniques qui fournissent une aide médicale/légale/sociale aux victimes, et allouer toutes les ressources nécessaires aux refuges à court terme ainsi qu'au logement permanent abordable pour les femmes et les enfants, ainsi qu'une formation professionnelle pour les survivantes de façon à ce qu'elles acquièrent leur indépendance économique.
- n. Combattre les formes de violence nouvelles et émergentes à l'égard des femmes et des filles, notamment la violence comme conséquence des nouvelles technologies et assurer la cybersécurité des filles.

### Les femmes et les conflits

- a. Globalement, les dépenses militaires ont augmenté de 2% chaque année depuis 1995. Réduire les dépenses militaires d'un minimum de 2% par an de façon à être en conformité avec les engagements du Programme d'Action de Beijing, et assurer des ressources solides au développement de façon à assurer la réalisation progressive des droits économiques et sociaux dans une perspective liée au genre.
- b. Mettre en œuvre la résolution 1325 par la mise en place de systèmes de mesures préférentielles/quotas pour la prise de décision dans la prévention des conflits, les négociations de paix, le rétablissement et la consolidation de la paix.
- c. Assurer la prévention des conflits en adressant les structures de pouvoir qui facilitent et encouragent le conflit et l'occupation. L'économie politique du pouvoir, cause de la violence à tous les niveaux, est très influencée par les questions de genre.
- d. Mettre en place et appliquer de nouvelles normes de responsabilisation et mettre fin à la responsabilité des victimes et à l'impunité des auteurs de violence, notamment de celle liée à l'occupation ainsi que celle des marchands d'armes.
- e. Assurer l'égalité de participation des femmes dans les processus de paix en leur procurant un soutien financier pour qu'elles puissent s'organiser pendant un conflit et sous une occupation et engager des consultations sérieuses.
- f. Assurer un soutien social, économique et psychologique continu aux femmes après que des accords aient été conclus pour qu'elles puissent continuer de participer pendant la période post-conflit.
- g. Donner priorité au soutien aux femmes en situation de déplacement pour mettre fin à leur invisibilité, traiter leurs difficultés telles que la violence sexuelle, les assassinats sous couvert de questions d'honneur, les problèmes liés à l'état civil et au statut d'apatride, et le trafic et l'exploitation sexuelle, notamment le mariage précoce.
- h. Garantir l'asile aux femmes et aux enfants qui fuient leur pays en reconnaissant la violence sexuelle et liée au genre comme motif légitime de demande d'asile.
- i. Consulter les femmes militaires sur la façon de changer les cultures militaires qui tolèrent, encouragent et accentuent la violence à l'égard des femmes.

### 3. Pauvreté, économie et développement social : questions d'argent

- a. Développer un cadre macro-économique alternatif, basé sur les droits des femmes, qui institutionnalise l'économie féministe à tous les niveaux et dans tous les domaines de la politique publique, notamment dans les domaines de l'imposition, de la fiscalité et des transferts. Garantir la transparence et faciliter la surveillance par les organisations de femmes.
- b. Institutionnaliser et mettre en œuvre une budgétisation sensible au genre à tous les niveaux et dans tous les domaines de politique publique, y compris les politiques d'achat gouvernementales.
- c. Réformer tous les systèmes fiscaux nationaux et autres de façon à ce qu'ils fournissent des recettes fiscales progressives et redistributives

qui génèrent des revenus annuels suffisants pour financer la réalisation progressive des droits des femmes à l'égalité, et pour éliminer toute discrimination liée au genre et les stéréotypes sur les rôles des sexes enracinés dans les mesures fiscales et de dépenses.

- d. Éliminer l'écart de rémunération entre les hommes et les femmes et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour garantir un salaire égal pour un travail de valeur égale, mettant en place des politiques et des mesures économiques spécifiques pour les populations aux revenus les plus faibles.
- e. Veiller à ce que les politiques et les pratiques dans le marché du travail reconnaissent et valorisent la maternité et les soins aux membres de la famille, et offrir des possibilités et un soutien pour équilibrer ces responsabilités avec une flexibilité dans le travail et dans les carrières professionnelles, et prendre les mesures nécessaires pour supprimer l'écart de retraite entre hommes et femmes.
- f. Reconnaître la valeur sociale et économique des soins non rémunérés et réduire leur impact négatif sur les femmes par la redistribution des services de soin au sein des ménages, et entre les ménages et les services gouvernementaux appropriés.
- g. Reconnaître le peu de temps disponible qu'ont les femmes et allouer des ressources et garantir l'accès à des services publics et des infrastructures de qualité, notamment eau propre, énergie, transports, TIC (technologies de l'information et de la communication), soins de santé et garde des enfants.
- h. Adopter, mettre en œuvre et faire respecter les lois sur la protection sociale et contre la discrimination liée au genre dans le marché du travail et au sein de l'économie, y compris l'économie informelle.
- i. Promouvoir l'entrepreneuriat et l'autonomie/ la capacité d'agir économique des femmes à travers l'éducation, la formation, les ressources et l'innovation ; avec une attention particulière aux femmes dans des situations de vulnérabilité.
- j. Assurer et élargir la protection sociale en périodes de crise économique, notamment pour les personnes travaillant à temps partiel, celles qui procurent des soins non-rémunérés et les femmes travaillant dans les secteurs informels et autres dans des emplois précaires.
- k. Assurer aux femmes l'accès à un travail qui soit correctement rémunéré avec de bonnes conditions sanitaires et de sécurité, libre de toute intimidation, harcèlement ou violence.
- l. Garantir et surveiller que les politiques et pratiques en matière d'investissement et de commerce respectent la prise en charge locale et la gestion des ressources naturelles, notamment l'eau, les minéraux, les ressources énergétiques et les forêts, dans la région et globalement.
- m. Réglementer et imposer que les compagnies basées dans les pays de la CEE rendent des comptes en matière des droits des femmes et des abus dont elles font l'objet, y compris les banques et les multinationales, notamment les industries extractives de par le monde. Utiliser le principe directeur des Nations unies pour le commerce et les droits humains comme base de cadre légal.
- n. Introduire une budgétisation qui prenne en compte le handicap ; investir dans des programmes qui combattent le manque d'éducation et le chômage chez les femmes et les filles handicapées ; garantir la protection des droits humains tout au long de la vie.
- o. Mettre en place un programme large de mobilisation de la recherche et des connaissances sur les causes de la pauvreté, en élargissant le cadre d'études et en élucidant les causes, notamment l'impact du divorce sur les femmes, pour répondre au nombre inacceptable de personnes vivant sous ou près du seuil de pauvreté dans les pays de la CEE.

#### 4. Participation et prise de décision, transfert du pouvoir

- a. Mettre en place des mesures pour atteindre un partage égal du pouvoir décisionnel entre femmes et hommes, notamment une parité ou des quotas dans la direction politique, la gouvernance économique et tous les autres secteurs, et garantir une direction qui fasse progresser les droits des femmes.
- b. Garantir que les systèmes de gouvernance et les systèmes électoraux soient favorables aux femmes, remplaçant la pluralité par la représentation proportionnelle ou bien des systèmes mixtes, et adopter d'autres mesures essentielles pour assurer l'accès des femmes à la prise de décision politique et économique.
- c. Développer des stratégies de communication efficaces en faveur de l'accès des femmes à la prise de décision et qui garantissent une direction qui favorise les droits des femmes, y compris l'égalité des sexes dans les processus de définition des politiques de micro- et macro-économie.
- d. Donner à toutes les femmes des possibilités et un soutien financier, moral et social adéquat pour permettre leur participation effective dans la vie publique et politique ; notamment aux organisations et aux réseaux de femmes.
- e. Inclure les ONGs et les groupes de pression de femmes et féministes dans les processus légaux et décisionnels pour garantir que les perspectives et les réalités des femmes soient traduites et prises en compte dans les lois et les politiques.
- f. Développer et renforcer les mécanismes de participation des femmes jeunes dans la direction politique.
- g. Se conformer aux obligations de développer des sociétés démocratiques et un dialogue civique ; soutenir les organisations de femmes et protéger les activistes/défenseurs des droits humains.
- h. Prendre des dispositions institutionnelles pour convenir une Cinquième Conférence mondiale sur les Femmes où soient adressés les questions d'égalité des genres, l'accès des femmes au pouvoir et aux prises de décision, et la création et le renforcement des mécanismes institutionnels pour les droits des femmes. Diffuser la Conférence sur Internet.
- i. Garantir la responsabilisation du secteur public et du parlement en ce qui concerne les droits des femmes et leur autonomisation par l'adoption de politiques, budgets et programmes qui soient sensibles au genre.
- j. Procurer des ressources solides, et revenir sur les coupes budgétaires d'austérité, envers les mécanismes institutionnels qui défendent les droits des femmes et l'égalité des genres.
- k. Garantir des Mécanismes Institutionnels pour la Promotion des Femmes qui soient forts et solidement financés, pour empêcher l'érosion des acquis et continuer à promouvoir l'égalité des genres et les droits des femmes, et ne pas réduire les recettes fiscales qui sont une source importante de financement de l'égalité des genres et des droits de femmes.
- l. Garantir que le secteur public tout entier est sensible au genre et œuvre activement à l'égalité des genres, y compris par une réforme du secteur public et la mise en place de réseaux qui soutiennent les politiques et les actions sensibles au genre.

## 5. Environnement et justice face au climat : les peuples et la planète

- a. Reconnaître la place centrale des droits des femmes et de l'égalité des genres dans la réalisation de l'agenda de développement durable post-2015.
- b. Inclure à tous les niveaux et de façon systématique une perspective en faveur des droits des femmes et de l'égalité des genres dans tous les aspects de politique, recherche et collecte de données – domestiques et de développement – sur l'environnement, le climat, l'eau, la forêt, la biodiversité, le transport et l'énergie.
- c. Incorporer une égalité des genres ainsi qu'inter-générationnelles dans les politiques et programmes du climat et de l'environnement en augmentant la participation des femmes jeunes dans la prise de décision à tous les niveaux, y compris à la CCNUCC.
- d. Garantir une protection légale et politique des droits des populations indigènes et des femmes sur les terres et les ressources naturelles, l'extraction et la prévention de la pollution, particulièrement par des groupes d'intérêt et des entreprises privés.
- e. Investir dans les technologies innovantes alternatives et reconnaître et apprécier la valeur des connaissances détenues par les peuples indigènes pour une justice de l'environnement et du climat.
- f. Garantir une participation effective des femmes dans la gouvernance du climat à tous les niveaux.
- g. Garantir aux femmes l'accès, le contrôle et la propriété des terres et des ressources naturelles, y compris dans les situations qui font suite à un conflit, une catastrophe ou un déplacement de populations.
- h. Prévenir et surveiller le trafic des femmes et des filles à la suite de catastrophes environnementales et liées au climat.
- i. Responsabiliser les entreprises basées dans la CEE en ce qui concerne les violations des droits des femmes, notamment les violences sexuelles et liées au genre, dans toutes les communautés où sont situées les industries.
- j. Réduire le fardeau du changement climatique sur les femmes au regard des engagements pris par les gouvernements et de l'impact des politiques de développement et de l'environnement.
- k. Assurer des ressources suffisantes pour une justice environnementale et climatique, notamment pour éliminer la dépendance vis-à-vis des sources d'énergie à haut risque tels que les combustibles fossiles et l'énergie nucléaire, particulièrement pour les communautés à risque et pour les réseaux et les organisations de femmes comme partenaires de changement.

## 6. Droits humains et femmes migrantes : ensemble dans la solidarité (Femmes et pauvreté)

- a. Faire respecter et promouvoir l'égalité et la non-discrimination envers les femmes migrantes, reconnaissant d'abord et avant tout leur humanité et leur dignité.
  - b. Reformuler le discours et le cadre conceptuel au sujet des femmes migrantes pour souligner que les droits humains
  - c. Elargir le champ d'application du Programme d'Action de Beijing avec une référence particulière aux conditions des femmes et des filles migrantes, quel que soit leur statut.
- sont les droits des femmes, et donc intrinsèquement les droits de femmes migrantes.

- d. Ratifier et mettre pleinement en œuvre toutes les conventions internationales sur la migration ainsi que les normes internationales du travail pour renforcer la protection des femmes migrantes.
- e. Renforcer le pouvoir des femmes migrantes à s'organiser, soutenir les organisations de femmes migrantes, et faciliter le réseautage et la défense des droits par les organisations de migrants et les organisations de femmes.
- f. Reconnaître et régulariser la situation de toutes les femmes migrantes et de leurs enfants; leur donner accès à la protection sociale, la sécurité sociale et aux soins de santé complets, y compris la santé et les droits sexuels et reproductifs.
- g. Favoriser l'unité et l'intégrité des familles de migrants par des politiques de réunification familiale et un arrêt immédiat des pratiques de déportation qui séparent les familles.
- h. Accorder l'égalité de traitement aux réfugiées, demandeuses d'asile et femmes déplacées.
- i. Offrir une éducation secondaire, professionnelle et tertiaire de qualité ainsi qu'un apprentissage continu pour les filles et les femmes migrantes, en particulier pour faciliter leur intégration et leur accès à l'emploi.
- j. Déployer des efforts importants et allouer des ressources conséquentes financières, politiques, diplomatiques et législatives à la prévention du trafic des filles et des femmes, reconnaissant les effets permanents du déplacement, du manque de protection juridique et du traumatisme qui lui est associé.

## 7. Les femmes et la santé: le bien-être pour toutes

- a. Protéger les droits des femmes et leur liberté de choix en ce qui concerne le contrôle de leur corps, leur fécondité et leur sexualité.
- b. Assurer la volonté politique, l'engagement et l'investissement nécessaires pour que la santé et les droits sexuels et reproductifs deviennent une réalité pour toutes, y compris assurer l'accès à une éducation complète sur la sexualité et le VIH qui soit adaptée à l'âge et soit basée sur des faits scientifiques, ainsi que l'accès des femmes et des filles à une contraception légale, sans risque, moderne et gratuite, des services de planification familiale et d'interruption volontaire de grossesse de façon à mettre un terme à la mortalité et la morbidité maternelles évitables.
- c. Adresser de toute urgence la fréquence croissante de recours à la sélection du sexe et de l'avortement tardif dans certains pays de la CEE.
- d. Assurer à tous des services de soins de santé qui soient accessibles, abordables et de qualité, de façon à assurer la santé des femmes et à réduire le fardeau des soins non rémunérés par les femmes.
- e. Garantir que la recherche en santé et les pratiques médicales soient spécifiques à chaque genre.
- f. Fournir un soutien et des services de santé mentale complets aux femmes de tous âges.
- g. Fournir des services de soins de santé efficaces ciblés sur les maladies non-transmissibles, notamment le diabète et les maladies cardiaques.

- h. Offrir un dépistage gratuit du cancer du sein et un accès gratuit au test et au traitement du cancer du col, en particulier le test du papillomavirus humain pour les femmes jeunes.
- i. Tirer le meilleur profit des possibilités technologiques pour l'accès des femmes à l'information et aux services de santé.
- j. Protéger et réaliser les droits des femmes et leur choix en ce qui concerne le contrôle de leur corps, leur fécondité et leur sexualité.
- k. Soutenir et encourager une nutrition en faveur d'une santé et d'un bien-être holistiques.
- l. Protéger et réaliser la santé et les droits sexuels et reproductifs des femmes et des filles.
- m. Protéger le droit des femmes de décider librement qui épouser, et si elles souhaitent se marier et avoir des enfants, et quand.
- n. S'assurer que chaque femme a accès à un environnement propre et sain, en particulier en ce qui concerne l'eau, les installations sanitaires et les moyens de cuisson non polluants.
- o. Assurer un accès égal des femmes aux services de soins de santé tout au long de leur vie, notamment au sein des refuges pour femmes, sans discrimination liée à leur statut juridique ou de migrant, leur handicap, leur situation d'exploitation sexuelle, leur statut de prostituée/travailleur du sexe<sup>1</sup>, leur orientation sexuelle, leur identité de genre, leur ethnicité, leur âge ou leur religion.

1 Différents points de vue sur la question de la prostitution/travail du sexe sont apparus pendant le Forum. Le langage utilisé dans ce document respecte et reflète ces différences.

## 8. Filles, vieillissement et justice intergénérationnelle : Construire un avenir commun

- a. Adopter une approche de justice intergénérationnelle envers les droits et l'autonomisation des femmes, reconnaissant les priorités, besoins et circonstances spécifiques des femmes à différentes étapes de leur vie, en particulier en ce qui concerne les filles, les femmes âgées et les mères.
- b. Éliminer les stéréotypes basés sur l'âge qui empêchent les femmes et les filles de tous âges d'exprimer pleinement leur potentiel et de participer et de diriger de manière efficace.
- c. Développer une convention internationale sur les droits des personnes âgées qui inclut les droits énoncés dans CEDEF.
- d. Relever l'âge minimum du mariage à 18 ans et le mettre en pratique, en conformité avec une mise en œuvre complète du CDE et du CEDEF.
- e. Reconnaître que les femmes jeunes représentent un groupe de population déterminant pour atteindre le développement, et leur garantir une participation effective dans la direction et la prise de décision à tous les niveaux.
- f. S'assurer que les femmes plus âgées ont des revenus suffisants pour vivre dignement et mettre en application des politiques et des lois de protection sociale qui leur permettent d'être des participantes autonomes et à part entière dans le développement de la société.
- g. Reconnaître et prendre en compte les dimensions intergénérationnelles de toutes les formes de violence, de maltraitance et d'abandon.
- h. Collecter, analyser, diffuser et utiliser des données désagrégées par sexe, âge, handicap et état matrimonial.

- i. Faciliter le développement d'environnements, structures et services physiques et sociaux, urbains et ruraux, qui soient adaptés aux personnes âgées, accessibles et inclusifs de femmes âgées à différents niveaux de capacité fonctionnelle, notamment aux femmes handicapées.
- j. Reconnaître et apporter un soutien au mentorat et à la solidarité intergénérationnels, à travers des activités spécifiques telles que le travail de soins.
- k. S'assurer que chaque fille jouisse pleinement des droits humains, notamment le respect mutuel et le partenariat égal entre filles et garçons, ainsi qu'entre femmes et filles de tous âges.

## 9. Education, sciences, technologie et innovation : transformation pour tous

- a. Réaliser le droit de chaque femme et de chaque fille à une éducation de qualité, gratuite et sans risque, notamment éducation primaire, secondaire, tertiaire, professionnelle et informelle.
- b. Garantir que chaque fille ait accès à une éducation complète sur la sexualité et le VIH qui soit adaptée à son âge et basée sur des faits scientifiques.
- c. Garantir aux filles des possibilités de formation au leadership et de développement de compétences sociales et pour la vie courante ; renforcer la confiance, l'intégrité et les aptitudes de réflexion critique.
- d. Inclure une éducation sur les droits humains dans les programmes scolaires à tous les niveaux pour promouvoir une culture de paix, d'inclusion, de respect pour la diversité et pour les droits des femmes.
- e. Promouvoir l'importance de l'éducation des filles par des mesures incitatives de façon à encourager les communautés dans des situations vulnérables à envoyer leurs filles à l'école, et éliminer la discrimination envers les enfants de groupes ethniques et sociaux minoritaires.
- f. Comblent le fossé numérique lié au genre en augmentant l'utilisation de la technologie pour donner accès à une éducation de qualité, en particulier dans des situations de conflit et d'insécurité.
- g. Procurer des ressources à des espaces communautaires sûrs pour une éducation inclusive, continue et disponible tout au long de la vie.
- h. Promouvoir activement des initiatives pour accroître la sensibilisation des filles et leur engagement dans les Sciences, la Technologie, l'Ingénierie et les Mathématiques et encourager le secteur privé dans le domaine des technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) à offrir des possibilités de stage avec égalité de chances entre les genres.
- i. Soutenir et encourager les programmes éducatifs à améliorer la culture numérique et scientifique des femmes et des filles.
- j. Garantir l'utilisation des TICs dans les écoles, inclure les Sciences, la Technologie et l'Innovation (STI) dans les programmes, accroître la sensibilisation des filles et leur engagement dans les STI, et par là même, améliorer la culture numérique et scientifique des femmes et des filles.



- k. Encourager le secteur privé à collecter, analyser et diffuser des données sur les perspectives liées au genre au sein des STI pour documenter les lacunes en matière d'accès pour les femmes et les filles et développer des stratégies pour combler ces lacunes, notamment en offrant un soutien pratique aux jeunes femmes scientifiques.
- l. Construire une nouvelle plateforme pour faciliter la coopération et la mise en réseau de tous les acteurs pour faciliter la promotion des femmes.

## 10. Les médias et les communications : Casser les stéréotypes

- a. Développer une législation efficace et une politique sensible au genre qui interdise la discrimination basée sur le sexe/genre dans toutes les formes de médias et de communications, et établir des mécanismes de réglementation pour surveiller la discrimination et l'utilisation de stéréotypes liés au genre.
- b. Garantir une régulation des médias pour stopper la prolifération d'images, de vidéos et de stéréotypes négatifs et violents qui bafouent et portent atteinte à la dignité des femmes, et violent leurs droits et leur vie privée.
- c. Développer et normaliser la formation sur les droits des femmes et les stéréotypes liés au genre pour tous les professionnels des médias.
- d. Soutenir, développer et financer des médias alternatifs, créés et détenus par des femmes, qui présentent des femmes en tant que dirigeantes et modèles positifs œuvrant pour le développement et la paix.
- e. Assurer la protection des femmes journalistes et de celles qui défendent les droits humains, particulièrement dans les environnements sensibles politiquement, y compris les situations de conflit.
- f. Mobiliser le potentiel des réseaux sociaux pour promouvoir l'autonomisation et les droits des femmes tout en assurant la protection, le respect de la vie privée et la sécurité des femmes.



## NGO DECLARATION & RECOMMENDATIONS – Russian\*

Мы, 700 участников, представляющие в своем многообразии 350 групп, сетей и организаций и 56 государств, входящих в состав Европейской экономической комиссии (ЕЭК) ООН, собрались в Женеве в период с 3 по 5 ноября 2014 года для участия в Форуме НПО по обзору Пекинской платформы действий и разработки рекомендаций для дальнейшей деятельности. Принятая в 1995 году в целях обеспечения равенства, развития и мира, Пекинская платформа действий стала важнейшим историческим документом, который содержит политические обязательства по обеспечению прав женщин и расширению их возможностей для продвижения гендерного равенства и эффективных действий в духе выполнения Конвенции о ликвидации всех форм дискриминации в отношении женщин (КЛДЖ). Главный результат работы, проведенной в Пекине с учетом предыдущих международных конференций по положению женщин, населения и окружающей среды, был сформулирован ясно и однозначно, и сегодня он также актуален, как и 20 лет назад: *«Права женщин и гендерное равенство играют ключевую роль в обеспечении равенства, устойчивости, развития и мира».*

Сегодня все мы, включая регион ЕЭК, стремимся к созданию такого мира, где женщины, во всем их многообразии, смогут повсеместно пользоваться правами человека, иметь возможности для полной реализации своего потенциала, быть уважаемыми членами общества; мира, где наш образ жизни, экономика и взаимоотношения будут способствовать достижению гармонии в обществе, безопасности окружающей среды и благополучия людей. Все мы хотим мира, в котором не будет насилия, все будут жить в мире; мира, где процветает демократия, и у женщин во всех странах есть возможность полной реализации своих прав. Нам нужен мир, в котором каждый человек несет полную ответственность за все происходящее.\*

\* The NGO CSW Geneva wishes to thank UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia and Olga Kadyшева (GMPA) for the Russian Translation of this outcome document

### ОТМЕЧАЯ ДОСТИЖЕНИЯ В РЕГИОНЕ ЕЭК

В Пекине рассматривались вопросы перераспределения власти, ресурсов и возможностей между женщинами и мужчинами. Основное внимание было уделено проблемам, связанным с патриархальной моделью и господствующими стереотипами в обществе.

Мы признаем и отмечаем существенные достижения в данном регионе, которые оказывают положительное влияние на жизнь женщин, политику и соответствующие институты.

- 1 В большинстве стран данного региона достигнут огромный прогресс в области **образования**. У многих девочек и молодых женщин появились возможности получения высшего и профессионального образования. Однако до сих пор между регионами существует значительная разница.
- 2 Сегодня меньше женщин умирают в результате причин, связанных с беременностью и деторождением, которые можно контролировать и предотвратить. Все больше женщин могут пользоваться современными средствами контрацепции. Вместе с тем, у молодых женщин, представительниц меньшинств и коренного населения, женщин-мигрантов по-прежнему нет необходимого доступа к информации и услугам.
- 3 Хорошо развитые женские организации и общественные сети в сообществах и на всех уровнях способствуют расширению возможностей женщин, продвижению их прав и достижению равенства. В отдельных государствах возможности участия женщин в общественной жизни остаются ограниченными, и женские группы не получают достаточного финансирования.
- 4 Отмечается увеличение числа женщин на руководящих должностях, однако,

показатели остаются неоднородными по отраслям и регионам.

- 5 Созданы эффективные институциональные механизмы по улучшению положения женщин на национальном и международном уровнях, включая Структуру «ООН-женщины». Однако, в целом, они финансируются в ненадлежащем объеме и располагают слабой ресурсной базой, особенно в странах, где ежегодные государственные доходы сократились в результате снижения налогов и других фискальных мер.
- 6 Создана необходимая нормативно-правовая база и политическая основа для решения ряда вопросов, связанных с участием женщин в процессах принятия решений, реализацией политики в области образования и принятием мер в ответ на насилие в отношении женщин. Основными проблемными аспектами этой работы остаются неполноценная реализация принятых норм и обязательств, их недостаточное соответствие между собой и ненадлежащий уровень ответственности.
- 7 Отмечается определенное улучшение в сборе и распространении данных, при этом сохраняется исключительно высокая потребность в данных и информации с разбивкой по полу, возрасту, семейному положению, географии, доходам и инвалидности.
- 8 Гендерно ориентированное бюджетирование признано позитивной и перспективной технологией для региона, однако оно применяется не всеми государствами и не во всех отраслях.
- 9 Важнейшим результатом активной работы женских организаций стало принятие резолюции СБ ООН №1325 от 2000 года и последующих резолюций по вопросам о женщинах, мире и безопасности. Вместе с тем, по-прежнему большинство актов насилия в отношении женщин остаются безнаказанными.

Страны региона ЕЭК являются неоднородными по уровню экономического развития и социального устройства. Перемены, произошедшие здесь за последние 20 лет, вызывают **глубокую озабоченность** в плане обеспечения устойчивости, осуществления прав женщин и прав человека. В настоящее время регион находится на переломном этапе, учитывая разнообразные кризисы в таких сферах как финансы, энергетика, изменение климата и обеспечение продовольствием. Принятие мер жесткой экономии, консолидированных мер налогового или фискального характера в ответ на финансово-экономический кризис привело к беспрецедентно высокому уровню безработицы, резкому сокращению государственных расходов, общей социально-экономической нестабильности и неустойчивому положению домохозяйств, что оказывает наиболее негативное влияние на положение женщин и девочек. Мы признаем, что старение населения как глобальная демографическая динамика особенно актуальна для нашего региона ЕЭК. Пропасть между богатыми и бедными увеличивается с каждым днем. По данным ЕЭК ООН: *«С 1995 года наблюдается стагнация и неравномерность прогресса, и регресс в отдельных областях. В мерах по борьбе с финансовым кризисом не учитываются гендерные факторы».*

Сегодня существует огромное множество угроз для реализации пекинских обязательств. Женщины испытывают трудности в связи с недостатком времени; они перегружены работой, которая не оплачивается и не признается, т.к. является следствием стереотипного восприятия их репродуктивной функции. Помимо учета и внедрения гендерных подходов во все сферы жизни необходимо особо отметить важность борьбы с первопричинами неравенства. Существующие нарушения и угрозы для сексуального и репродуктивного здоровья и прав девочек и женщин делают необходимым призыв к обеспечению защиты и реализации Пекинской платформы действий и ранее принятых обязательств, МКНР и КЛДЖ в рамках повестки дня на период после 2015 года, и региональных документов, таких, как Конвенция Совета Европы о предотвращении и борьбе с насилием в отношении женщин и домашним насилием (Стамбульская конвен-

ция). Для осуществления преобразований необходимо находить пути решения структурных проблем на макро уровне, которые способствуют сохранению и укреплению неравенства, дискриминации и социальной изоляции.

Рост насильственного экстремизма, развитие биополитики и разнообразных фобий среди населения привели к ограничению индивидуальных свобод. Все чаще в ответ на конфликтную ситуацию используются военные меры, что приводит к тяжелым нарушениям прав человека среди женщин и девочек не только в зоне конфликта, но и общемировом масштабе, и росту военных расходов и поставок оружия за счет средств, предусмотренных на социальные нужды и обеспечение прав человека.

В подходе к сотрудничеству в целях развития произошли определенные изменения, в результате которых оказались тесно взаимосвязаны такие области как развитие, оказание внешней помощи, торговля, инвестиции и иностранная политика. При этом в контексте глобального капитализма права женщин вместо того, чтобы играть основную роль в достижении мира и устойчивого развития, отошли на второй план. Финансирование, выделяемое на создание общественных и женских организаций, было сокращено до уровня государственных субподрядов, тем самым подвергая угрозе фундаментальные принципы общественной самоорганизации и партнерства.

В связи с определенными тенденциями нас особенно пугает ситуация с положением женщин в отдельных регионах. Рост безработицы в Центральной Азии и Восточной Европе и отсутствие активной позиции в отношении ситуации с женской проблематикой в странах Западной Европы и Северной Америки усиливают и дополняют друг друга. Насилие в отношении женщин и девочек все также остается распространенным явлением, и усиливается в результате использования технологий и социальных сетей. Расовая дискриминация, особенно в отношении мигрантов, у которых, как правило, нет документов и права голоса, приводит к серьезным нарушениям прав женщин. Социально незащищенные

## НЕПРЕРЫВНОЕ СОБЛЮДЕНИЕ ВСЕХ БЕЗ ИСКЛЮЧЕНИЯ ПРАВ ДЛЯ КАЖДОЙ ЖЕНЩИНЫ –

## НАША ОБЩАЯ ОТВЕТСТВЕННОСТЬ. ВРЕМЯ ПРИШЛО.

*Декларация, принятая 5 ноября 2014 года в представительстве ООН в Женеве, Швейцария.*

группы женщины, в том числе из числа коренные народы и женщин с ограниченными возможностями, несоразмерно чаще становятся жертвами нарушений прав человека, а девочки и пожилые женщины не обеспечены необходимыми мерами социальной защиты. Молодые женщины и девочки находятся под угрозой психологического давления, включая сексуализацию и деструктивное изображение женского тела.

В связи с вышесказанным мы призываем к следующему:

1. Выполнению обязательств ППД в отношении всех взаимосвязанных и всеобщих прав человека и систематическому применению подхода, основанного на обеспечении прав женщин, эффективными и хорошо финансируемыми институциональными механизмами по улучшению положения женщин, осуществляющими его реализацию и мониторинг на всех уровнях государственного управления, при наличии соответствующей рамочной структуры по вопросам подотчетности, ресурсов, налогов, государственных финансов и доходов, которая позволит обеспечить устойчивое финансирование в целях прогрессивной реализации прав человека для женщин.

- 2 Женщины играют ключевую роль в обеспечении устойчивого развития. В Повестку дня Целей устойчивого развития на период после 2015 года должна быть включена четко сформулированная и **отдельная цель по обеспечению гендерного равенства и прав женщин** с определенными средствами реализации прав женщин и расширения их возможностей. Права девочек и женщин должны получить признание во всех других Целях устойчивого развития и специальных стратегиях.
- 3 КЛДЖ должна остаться рамочной основой для проведения мониторинга и обеспечения ответственности за выполнение правительствами своих обязательств.
- 4 Мы требуем равноправного доступа женщин к ресурсам, в том числе к земле, кредитным средствам и финансированию для реализации межпоколенческих социальных, культурных, экологических, экономических, гражданских и политических прав, прав в области развития и справедливости;
- 5 Необходимы постоянные инвестиции в достаточном объеме для реализации прав женщин и девочек, включая охрану сексуального и репродуктивного здоровья и прав; ликвидации насилия в отношении всех женщин и девочек; и в особенности искоренения детского труда, практики замужества в детском и раннем возрасте, браков по принуждению и калечащих операций на женских половых органах;
- 6 Важны систематические и незамедлительные мероприятия, направленные на то, чтобы женщины всех возрастов активно пользовались, участвовали в разработке и первыми применяли на практике новые технологии.
- 7 Предоставление молодым девушкам полномочий и власти как лидерам и непосредственным участникам перемен и установлением определенной ответственности и подотчетности мальчиков и мужчин в деле достижения гендерного равенства.

## КОНКРЕТНЫЕ РЕКОМЕНДАЦИИ ФОРУМА:

### 1. Права женщин – права человека: подотчетность и ресурсы

- а. Выделение ресурсов для выполнения всех обязательств и полноценного осуществления положений КЛДЖ, Пекинской платформы действий, резолюции СБ ООН № 1325 и всех документов в области прав человека как глобальной политической основы для реализации прав женщин, расширения их возможностей, достижения гендерного равенства и учета данных вопросов во всех целях устойчивого развития на период после 2015 года и выделение в качестве **самостоятельной цели** с эффективными показателями.
- б. Осуществление партнерства и обеспечение необходимого финансирования деятельности женских и общественных организаций в целях продвижения и выполнения обязательств, принятых в контексте Пекинской платформой действий и Повестки дня в области развития на период после 2015 года.

- c. Исполнение действующих законов и реализация повсеместной политики по непрерывному обеспечению и защите прав человека для всех женщин, особенно девочек, молодых и пожилых женщин, представительниц этнических меньшинств, коренных народов, женщин-цыган и девочек, женщин с ограниченными возможностями, сельских женщин и представителей ЛГБТИ сообщества.
- d. Учет и внедрение гендерных факторов на параллельной основе с разработкой и выполнением специальных программ для женщин и девочек, включая программы, предназначенные исключительно для женщин.
- e. Выделение необходимых финансовых и кадровых ресурсов для национальных механизмов и учреждений по вопросам гендерного равенства, включая двусторонние и многосторонние институты, как, например, Организация Объединенных Наций.
- f. Усиление механизмов надзора и контроля, например, парламента и омбудсменов.
- g. Разработка всеобъемлющей структуры для мониторинга достижения гендерного равенства посредством привлечения национальных механизмов с сильной ресурсной базой, независимых институтов по правам человека и использования комплексных данных с разбивкой.
- h. Предоставление возможности доступа к средствам правовой защиты в случаях нарушения прав женщин.
- i. Обеспечение полной регистрации всех актов гражданского состояния и рождения для всех людей.
- j. Разработка, реализация и финансирование в полном объеме систем по оказанию правовой помощи, которые должны быть доступны для всех женщин, особенно в сельских районах и социально сложных ситуациях, с обеспечением необходимой компетенции юристконсультов для оказания юридических услуг по экономическим, семейным, гражданским и уголовным делам.
- k. Содействие повышению правовой грамотности всех женщин и девочек.
- l. Продвижение и защиты прав женщин является обязанностью всех и каждого, особенно правительств и общества, включая мужчин и мальчиков.

## 2. Насилие в отношении женщин и зоны конфликтов: формирование культуры мира

- a. Ликвидация всех форм дискриминации в отношении женщин и девочек.
- b. Все программы по предотвращению и искоренению насилия в отношении женщин должны распространяться на женщин всех возрастов, в том числе женщин из числа коренного населения, женщин с ограниченными населением, женщин с ограниченными возможностями, вдов, матерей-одиночек, детей, ставших свидетелями насилия в семье, женщин, живущие в условиях вооруженных конфликтов и постконфликтного восстановления, женщин, ставших жертвами убийств во имя «чести», женщин из числа лесбиянок и транссексуалов, а также сельских женщин.

- c. Искоренение вредных практик, включая браки в детском и раннем возрасте и браки по принуждению, дискриминацию в отношении вдов, калечащие операции на женских половых органах и сексуализацию тел девочек и женщин.
- d. Отмена практики криминализации жертв и безнаказанности лиц, совершивших насилие, благодаря эффективным системам правосудия, учитывающим гендерные подходы, и осуществление деятельности при непосредственном участии женщин и девочек, переживших конфликт, проституцию, оккупацию, нарушение сексуальных и репродуктивных прав, а также кризисные ситуации, в т. ч. на Украине и в Палестине.
- e. Предоставление вида на жительство женщинам-мигрантам и женщинам без документов, которые стали жертвами проституции и торговли людьми, и разработка политики по предотвращению этих явлений в их родных странах.
- f. Добросовестная и ответственная реализация действующих законов и политики посредством защиты, оказания услуг, профилактики, обеспечения уголовного преследования и осуществления партнерства с женскими организациями.
- g. Подписание, ратификация и эффективная реализация Стамбульской конвенции о предотвращении насилия в отношении женщин.
- h. Изменение гендерных стереотипов, которые способствуют восприятию обществом насилия в отношении женщин и девочек как нормального и обыденного явления.
- i. Установление в национальном законодательстве норм уголовной ответственности за пытки, совершаемые негосударственными субъектами, и привлечение лиц, совершающих частные преступления, связанные с пытками на основе половой принадлежности.
- j. Пересмотр основных положений концепции маскулинности, работа с целью изменения социального поведения и просвещение мальчиков по вопросам уважения женщин и девочек, расширение участия и повышение ответственности мужчин и мальчиков за предотвращение насилия и достижение гендерного равенства.
- k. Взаимодействие на принципах партнерства с религиозными сообществами и культурными лидерами с целью предотвращения насилия в отношении женщин и девочек.
- l. Внедрение недискриминационных систем отчетности и оказания поддержки жертвам во время процессуальных действий, обучение сотрудников полиции и юристов по гендерным вопросам.
- m. Открытие единых центров оказания медико-юридической и социальной помощи женщинам, обеспечение приютов для краткосрочного пребывания пострадавших необходимыми ресурсами в полном объеме, а женщин и детей – доступным и постоянным жильем, профессионально-техническое обучение лиц, переживших насилие, чтобы они могли себя самостоятельно содержать.
- n. Борьбы с новыми и возникающими формами насилия в отношении женщин и девочек, включая насилие в форме возросшей порнографии вследствие использования новых технологий и обеспечение кибер-безопасности для девочек.



*Женщины и конфликты*

- a. С 1995 года в мире ежегодно наблюдается двухпроцентный рост расходов на военную сферу. Необходимо сократить военные расходы, как минимум, на два процента в год в целях обеспечения выполнения обязательств в рамках Пекинской платформы действий, и выделить надлежащие ресурсы на развитие в целях прогрессивной реализации социально-экономических прав с учетом гендерных факторов.
- b. Обеспечивать выполнение резолюции СБ ООН № 1325 посредством внедрения временных специальных мер (системы квот) в рамках процессов принятия решений по вопросам деятельности по предотвращению конфликтов, проведению мирных переговоров, поддержанию мира и миростроительству.
- c. Осуществлять предотвращение конфликтов за счет работы с силовыми структурами, которые способствуют сохранению конфликтной ситуации и оккупации, принимая во внимание, что политэкономия власти – причина насилия на всех уровнях – характеризуется высокой степенью гендерной обусловленности.
- d. Реализация и усиление новой нормы, закрепляющей уровень ответственности, искоренение практики обвинений жертв насилия и безнаказанности преступников, включая лиц, совершающих насилие в условиях оккупации, а также торговцев оружием.
- e. Обеспечение равноправного участия женщин в мирных процессах с предоставлением необходимой финансовой поддержки для их самоорганизации во время конфликтов и в условиях оккупации, а также для участия в конструктивных консультациях.
- f. Оказание непрерывной социально-экономической и психологической поддержки женщинам после достижения договоренностей с целью обеспечения дальнейшего участия женщин в постконфликтном восстановлении.
- g. Определение приоритетов при оказании поддержки женщинам в условиях перемещения в целях озвучивания замалчиваемых вопросов и поиска решения таких проблем, как сексуальное насилие, убийства во имя «чести», семейное положение и отсутствие гражданства, торговля людьми и сексуальная эксплуатация, включая ранние браки.
- h. Предоставление убежища женщинам и детям, вынужденным покинуть свою страну, посредством признания сексуального и гендерного насилия в качестве законного основания для запроса убежища.
- i. Консультации с женщинами-военнослужащими в целях изучения возможности изменения военной культуры, в рамках которой происходит одобрение, поощрение и усиление практики насилия в отношении женщин.

### 3. Нищета, экономика и социальное развитие: важность финансовых средств

- a. Разработка альтернативной макроэкономической структуры, базирующейся на подходе, основанном на обеспечении прав женщин, которая позволит придать институциональный статус феминистской экономике на всех уровнях и во всех сферах государственной политики, особенно в части налогов, фискальных вопросов и социальных трансфертов. Обеспечение прозрачности и содействие проведению женскими организациями соответствующего мониторинга.
- b. Институционализация и внедрение гендерно ориентированного бюджетирования на всех уровнях и во всех стратегических областях, включая сферу государственных закупок.
- c. Реформирование всей национальной и иной фискальных систем государства для обеспечения поступлений от прогрессивного перераспределительного налога, позволяющих получать ежегодные государственные доходы в размере, достаточном для финансирования успешного обеспечения прав женщин на равенство и ликвидации гендерной дискриминации и стереотипов в отношении роли женщин и мужчин, которые закреплены в практике по налогам и расходам.
- d. Ликвидация разрыва в оплате труда по признаку половой принадлежности и принятие необходимых мер по обеспечению равной оплаты за труд равной стоимости посредством реализации специальной экономической политики и мер для части населения с наиболее низким уровнем дохода.
- e. Обеспечение признания и стоимостного учета в политике и практике рынка труда всего объема и многообразия работы, связанной с материнством и заботой о членах семьи, поддержания баланса между выполнением семейных обязанностей, гибким рабочим графиком и карьерным ростом, и принятия эффективных мер по решению проблемы гендерного разрыва в уровне пенсий.
- f. Признание социальной и экономической стоимости неоплачиваемой работы, связанной с обеспечением ухода, и снижение негативного гендерно дифференцированного воздействия на положение женщин посредством перераспределения услуг по уходу *в рамках* и между домохозяйствами и соответствующими государственными услугами.
- g. Решение проблем женщин, связанных с недостатком времени, посредством обеспечения доступа к высококачественным государственным услугам и инфраструктуре, включая обеспечение чистой питьевой водой, электроэнергией, транспортом, ИКТ, здравоохранением и дошкольными учреждениями.
- h. Принятие, реализация и обеспечение правоприменительной практики законов о социальной защите и о борьбе с гендерной дискриминацией на рынке труда и в экономике в целом, включая ее неформальный сектор.
- i. Содействие и продвижение женского предпринимательства и экономической самостоятельности/расширения возможностей посредством образования, обучения, привлечения ресурсов и

инноваций, с особым акцентом на женщин в сложных жизненных ситуациях.

- j. Обеспечение и расширение мер социальной защиты в период экономического кризиса, особенно для лиц, занятых неполный рабочий день, работников, выполняющих неоплачиваемую работу по уходу, и женщин, работающих в неформальном или ином секторах на незащищенных рабочих местах.
- k. Обеспечение женщинам доступа к безопасным, гарантированным и адекватно оплачиваемым рабочим местам, где они не будут подвергаться запугиванию, домогательствам и насилию.
- l. Обеспечение и мониторинг осуществления инвестиций, торговой политики и практики, уважающих право местного населения на владение и управление природными ресурсами, включая воду, полезные ископаемые, энергетические ресурсы и леса на уровне регионов и в целом в мире.
- m. Регулирование и установление ответственности для компаний, работающих в странах ЕЭК, за

обеспечение соблюдения прав женщин и за злоупотребления в их отношении, включая банки и многонациональные компании, особенно в добывающих отраслях в разных странах мира. Применение руководящего принципа ООН по вопросам бизнеса и прав человека в качестве нормативно-правовой основы.

- n. Внедрение практики бюджетирования с учетом потребностей лиц с ограниченными возможностями; инвестирование в программы по расширению возможностей образования и снижения безработицы среди женщин и девочек с ограниченными возможностями; обеспечение защиты прав человека на протяжении всей жизни.
- o. Реализация широкомасштабной программы исследований и сбора научных данных о причинах нищеты с расширением содержательной части и понимания причин, включая влияние разводов на положение женщин, в качестве ответной меры на недопустимо высокий уровень людей, живущих ниже черты бедности и/или близко к ней, в странах ЕЭК.

#### 4. Участие в принятии решений, изменение баланса власти

- a. Реализация мер, направленных на достижение равноправного распределения власти в области принятия решений между мужчинами и женщинами, включая введение концепта паритета/квот для руководящих позиций в политике, экономике и других секторах, и обеспечение лидерства в целях продвижения прав женщин.
- b. В системах государственного управления и проведения выборов необходимо обеспечить учет интересов женщин и осуществить переход от плюралистической системы к системе пропорционального представительства или смешанной системе, а также принять другие важные меры для предоставления женщинам возможностей участия в процессах принятия решений в политической и экономической сферах.

- c. Необходимо разработать эффективные коммуникационные стратегии, способствующие получению женщинами доступа к процессам принятия решений и руководящим должностям в целях продвижения прав женщин, включая достижение гендерного равенства в процессах разработки и принятия микро- и макроэкономической политики.
- d. Предоставление необходимой финансовой, моральной, социальной поддержки и возможностей для эффективного участия всех женщин в политической и общественной жизни страны, включая женские организации и сети.
- e. Включение женских и феминистских НПО, лоббистских групп в процессы, связанные с принятием решений и разработкой законодательства, с целью учета и отражения мнений женщин и реалий их жизни в законодательстве и политике.
- f. Разработка и укрепление механизмов по обеспечению участия женщин в качестве лидеров в политической жизни.
- g. Выполнение обязанностей по развитию демократического общества и общественного диалога; предоставление поддержки женским организациям и обеспечение мер по охране активистов и правозащитников.
- h. Осуществление институциональных действий по организации пятой Всемирной конференции по положению женщин с целью рассмотрения новых вопросов, связанных с обеспечением гендерного равенства, доступа женщин к власти и процессам принятия решений, созданием и усилением институциональных механизмов для реализации прав женщин. Организация трансляции Конференции через Интернет.
- i. Обеспечение ответственности государственных служащих и парламентариев за соблюдение прав женщин и расширение их возможностей посредством осуществления гендерной политики, бюджетирования и программ.
- j. Выделение достаточных ресурсов и отмена политики сокращения ассигнований для институциональных структур, работающих в сфере продвижения прав женщин и гендерного равенства.
- k. Создание эффективных и хорошо финансируемых институциональных механизмов по улучшению положения женщин в целях сохранения всех достижений и недопущения регрессии, дальнейшего продвижения гендерного равенства и прав женщин, и предотвращения сокращения налоговых поступлений, являющихся важным источником финансирования мероприятий по достижению гендерного равенства и реализации прав женщин.
- l. Просвещение и повышение осведомленности среди всех сотрудников государственного сектора в вопросах гендерной проблематики и содействие активной деятельности в целях достижения гендерного равенства, в том числе посредством его реформирования и создания сетевых структур в поддержку реализации гендерной политики и соответствующих мероприятий.

## 5. Окружающая среда и климатическая справедливость: люди и планета

- a. Признание прав женщин и гендерного равенства в качестве основных элементов для обеспечения реализации повестки дня в области устойчивого развития на период после 2015 года.
- b. Систематический учет проблематики прав женщин и гендерного равенства на всех уровнях и во всех аспектах политики, научно-исследовательской деятельности и сбора данных, связанных с вопросами экологии, изменения климата, водоснабжения, сохранения лесов, биоразнообразия, транспорта и энергоресурсов, как в рамках отдельной страны, так и в контексте деятельности в интересах развития.
- c. Включение вопросов межпоколенческого и гендерного равенства в экологическую и климатическую политику и программы посредством расширения участия молодых женщин в принятии решений на всех уровнях, включая РКООНИК.
- d. Обеспечение политико-правовой защиты прав женщин и коренных групп населения на землю и природные ресурсы, добычу полезных ископаемых и предотвращение загрязнения окружающей среды, особенно со стороны частных лиц и корпораций.
- e. Инвестирование в альтернативные инновационные технологии, признание и уважение знаний коренных народов в целях осуществления экологической и климатической справедливости.
- f. Обеспечение эффективного участия женщин на всех уровнях структур по управлению климатом.
- g. Обеспечение женщинам доступа к земле и природным ресурсам, возможности управления и владения ими, в том числе в ситуациях постконфликтного восстановления, в период после стихийных бедствий и перемещения.
- h. Предотвращение и мониторинг торговли женщинами и девочками в результате экологических и климатических стихийных бедствий.
- i. Установление ответственности для корпораций, работающих в странах ЕЭК, за нарушение прав женщин, включая гендерное и сексуальное насилие, во всех регионах и местах, где расположены предприятия компаний.
- j. Снижение нагрузки на женщин, вызванной изменением климата и связанной с обязательствами государств, а также воздействия мер политики в области развития и экологии.
- k. Выделение надлежащих ресурсов для обеспечения экологической и климатической справедливости, в том числе для максимального сокращения зависимости от источников энергии с высокими рисками, таких как ископаемые виды топлива и атомная энергия, особенно для сообществ, находящихся в опасности, женских сетевых организаций, а также организаций, выступающих партнерами в работе по изменению ситуации к лучшему.

## 6. Права человека и женщины-мигранты: общность и солидарность

- a. Защита и продвижение равенства и недискриминации в отношении женщин-мигрантов с признанием, в первую очередь, их человеческого достоинства.
- b. Пересмотр концепции и рамочной основы по вопросам положения женщин-мигрантов с целью однозначного признания того, что неотъемлемой частью прав человека являются права женщин, в числе которых – женщины-мигранты.
- c. Расширение действия Пекинской платформы действий с особым акцентом на условия жизнедеятельности всех женщин-мигрантов и девочек-мигрантов, независимо от их статуса.
- d. Ратификация и полная реализация всех международных конвенций по миграции и международных стандартов в области труда для усиления защиты женщин-мигрантов.
- e. Расширение возможностей женщин-мигрантов по самоорганизации, оказание поддержки организациям женщин-мигрантов и содействие взаимодействию и адвокативной деятельности организациям мигрантов и женским организациям.
- f. Признание и легализация всех женщин-мигрантов и их детей; предоставление социальной защиты, социального страхования и полного спектра медицинского обслуживания, включая охрану сексуального и репродуктивного здоровья и прав.
- g. Содействие и поддержка сохранения и целостности семей мигрантов посредством реализации политики, направленной на воссоединение семей, и незамедлительное прекращение практики депортации, ведущей к разлучению членов семьи.
- h. Обеспечение равного обращения с беженцами, лицами, ищущими убежище, и перемещенными женщинами.
- i. Предоставление качественного среднего, профессионального, высшего и непрерывного образования девочкам-мигрантам и женщинам-мигрантам, особенно в целях содействия их социальной интеграции и получению возможностей трудоустройства.
- j. Выделение значительных финансовых, политических, дипломатических и законодательных ресурсов для реализации деятельности в целях предотвращения торговли девочками и женщинами, с признанием долгосрочного характера влияния пережитого опыта перемещения, недостаточной юридической защиты и полученных психологических травм.

## 7. Женщины и охрана здоровья: благополучие для всех

- a. Защита прав женщин и свободы выбора в отношении контроля за своим физическим состоянием, фертильностью и половой жизнью.
- b. Обеспечение политической воли, приверженности и инвестиций в деятельность, направленную, на то, чтобы охрана сексуального и репродуктивного здоровья и прав стала реальностью для

всех, включая возможности получения всеобъемлющего образования в области полового воспитания и ВИЧ с учетом возрастной категории и на основе доказательной базы, и доступа женщин и девочек к законодательно разрешенным, безопасным, современным и бесплатным средствам контрацепции, медицинским абортам, и услугам по планированию семьи в целях ликвидации материнской смертности и заболеваемости от причин, которые возможно предотвратить.

- c. Незамедлительное решение вопроса, связанного с распространением практики выбора пола плода и аборта плода в ряде государств ЕЭК.
- d. Предоставление доступного и качественного медицинского обслуживания для всех в целях обеспечения охраны здоровья женщин и снижения нагрузки женщин по выполнению неоплачиваемой работы по уходу.
- e. Осуществление специализированных гендерных медицинских исследований и медицинской практики.
- f. Предоставление комплексных услуг по охране психического здоровья и оказание поддержки женщинам всех возрастных категорий.
- g. Обеспечение эффективными медицинскими услугами, направленными на борьбу с неинфекционными заболеваниями, включая диабет и сердечные заболевания.
- h. Предоставление бесплатной услуги по проверке на выявление рака молочной железы, проведение бесплатных анализов и лечения рака шейки матки, особенно вируса папилломы человека среди молодых женщин.
- i. Использование возможностей технологий для обеспечения женщинам доступа к информации об охране здоровья и медицинских услугах.
- j. Защита прав женщин и их выбора в связи с правом распоряжаться собственным телом, принимать самостоятельные решения, касающиеся фертильности и половой жизни.
- k. Поддержка и продвижения культуры питания, обеспечивающего физическое и моральное здоровье.
- l. Осуществление и защита сексуальных и репродуктивных прав и здоровья женщин и девочек.
- m. Защита права женщин на свободное решение о выборе партнера для брака, вступлении в брак, времени вступления в брак и рождении детей.
- n. Обеспечение всем женщинам доступа к чистой и здоровой среде проживания, особенно к воде, санитарии и технологиям приготовления пищи в условиях гигиены.
- o. Обеспечение женщинам равноправного доступа к медицинскому обслуживанию на протяжении всей жизни, включая обеспечение доступа к убежищам для женщин, без какой бы то ни было дискриминации, обусловленной их юридическим или миграционным статусом, инвалидностью, сексуальной эксплуатацией, проституцией<sup>1</sup> и/или работой в секс-индустрии<sup>1</sup>, сексуальной ориентацией, гендерной идентичностью, национальностью, возрастом или религией.

<sup>1</sup> Во время Форума были озвучены различные взгляды на проблему проституции/работы в секс-индустрии; отдавая уважение этим взглядам, в данном документе использованы оба термина.

## 8. Девочки, старение население и межпоколенческая справедливость: созидание общего будущего

- a. Применение подхода, основанного на соблюдении принципа межпоколенческой справедливости, в отношении прав женщин и расширения их возможностей, признавая наличие у женщин особых приоритетов, потребностей и обстоятельств на разных жизненных этапах, особенно у девочек, пожилых женщин и матерей.
- b. Искоренение стереотипов на основе возраста, которые препятствуют реализации всего потенциала и эффективному участию и лидирующей роли женщин и девочек всех возрастов.
- c. Разработка международной конвенции по обеспечению прав пожилых людей с включением в нее прав, содержащихся в КЛДЖ.
- d. Введение/повышение минимального законодательно установленного возраста для вступления в брак до 18 лет в контексте полной реализации КПр и КЛДЖ.
- e. Признание молодых женщин важнейшей группой населения в контексте достижения целей в области развития и обеспечение эффективного участия в соответствующих женщинах в качестве лидеров и лиц, принимающих решения, на всех уровнях.
- f. Обеспечение пожилым женщинам надлежащего уровня доходов для обеспечения достойного уровня жизни, реализация законов и политики в области социальной защиты населения, позволяющих пожилым женщинам стать независимыми и полноправными участниками процесса общественного развития.
- g. Признание и решение проблем, связанных с межпоколенческими аспектами проблем насилия, жесткого обращения и пренебрежительного отношения во всех их формах.
- h. Сбор, анализ, составление отчетности и использование данных с разбивкой по полу, возрасту, инвалидности и семейному положению.
- i. Обеспечение жителей сельской и городской местности необходимой, с учетом возрастных особенностей, социальной и физической инфраструктурой, учреждениями и услугами, доступными и инклюзивными в отношении пожилых женщин с разным уровнем физических возможностей, особенно женщин с ограниченными возможностями.
- j. Признание важности и внедрение наставничества/менторства, оказание поддержки сохранению связей между поколениями посредством осуществления специальной деятельности, включая работу по уходу и заботе.
- k. Обеспечение для всех девочек возможности пользования своими правами человека в полном объеме, включая взаимоуважение и равноправное партнерство между девочками и мальчиками, женщинами и девочками всех возрастов.



## 9. Образование, наука, технологии и инновации: трансформация для всех

- a. Реализация права каждой девочки и женщины на безопасное, качественное и бесплатное образование, включая начальное, среднее, высшее, профессиональное и неформальное.
- b. Предоставление каждой девочке возможности получения всеобъемлющего образования в области полового воспитания и ВИЧ с учетом возрастной категории и на основе доказательной базы.
- c. Развитие лидерских качеств, формирование социальных и жизненных навыков у девочек; повышение самоуважения, уверенности в себе и развитие навыков критического мышления.
- d. Включение курсов по правам человека в школьные программы на всех уровнях в целях продвижения культуры мира, инклюзивности, уважения многообразия и прав женщин.
- e. Содействие признанию важности образования девочек, введение мер стимулирования и поощрения в целях популяризации идеи отправления дочерей в школу среди населения в социально сложных районах, а также ликвидации дискриминации в отношении детей из групп этнических и социальных меньшинств.
- f. Сокращение разрыва между мужчинами и женщинами в пользовании цифровыми технологиями, возможности получения качественного образования, особенно в условиях конфликтных и нестабильных ситуаций.
- g. Обеспечение безопасности в общественных местах для осуществления инклюзивного, непрерывного обучения и образования на протяжении всей жизни.
- h. Активное продвижение инициатив по повышению уровня информированности среди девочек и их привлечение к занятиям в сфере науки, технологий, инжиниринга и математики, поощрение частных компаний, работающих в области информационных технологий, в целях внедрения практики осуществления стажировок на гендерно сбалансированной основе.
- i. Поддержка и содействие реализации программ обучения, направленных на повышение грамотности среди женщин и девочек в области науки и цифровых технологий.
- j. Обеспечение использования информационных и компьютерных технологий в школах, включения курсов по науке, технологиям и инновациям (НТИ) в школьную программу, повышения уровня осведомленности и участия девочек в занятиях по НТИ, что будет способствовать повышению грамотности среди женщин и девочек в области науки и цифровых технологий.
- k. Стимулирование предприятий частного сектора с целью сбора, анализа и распространения данных о гендерных тенденциях в области НТИ для учета существующих разрывов в уровне доступа к ним среди женщин и девочек, а также разработка стратегий по устранению существующих пробелов, включая предоставление практической поддержки молодым женщинам-ученым.
- l. Создание новой платформы для сотрудничества и формирования сетей среди всех участников в целях улучшения положения женщин.

## 10. Средства массовой информации и коммуникации: борьба со стереотипами

- a. Разработка эффективного законодательства и гендерно ориентированной политики, предусматривающих запрет дискриминации на основе биологического/социального пола во всех видах средств массовой информации и коммуникации. Внедрение нормативно-правовых механизмов, обеспечивающих мониторинг распространения гендерной дискриминации и стереотипов.
- b. Принятие нормативно-правового акта с целью противодействия распространению в СМИ негативных материалов о насилии, а также видео сюжетов и стереотипов, умаляющих и подрывающих достоинство женщин, нарушающих их права и принцип охраны личного пространства.
- c. Разработка и системное проведение тренингов по правам женщин и гендерным стереотипам для всех профессионалов, работающих в средствах массовой информации.
- d. Оказание поддержки, развитие и финансирование альтернативных средств массовой информации, находящихся в собственности женщин или открытых ими, и представляющих женщин в качестве лидеров и ролевых моделей в деятельности в целях развития и обеспечения мира.
- e. Обеспечение защиты женщин-журналистов и женщин-правозащитников, особенно в политически сложных регионах, включая зоны конфликтов.
- f. Использование потенциала социальных сетей в целях продвижения прав женщин и расширения их возможностей при одновременном обеспечении надлежащей защиты, соблюдения права на частную жизнь и безопасности женщин.

# PLENARY SESSIONS SHORT REPORTS



Note: Videos of all the plenary sessions as well as many statements and presentations are available on the Forum website: <http://beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch>. Reporting on these plenary sessions is therefore limited to key messages and selected quotes

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## OPENING CEREMONY

Monday 3 November 2015, 15:00 - 16:00 – Room VII

### Master of Ceremony:

Simone Ovar, Forum Co-chair;  
Representative to the UN ZONTA Intl.

### Speakers:

- Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women (video message)
- Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair; General Secretary World YWCA
- Mr. Michael Møller, Acting Director-General, UN Office Geneva
- Mr. François Longchamp, President of the State Council for the Canton of Geneva
- Ms. Monika Linn, Principal Advisor UN ECE
- Ms. Ursula Funk, Senior Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation
- Ms. Sascha Gabizon, Executive Director, Women in Europe for a Common Future (WECF); Elected Representative, Women's Major Group (WMG)

*“2030 MUST NOT ONLY MARK THE END POINT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT; IT MUST BE THE EXPIRY DATE FOR GENDER INEQUALITY”*

Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka,  
Executive Director, UN Women (video message)

“Without pre-empting the discussions for the next three days, I want to share with you my singular view and recommendation. Twenty years post Beijing, we have baskets and baskets of policies, laws and legal instruments for the advancement of women and gender equality in this region and globally, including CEDAW. We have a huge implementation and accountability deficit; a big gap between the normative values and our lived experiences. I therefore recommend that our outcome document be centered on IMPLEMENTATION, ACCOUNTABILITY and RESOURCING. It should provide the critical directions and DOABLE actions that enable the world to move from rhetoric to reality. It must reassert and reinvigorate the commitment to human rights, as the framework underlying development, peace; equality and justice.”

Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda  
NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair;  
General Secretary World YWCA





“The challenges are clear: the annual Gender Gap Report - which was released last week by the World Economic Forum here in Geneva - highlighted once again persisting gender gaps across and within regions. The gender gap for economic participation and opportunity stands at 60% worldwide. The gap for political empowerment lags even further behind, standing now at 21% despite improvements over the past decade. The sad and unacceptable reality is that a baby girl born today will still have to confront inequality and discrimination, no matter where she lives - in different forms and in different measure. [...] Your agenda brings home the incredible potential of women as agents of change. Our failure to capitalize on this potential is a tremendous opportunity lost for all of us. Research demonstrates clearly that countries with higher levels of gender equality have higher economic growth. The Gender Gap Report, for example, showed the strong correlation between a country’s gender gap and its national competitiveness. We simply will not achieve economic progress, and we will not have a world at peace, a world where

all people can live in dignity and safety, without empowerment of women.”

Michael Møller, Acting Director-General,  
UN Office Geneva

«Nous sommes ici au cœur des Nations Unies, au cœur d’une ville qui accueille plus de discussions multilatérales qu’aucune autre ville sur la planète. [...] Genève est un lieu où l’on peut discuter et faire des bilans sur les grandes causes qui mobilisent le monde. Parmi celles-ci, les causes qui ont été identifiées à Pékin il y a 20 ans doivent faire l’objet d’une attention particulière. Dans maints domaines, elles ont progressé, et il y a eu ces 20 dernières années des avancées. Mais dans maints domaines aussi il y a eu des reculs sur lesquels l’ensemble de la planète doit porter attention »

François Longchamp, President,  
State Council for the Canton of Geneva

“If we talk about a self-determined life for women, equal economic opportunities and choices for women and girls, about women’s autonomy in controlling





when to have children, or about the sharing of family responsibilities between women and men, there is an underlying question: which kind of society do we want to live in? Which are the attitudes, norms and values that should determine our lives, our social interactions, and weave together our societies? It's about the future we want, for our children and grandchildren, daughters and sons. It's about a transformational vision of a better world for all. Gender equality needs to be a part of it."

Monika Linn, Principal Advisor UN ECE

"I keep hearing from men that those trying to advance gender equality talk too much about women, implying that we are not making an objective analysis of gender issues. I think that we often only look at the disadvantages that gender roles and stereotypes have for women, but do not look at the disadvantages for men. I postulate that the stereotypical gender roles are also constraining to men and we need to analyse and recognize this. We need to communicate that the changes we want, do not necessarily have to be negative for men. They can also bring advantages for many men who may suffer from the societal stereotypes and professional expectations on them. "[...]

"In order to advance gender equality, the empowerment of women is an important strategy because most inequalities affect women more, but it is not the only one. If we end up talking only about women, we lose the interest of men. However, if we talk about gender we face another problem. The complexity of the gender concept requires that we are much clearer about what we mean by promoting gender-sensitive devel-



opment or taking gender concerns into account. [...] The improved communication, increased gender capacity and the professionalization of gender expertise are key factors for advancing the empowerment of women and girls, the abolishment of gender stereotypes and the achievement of gender equality. "

Ursula Funk, Senior Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation

"I hope that we can make the links of the many aspects of the Beijing platform for action which have not been implemented, which have not been funded, to the Post-2015 agenda. We have to find a way and make sure they become part of the funding agenda for international cooperation for the next 15 years. It's time for action. Keep up the pressure. Keep up the good work. Let's be the strongest movement and be united all over the world!"

Sasha Gabizon,  
Executive Director, Elected Representative, Women's Major Group (WMG)

**Musical Interlude:** Ms. Nihan Atalay, Flutist; Associate professor at Mimar Sinan Fine Arts State University, Istanbul



# ACT | ADVANCE | ACHIEVE WOMEN'S RIGHTS – WHERE WE STAND IN THE UN ECE REGION; CRITICAL OVERVIEW – SUB-REGIONAL REALITIES

Monday 3 November 2014, 16:00 -17:00 – Room XVII

**Moderator:**

Ms. Ingibjorg Gisladdottir, UN Women Regional Director for Europe & Central Asia

**Speakers:**

- Ms. Malinka Koparanova, Senior Social Affairs Officer & Gender focal point, UN ECE
- Ms. Joanna Maycock, General Secretary, European Women's Lobby
- Ms. Kinga Lohmann, Founder & Executive Director, the Karat Coalition
- Ms. Anna Arganashvili, Project Manager, Partnership for Human Rights, Georgia
- Ms. Monika Kocaqi, Freelance expert in Gender Responsive Budgeting & Gender Based Violence, Albania
- Ms. Barbara Byers, Secretary-Treasurer, Canadian Labour Congress

**Rapporteur:**

Ms. Catherine Bosshart, UN representative, International Federation of Business and Professional Women

**Key messages & Recommendations**

- 1 AWARENESS:** Gender inequality is a worldwide issue with big differences in different areas. In some areas great progress has been made in promoting gender equality. In other areas there is a danger of falling back. Social norms, values, nationalism, and traditions are brought into consideration by ultra conservative forces. There is a progress but a very slow one and there are still gaps. Awareness is increasing. There is goodwill in favor of changes, and gender inequalities are recognized. But in certain areas there is probably still a long way to go! Different member states are advanced to different levels. Progress and regression are to be diagnosed.
- 2 LAWS:** In different countries there are specific laws that are supposed to promote gender equality. There is much good will. The main problem is implementation. Goodwill needs a better implementation of existing laws. There are obvious implementation gaps and gaps in services. Improvements of gender machineries are needed.
- 3 ECONOMY / POWER:** Here again a slow progress in women's political participation and women on boards is diagnosed. The impact of the global economic crises means more unemployment and poverty for women, involuntary part-time jobs, cuts in social spending, double burden of unpaid







care work, less public services, less financial supports, and pay-gaps. NGOs risk running out of money. Economy comes first; the national development is ahead of equality.

- 4 VAW: Violence against women and girls is the main problem in many countries. Governments and civil societies seemingly do not take notice of this. There is at least no public discussion of this deplorable situation. Violence and sexual violence do not become a public issue. Victims are again the weakest member of the society, girls and aborigines.
- 5 MONITORING: In order to be able to have good arguments in the political, social, and cultural discussion there is a need for strong and valid data. The message is clear: collect data that are based on gender sensitive issues! Look at data and analysis in regard of the situation. And that means a systematic monitoring of what is going

on in different countries and different segments of the society. Data is an issue for all regions. It is important to know for instance the underlying stereotypes in the media, in the families, in the education and at work. What does the women's economic participation look like? Statistics are vital and clear in their message. They show what has been achieved and what kind of efforts have to be done. Sex-aggregated data and gender sensitive indicators cannot be ignored in the public discussion and public opinion. Monitoring gives NGOs a strong tool in the discussions on gender.

- 6 LOBBYING / ADVOCACY: Despite many negative information there is some hope and determination! Solidarity among women is active and in demand. Share responsibility and bring NGOs in the action. There is a need to invest in different women's movements.

## A CALL FOR TRANSFORMATION - KEYNOTE SPEECH

Monday 3 November 2014 - Room XVII

**Keynote Speaker:** Dr Ervin Laszlo, Founder of the Club of Budapest, President of the E. Laszlo Center for Advanced Studies; Philosopher of science and systems theorist, Editor of *World Futures: the Journal of a new paradigm research*; Advisor to the UNESCO Director General; Twice nominated for the Nobel Prize. More on <http://ervinlaszlo.com>

**Rapporteur:** Ms. Marie-Claude Julsaint, UN representative, World YWCA

### Session Summary

There are myths about change: that it is linear, that it comes from the center, that it needs money and power to happen.

In fact, change comes from the grassroots and it will happen fast (tipping points). Right now we are close to the tipping point (the environment, gender issues). Now is the time for change, it has to be based on something else. In Biology Darwin said that change comes little by little, and old species that cannot survive will be replaced by new species. But this is not the case. Evolution is in fact abrupt. It does not come from the center; it comes from the periphery. The center does not change; it dies out and is replaced by the periphery. In biology we call these species **hopeful monsters**.

Men and women can be equally hopeful monsters. But women have the kind of values and visions to be hopeful monsters. Most men want to have results immediately with little regard to the rest. That is the basic problem with gender equality. That kind of attitude does not work when we are close to this tipping point. We can only make it together; this world cannot survive anymore with the dominance of one gender over the other.

### Key messages and recommendations

- 1 Men and women together need to make change happen - change will not be linear, not from the center, and does not need power and money
- 2 We need to emphasize UNITY and re-establish COHERENCE
- 3 We need a world shift - to shift our thinking (not only intellectual, also the heart) to change this world
- 4 We need a family spirit



## WOMEN'S RIGHTS: A POWER TO CREATE CHANGE

Monday 3 November 2014 – Room XVII

### Moderator:

Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, NGO CSW Geneva President; Forum Chair; General Secretary World YWCA

### Speakers:

- Ms. Paivi Kannisto, Senior Gender Advisor, Government of Finland
- Mr. Patrick Taran, President, Global Migration Policy Associates
- Ms. Selma Acuner, International Relations Coordinator, Women's Coalition -Turkey; UN Women-GCSAG member
- Ms. Meliya Asanova, Director, "Independent Life" Assistance Center for People with Disabilities, Ukraine
- Ms. Katja Iversen, CEO, Women Deliver, USA

### Rapporteur:

Ms. Marie-Claude Julsaint, UN Representative, World YWCA

### Key messages and recommendations

- 1 Disabled women need to be included in the outcome document/report of the ECE review
- 2 It is not enough to have a standalone goal on gender equality and women's empowerment (it also needs to be included in the industrialisation, energy, environment, peace and security components of the SDG agenda)
- 3 We need to reaffirm the Beijing PFA and its values, and reclaim the agenda (while ensuring to include men and boys, ageing women and other emerging issues)
- 4 Global (but also local and regional) governance needs to be inclusive of women: some governments are striving to reduce women's role and civil society's role and this is dangerous
- 5 We need to be alert because the SDG process is on going and we need to ensure the political will and commitment (for example to SRHR which is not fully reflected in the SDGs so far)
- 6 We should not expect anything less than a TRANSFORMATIVE and RIGHTS BASED agenda
- 7 It pays to invest in women and girls



## RECEPTION AT THE PALAIS ARIANA, sponsored by the City of Geneva

Welcome Remarks by Martine Brunschwig Graf, former National Councillor and former President of the State Council of Geneva



## INTRODUCTORY SESSION TO THE 16 INTERACTIVE ROUNDTABLES

*Tuesday 4 November 2014, 9:00 - 9:30, Room XVII*

“What do we want from Beijing+20? We need hope. We have to believe that violence against women and girls can end in our lifetime. And we have to regain confidence that patriarchy can be dismantled once and for all. Next year many global trends will point to a different conclusion. During the revue and appraisal of the Beijing PfA, we are going to hear a lot of scepticism about progress made. Both governments and NGOs will lament justifiably the negative impacts of the financial crisis, the slow progress on climate change negotiations, and setbacks to the women’s movement due to fundamentalism. And with all that backsliding we could end up discouraged. But that would be wrong.”

Ms. Soon Young Yoon, President, NGO CSW New York; UN Representative IAW

“The NGO CSW Vienna’s approach is to mainstream women’s concern and Gender Equality into the UN Agenda in Vienna. [...] Gender Equality cannot be gained only when women get together to discuss the various issues, but it can also be gained by being involved in all fields and policies where women are concerned”

Ms. Ilona Graentiz, President, NGO CSW Vienna; UN Representative IFUW

“What does that mean this needed shift into monitoring compliance of the many tools, laws, instruments, declarations, that have been signed, ratified and promised to women and girls of the world? ‘Women deliver’ (and not only babies as we were told yesterday) can now include delivering compliance by robustly holding governments accountable to comply. This is the next era of our women’s movement. [...] The Post-2015 agenda gives us a chance to implement and demand that compliance. Clear structures and accountabilities are necessary, and have been instrumental were significant progress has been made.”

Ms. Elly Pradervand,  
Chair, TF Beijing+20 / Substantive Issues, NGO CSW Geneva; Founder & CEO WWSF



# THE FUTURE WOMEN AND GIRLS NEED: HOW CAN WE MAKE IT HAPPEN?

Wednesday 5 November 2014, 9:00 – 10:00 – Palais des Nations Geneva – Room XVII

**Moderator:**

Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, President NGO CSW Geneva; General Secretary World YWCA

**Speakers:**

- Ms. Lakshmi Puri, UN Women Deputy Executive Director, Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships Bureau & Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Ms. Kristin Engvig, Founder & CEO, Women’s International Networking (WIN)
- Ms. Jensine Larsen, Founder & CEO, World Pulse
- Ms. Alanna Armitage, Director, UNFPA Office in Geneva
- H.E. Ms. Elissa Golberg, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations in Geneva

**Rapporteur:**

Ms. Hayley Ramsey-Jones, UN Representative, Soka Gakkai International

**Introduction:**

“Our future starts tomorrow”, opening the panel on “The future of women and girls need: how can we make it happen?”, Ms. Nyaradzayi remarked that the diversity of experiences, cultures and regions were an enriching factor to overcome barriers and move forward together.

The panel consisted of a team of experts in their respective fields, working to create positive changes for women in their daily lives.

**Summary of Panel Recommendations & Lobby Points:**

- 1 Strengthening effective accountability measures and ensuring full civil society’s engagement.
- 2 Pushing forward the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 2122.
- 3 Making sure that governments and the private sector are accountable.
- 4 Engaging men and boys toward solidarity and in a partnership focused movement.
- 5 Ensuring freedom of choice for women, including: access to education, water, food and security
- 6 Enabling women’s perspectives are brought to the forefront in ‘traditionally’ male dominated environments and ensuring that they are respected.





- 7 Utilizing the power of digital communications to connect women around the world, ensuring that their voices are heard and that women and girls' human rights can be advanced.
- 8 Removing obstacles and creating opportunities for women to achieve their full potential; enabling societies to achieve peace, security, justice and prosperity.
- 9 Ending child early and forced marriage by implementing specific target programs on child early and forced marriage in the post 2015 agenda.
- 10 Engaging opinion shapers at local levels, supporting grassroots to empower women in decision and policies making.
- 11 Reflecting gender perspectives into political processes and responding to the needs of the entire community.
- 12 Changing economic and political institutions and addressing core issues such as property rights, inheritance, improved access to finance, developing skills - including enabling women and girls to have access to non-traditional areas and occupations.
- 13 Enhancing women and girls' peace and security, including acknowledgment of sexual violence in armed conflict, ensuring accountability for perpetrators and supporting victims and survivors in receiving support needed so that they can successfully reintegrate into their societies.
- 14 Bringing a vision of communities where women and men can flourish and support each other.

- 15 Consolidating a network where women can exchange and share their views and opinions.
- 16 Investing in women and girls' education and health, including comprehensive sexuality education and access to sexual and reproductive health services which enable young people to delay child bearing.
- 17 Reflecting regional diversities and specificities in the discussion on gender equality.

### Summary of Discussion

#### Achievements and Progress

- 1 The Post 2015 looks at violence against women, economic empowerment, equal participation in public and private institutions and sexual and reproductive rights.
- 2 More technology has been used to connect women and girls' voices around the world and to raise awareness of their rights in a growing number of countries.
- 3 Progress and achievements across the region has been seen - however it is uneven.



## Challenges and Barriers

- 1 Women still represent the majority of poor people.
- 2 Inequalities and discrimination undermine women's participation in political life.
- 3 The disproportionate share of unpaid care work continues to limit women and girls' ability to access education, training and decent employment opportunities.
- 4 In the private sector women face a multitude of inequalities including at varying levels including: recruitment, retention and promotion this often leads to unequal wage.
- 5 Women are still being treated as 'victims' and not as 'actors'.
- 6 Violence and discrimination jeopardize women's access to education, health and enjoyment of human rights resulting in difficulties to achieve full empowerment and leadership.
- 7 Data shows a failure in improving women's participation in decision making; this has led to women's legitimate political interest not being addressed adequately; resulting in a decrease of capital income; economic and growth opportunities being held back and competitiveness and sustainability being thwarted.

## Emerging Issues

- 1 Training on digital empowerment for women can lift women out of isolation and poverty.
- 2 Ensuring the fulfillment of sexual and reproductive rights is essential in women and girls' lives.
- 3 Engaging men and boys, creating awareness and ensuring that they are part of the solution - this would greatly benefit societies.
- 4 Feminizing the workplace, ensuring that 'femininity' in the workplace is just as valuable as 'masculinity'.
- 5 Guaranteeing universal birth registration and vital statistics is key to tackle the issue of early forced marriage.

## Conclusions

- 1 Civil society organizations need to work more closely with the private sector.
- 2 Innovating technology represents a powerful tool to advance human rights through enhancing means of communication to connect and empower women around world.
- 3 Empowering girls and boys through positive role models who challenge gender roles and stereotypes.
- 4 Post-2015 agenda represents an opportunity to pull together issues relating to economic and political empowerment in comprehensive ways.
- 5 Ensuring that sexual abuse and violence in time of conflict are acknowledged and tackled in a context of women's peace and security agenda.
- 6 A resolution on gender equality and women and girls' human rights is necessary in moving forward.
- 7 Enhancing adequate resources and investment in gender equality and in women and girls' human rights.
- 8 Ensuring that women and girls' human rights are taken into account in all aspects of UN agencies' work.





## CLOSING CEREMONY

Wednesday 5 November 2015, 11:30 – 12:30, Room XVII

### Master of Ceremony:

Simone Ovar, Forum Co-chair;  
Representative to the UN ZONTA Intl.

### Speakers:

- Ms. Tarja Halonen, former President of the Republic of Finland
- Mr. Reinout Vos, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands; Chair UNECE
- Ms. Jane Connors, Director, Research and Right to Development Division, OHCHR
- Ms. Ingibjorg Gisladdottir, UN Women Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia
- Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbozanda, President NGO CSW Geneva & Forum Chair, General Secretary World YWCA

### Rapporteur:

Ms. Silvia Perel, UN Representative,  
International Network for the Prevention of  
Elder Abuse

The closing ceremony's high-level panel reflected the high spirits and commitment of the women's movement and participants at the forum during the last three days.

### Presentations summaries

#### Ms. Tarja Halonen

We have to respect culture and traditions but no culture can be based on the violation of human rights. Despite the resistance to put women's rights in the political agenda, this is a critical moment and it is time for a new paradigm. We require political commitments and resources. There is no human rights without women. Education is key, including education for human rights and sexual and reproductive health and rights, particularly for young women. We have strong evidence to support the investment in women to advance all dimensions of sustainable development. International Standards have to become embedded in everyday life.

#### Ms. Ingibjorg Gisladdottir

We all agree that we need a transformative agenda for women's rights and gender equality. Even though there are good policies we need to make sure that there is implementation and accountability. We need empowered citizens to monitor the implementation. Governments and the international community have to put the money where the mouth is and invest in women. Civil society plays a role in empowering women in every field of life.



1995 opened doors and barriers. Today, 20 years later, social conservatism is on the rise in Europe. If we are not alert this can turn the tide and progress made to-date can be jeopardized. But she expressed optimism that we can reach open-minded decision makers, women and men alike. To the five action principles: be bold, be wise, be firm, be cooperative, be persistent, she added a sixth: “be disobedient” as obedience never paid up for women. We need concrete actions to accelerate the implementation of Beijing PfA.

**Ms. Jane Connors**

Beijing was important in reaffirming that women and girls’ rights are Human Rights and therefore inalienable and inseparable. She stressed the convergence between women’s rights and Development. At OHCHR they promote the democratic space - working with civil society to promote women’s participation on the ground including through training and fellowships. She recognized that many human rights organizations face discrimination and are persecuted for cooperating with Human Rights mechanisms. OHCHR is launching a campaign on Women Human Rights defenders for Beijing+20, including a Social Media campaign. Despite many gains, women and especially vulnerable groups in Europe still face discrimination, wage gaps, psychological pressure by the media and they are excluded from the decision-making processes.

**Mr. Reinout Vos**

UNECE, is known for its economic role but it also has a gender program, responsible for the Beijing+20 process. While UNECE cannot simply cut and paste the Forum recommendations Mr. Vos assured that the UNECE would adopt the slogan, act, advance, achieve. He stressed the fact that the the Forum outcome will be presented at the first session of the UNECE regional meeting.

**Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbozanda**

Nyaradzayi expressed appreciation to the women organizations and their struggles, as well as all participants and all who contributed to the success of the forum. Thanks to the governments, the city and Canton of Geneva, speakers, interpreters, rapporteurs, security, volunteers and all who made it possible.

We have come together reinvigorated. We are not here just for gender equality. We are not just a movement for gender mainstreaming but a women’s movement. We refuse to stay in the status quo. We reclaimed the spirit of Beijing. And we came again to reclaim the future. We are reclaiming the space. We need quality space to organize for women’s rights.

We insist on accountability. Implementation, implementation and implementation, with resources. We do not want windows. We want doors. We want justice, NOW and we want a clear commitment from governments.





For many, it is not a question of choice. It is a question of survival.

To conclude, Nyaradzayi invited a sister in a wheelchair, a Roma woman, the youngest and oldest participants, as well as political figures to represent the diversity of Forum participants, and handed the NGO Forum Declaration to the chair of the UNECE, represented by Mr. Reinout Vos.



### Key messages & Recommendations

- 1 Governments and Civil Society, women and men need to work together to strengthen women's human rights.
- 2 Governments and the international community have to allocate resources and invest in women and implement previous and new commitments.
- 3 Let us take advantage of the strategic moment towards 2015, a convergence of international events such as Post 2015 and Beijing+20.
- 4 We need to continue to create international and regional standards, but more importantly we need implementation.
- 5 We need to dismantle the pervasive stereotypes of women.
- 6 We need to recognize that the economic crisis in the region affected women of all ages and all capabilities in a disproportionate way. Austerity measures in the region are gender-blind.
- 7 We need to address Violence against Women, which is systematically under-reported.
- 8 Post 2015 and all international commitments need to be Human Rights-based.

## FORUM THEME SONG: 'Maybe it's You'

Music by Julia Goldsby; Lyrics by Robin Goldsby

Performed by

Ms. Julia Goldsby, FAWCO Youth Ambassador

Ms. Robin Goldsby, FAWCO Cultural Ambassador

1

You're as bright as the morning sunshine,  
And you light up the day,  
You're as cool as a summer wind,  
And you chase the rain away,  
So look at me,  
You are strong,  
Look at me,  
You are beautiful.

2

You can crash through the highest ceiling,  
And you do it with grace,  
Slaying dragons with words of kindness,  
Putting peace in its place.  
So look at me,  
You are bold  
Look at me,  
You are wonderful.  
Maybe it's you,

You're the one who's gonna make it,  
You—standing up tall and proud,  
Maybe it's you,  
You can give it; you can take it,  
And rise above the roaring crowd.  
Robin-and-Julia You are brave,  
You are fighting for a change,  
You'll save,  
The life you want to live—

3

You're the queen of your private kingdom,  
And you're nobody's bride,  
Education is your salvation,  
With your sisters by your side,  
Look at me,  
You are brave,  
You are powerful!  
Maybe it's you,  
You're the one who's gonna make it,  
You—standing up tall and proud,  
Maybe it's you,  
You can give it; you can take it,  
And rise above the roaring crowd.  
Rise above the roaring crowd...



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# Interactive Roundtable 1: Women and Poverty

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 9:30-11:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XXIII

## Co-conveners:

**Renate Bloem,**  
UN Rep., CIVICUS

**Elly Pradervand,**  
UN Rep. & WWSF CEO; Taskforce Chair,  
Substantive Issues, NGO CSW Geneva B+20  
Review Forum

**Melik Ozden,**  
UN Rep., CETIM

## Moderator:

**Renate Bloem,**  
UN Rep., CIVICUS

## Speakers:

**Caren Grown,**  
Senior Director, Gender, World Bank Group

**Francine Mestrum,**  
Researcher, CETIM & Global Social Justice,  
Belgium

**Diana Skelton,**  
ATD Fourth World (Quart Monde)

**Marilou McPhedran,**  
Professor & Director, Institute for International  
Women's Rights, Global College, University of  
Winnipeg

**Bettina Fredrich,**  
Social Policy Desk, Caritas, Switzerland

**Margaret Owen,**  
Director, Widows for Peace through Democracy  
(WPD), UK

## Rapporteurs:

**Shannon Meehan,**  
Advocacy Coordinator, Children's Section, WWSF

**Megan Moleski,**  
WWSF intern; Boston University

## INTRODUCTION

Poverty was the most pressing issue during the first Beijing Conference in 1995 and remains so today. During the Beijing +5 Review, it was not as central of a concern due to the fact that the ECE region, at the time, was not struggling with the high levels of poverty it is seeing today. With recent recessions felt around the world, the ECE region is now forced to address increasing levels of poverty as well as people living near and under the poverty line. Human rights are threatened by poverty, and sufficient government action to alleviate this problem is lacking.



## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- Collect sex-disaggregated data at the individual level, and measure assets, time use, control of income, unpaid work, and land ownership.
- Address the link between the increase in poverty and the increase in militarization.
- Acknowledge the intersectionality of poverty and human rights, and accelerate legal empowerment of the poor ensuring property rights and legal identity.
- Shift focus from poverty to the inequality of power and wealth, and the process of impoverishment, specifically the accumulation of wealth and the inequalities of power that contribute to the lowest levels of society.

- Acknowledge that living in poverty makes people subject to multiple forms of discrimination, and take further action to understand and address the intersectionalities of discrimination.
- Initiate a macroeconomic finance agenda should be created oriented towards the improvement of women's rights and economic status as well as women's elevation in the labor force.
- Take additional measures to acknowledge care work in the system of social security and improve the reconcilability between family and work, particularly the situation of single parents.
- Create and implement comprehensive national action plans on extreme poverty, in accordance with the UN Guidelines on Extreme Poverty, and support the creation of a Special Rapporteur on Widowhood.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION



**Caren Grown** addressed the inequalities and gaps that still remain today when it comes to extreme poverty in the ECE region. She noted that women and girls are disproportionately

affected by extreme poverty, and escape poverty in different ways than men and boys. She emphasized that growth alone is insufficient to reduce extreme poverty, as many who live in extreme poverty face multiple inequalities that compound vulnerabilities.

Grown addressed four important issues that increase women's vulnerability to poverty that must be addressed in national policies as well as the post-2015 development framework: 1. Gender inequalities within labor markets make women particularly vulnerable to poverty. For instance, women tend to predominate informal employment where risks are high and pay is low, and are often unpaid contributing family workers. 2. Access to ownership and assets play a decisive role in women's livelihoods and the distribution of resources in households. When discriminatory policies block women's access to credit, jobs and property ownership, it inhibits

their ability to enter business, and use property for income generating activity. 3. Demographic changes ranging from separation and divorce to migration and shifting population composition affect women's vulnerability to poverty. In the ECE region, two issues are of particular importance: the ageing population and migration. 4. Time poverty, the disparity between the hours men and women comparatively work, increases women's vulnerability to poverty.

Moreover, Grown claimed that the world community has fallen short in producing key data to monitor and track progress. She said that while 80% of countries regularly produced sex-disaggregated statistics, this must be ramped up to include individual-level data regarding assets, time use, unpaid work, ownership, and the meaning of work (as recommended by the International Conference on Labor Statistics). Grown pointed to the benefits of impact evaluation evidence to learn and build from what works to eliminate poverty. She stated that we must address how to convert informal employment into formal employment, how to improve registration of land ownership and titling programs, and how to improve infrastructures to reduce unpaid work. Grown closed by calling for a macroeconomic financing agenda oriented toward the improvement of women's rights and economic status.



**Francine Mestrum** opened her presentation by addressing the difficulty in speaking about women and poverty. The first reason given was the lack of clarity regarding the definition

of poverty. While it is a multidimensional phenomenon, it is most often discussed in terms of income. Health, education, housing, and levels of economic empowerment, are all causes or consequences of the income deficit. Secondly, there is a lack of reliable and precise data capturing the income level of women. In the EU, poverty is measured at the relative level, so when median income declines, it is often said that poverty has declined which is not true for some countries. In addition, in places such as Hungary where less than 10% of the population is living below the poverty line, almost all incomes are densely concentrated around the poverty line, making it easy to fall below it. Mestrum stressed that these issues warrant closer attention.



Mestrum gave praise in the case of the Czech Republic who has the lowest rate of poverty, as they are also fervent advocates for human rights. She noted this telling correlation and urged us to look at the inter-linkage between human rights and poverty levels, and encourage nations with high levels of poverty to increase their human rights promotion. Mestrum strongly recommended that there is a shift in focus from poverty to inequality. She said that poverty is not a problem of poor people, but a problem of society. The answers to alleviate poverty will not be found by only looking at the bottom income levels, we must look at the top as well. There is an inequality of power, and if we want to tackle poverty, we should tackle the impoverishment process. Mestrum stated, “we do not need poverty reduction policies, we need fully transformative social protection policies to better prevent poverty”.



**Diana Skelton** recounted stories about the difficult choices women face as they confront dilemmas posed by national policies with unintended consequences, particularly for

single mothers. These stories called attention to policy gaps, which warrant disaggregated analyses to focus on particularly vulnerable groups of women in poverty. In the ECE region, she emphasized that the issues facing low-income women are often missed because of shortcomings in data collection. She also stressed that greater attention needs to be given to the multidimensionality of poverty in order to develop more effective anti-poverty strategies.

Skelton spoke about the stereotypes and discrimination that women face in the labor force for being low-income earners or for having disabilities. Skelton stressed the fact that poverty-based discrimination impacts women’s chances of getting hired, self-esteem, vulnerability to violence, and accessibility to education and health, among many other things. Moreover, social services, welfare, and police services subject women in poverty to increased surveillance, cumbersome bureaucratic procedures, and in many cases, humiliation, punishment and isolation when reaching out to social service agencies. Given the alarming numbers of children growing

up separated from their families in the ECE region, there is a strong need for child welfare policies to support women in their care-giving roles, instead of separating families. Skelton also brought to the forefront the emerging issue of employers using information technology to further fragment the time of their low wage workers, consisting mostly of women.



**Marilou McPhedran** opened her presentation by calling attention to the contradictory context in which B+20 is situated. On the one hand, women’s rights advocates face “policy and treaty fatigue” after two decades since the

Beijing Women’s Conference resulting in countless interventions made to advance the treaty and policy agenda, while still facing significant gaps. Yet at the same time, women are not giving up and will continue to work for the necessary advancements to realize the promises made at the 1995 Beijing Conference.

McPhedran brought up the correlation between gender inequality, ownership, and legal identity, among others. She noted that in Canada, university educated women earn 20% less than men in the public sector, and 18% less in the private sector. Additionally, minority workers earn 20% less than non-minority workers. She expressed concern about the decrease in funding for data collection and research on the status of women. Another very important correlation McPhedran made during her speech was the link between the increase in militarization and the increase in poverty. For example, in Canada the 2013 military spending budget was at its highest since the Cold War, and the most ever in Canadian history. She strongly recommended an active inquisition into how taxes are being spent and why governments choose to use that money to increase militarization instead of improving the lives of those in need. Additionally, she reaffirmed the intersectionalities between poverty and human rights, and urged governments to use normative human rights tools such as the Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights.



|||||  
**Bettina Fredrich** related the topic of women and poverty to Switzerland, and informed participants that there are 590,000 people in Switzerland affected by income poverty, with single mothers being the most affected.

She described the gender gaps in Switzerland: men comprise 6.8% of those in poverty, and women make up 8.6%. 16.7% of women are at risk of poverty and social exclusion, compared to 14.3% of men. She then explained the primary reasons for the gender gap. Firstly, social security is connected to paid work, which does not cover part time work or unpaid care work. Secondly, care work in Switzerland is a private challenge. Therefore, a large number of men stay at home looking after their children, which increases their risk of poverty in case of divorce, and presents a significant challenge for single parents (especially mothers) to reconcile their family and career. In addition, women are discriminated in pay and often work in branches with low wages, and the lack of recognition of foreign diplomas renders migrants as low qualified and puts them at a higher risk of poverty. Ms. Fredrich recommended that care work should be acknowledged in the system of social security, and that measures should be taken to improve the reconciliation between family and work.



|||||  
**Margaret Owen** stated that widows and widowhood have no mention in the 1995 BPfA, although each of the 12 critical areas of concern have relevance to the low status of widows and their children.

Although age discrimination is mentioned as one of the barriers to women's advancement, Owen claimed that it ignores the problematic status of widows, widowhood-related discrimination and abuse which makes them so poor.

Relating specifically to the ECE region, one common coping strategy of impoverished widow mothers in Eastern Europe and Russia is to withdraw their girl children from school. The poverty of widows and their daughters, especially in countries such as Moldova, Romania, Russia and Slovakia, makes them vulnerable to prostitution and human trafficking. In all countries of the ECE region, austerity cuts have

eliminated or reduced support programs that widows rely on, leaving them further isolated to the detriment of their physical and mental health. In rural areas, widows may be barred, through discriminatory customs and traditions, from accessing their rights to inheritance, land ownership and property. Migrant and asylum-seeking widows face particular challenges such as limits to work authorization and meager financial assistance. The conflicts of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and Ukraine have created uncounted numbers of widows dealing with these issues.

Owen recommended including widows and elderly women in data collections, to address the negative impact that austerity measures have had on widows, and to solicit information in policy design and assessment from organizations focused on widows. She also expressed the need for widowhood issues to be addressed in the post-2015 framework, and recommended the formation of a UN Special Rapporteur on Widowhood, as well as a UN Resolution on Widowhood.

## CONCLUSIONS



|||||  
 As stated by moderator **Renate Bloem**, the consensus emerging from the roundtable was that we are in need of a DATA REVOLUTION. Data must be disaggregated in new ways to

understand the realities of women and poverty in order for civil society and governments to take appropriate action to alleviate it. The importance of understanding and addressing the intersectionalities of poverty and the various forms of discrimination against women that accompany it was also integral to this roundtable conversation.

## Interactive Roundtable 2: The Education and Training of Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 9:30-11:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XVII

### Convenors:

**Hayley Ramsay-Jones and Kazunari Fujii,**  
Soka Gakkai International

**Sabine Kinzer and Wilfrida Hendrickx,**  
Soroptimist International

### Moderator:

**Daniele Castle,**  
International Federation of University Women

### Keynote Speaker:

**Maria Lusia Frosio,**  
University Professor and Education and  
Training Advocate

### Rapporteurs:

**Ivy Gabbert,**  
Soka Gakkai International

**Francesca Fletcher Williams,**  
Soroptimist International

in sheltered housing and those living in conflict situations. The core recommendations that were developed during the discussions are:

1. Develop and Introduce Education for Global Citizenship and Women's Leadership
2. Promote and Ensure the Use of Available Technologies to Increase Access to Quality Education
3. Ensure the Existence and Availability of Accessible Community-Based Safe Spaces for Inclusive, Continuing and Lifelong Education
4. Increasing the Inclusion and Participation of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality
5. The Establishment of Effective, Accountable, and Gender Sensitive Monitoring Systems, and to promote Capacity Building.

All these consensus, outcome-orientated recommendations, and the additional supplementary recommendations outlined below, originated from the roundtable's 187 participants. These participants represented a cross-section of society, organisations and experts from across the UN ECE Region. All relate to the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action, and emerging issues in the area of education and training relevant to the Beijing Platform for Action.

### INTRODUCTION

Education and training policies must be based upon human rights and anti-discrimination policies, and must be recognised as a universal goal that is essential for individuals and communities to access other rights and benefits, including sustainable development. Education contributes to the independence, autonomy, self-sustainability, and economic and social empowerment of women and girls, and is one of the most effective tools for alleviating poverty for individuals and communities. Without access to quality,

### SUMMARY

Education and training is a cross-cutting issue that affects the progression of gender equality for every woman and girl. Proper access to education for girls and women of all ages is a fundamental human right, and is vital for development, economic growth, and poverty reduction. The ECE region has been largely successful in progressing the availability of accessible, quality education, particularly for girls, but there are still significant gaps and challenges which need to be addressed. Subsequently, the roundtable on Education and Training focused upon the challenges faced by women and girls who suffer multiple discriminations and live in vulnerable circumstances, which includes (but is not limited to) the time-poor, working women, rural women, ethnic minorities, mothers, older women, the girl child, migrants, travellers, those with disabilities, women living

safe, inclusive and life-course education and training, girls and women of all ages will not be equal participants and contributors to society at every level.

For current and future strategic objectives on the education and training of girls and women of all ages to be most effectively achieved, all relevant policies must build upon existing UN international conventions and agreements. Commitments and actions contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Rio Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Copenhagen Declaration on social development, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, must be reaffirmed, implemented and fulfilled. Education and training, particularly for all women and girls, is essential to the successful achievement of sustainable development. Therefore, the current language of Goal 4 of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals must be included in the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The agreed Sustainable Development Goals must be described, considered and treated as an extension of pre-existing treaties, case law and expert advisory opinions.

For the educational needs of all women and girls to be met, and for the aims of equality and empowerment to be achieved, inclusive interventions to provide education that encompasses all groups, especially marginalised, vulnerable and discriminated-against groups, is critical. Without further commitment and the development of strategies to ensure that all women and girls have full and equal access to education, gender inequality and discrimination will continue to exist. Therefore, as part of the 20 year review of the Beijing Platform for Action, representatives of civil society, international and national non-governmental organisations, and experts offer the following recommendations in line with the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action, and emerging issues in the area of education and training relevant to the Beijing Platform for Action.

### **1. Develop and Introduce Education for Global Citizenship and Women's Leadership**

In a sustainably developing world, education must provide leadership skills, promote a culture of peace and tolerance, and enhance confidence, integrity, and critical thinking skills. By doing this women

and girls will be equally equipped with the professional, social and life skills needed to become individually empowered and equal contributors to society. Despite previous commitments and agreements, women and girls remain under-represented at all levels of society. They do not get an equal voice in decision making processes and consequentially gender-sensitive approaches and considerations are continuously overlooked or side-lined. Education and training policies are a key method of overcoming gender barriers that continue to sustain discrimination against women and girls. To ensure that all women and girls, especially those who experience multiple discriminations, are properly included in all levels of society, and achieve empowerment and equality, the following actions are recommended:

- All education professionals should be properly trained in gender issues, gender-sensitive approaches and equipped with the resources to develop and implement gender-aware curricula that are designed to break down gender barriers at every level of education.
- All educational environments must be safe spaces for learners and educators. Educational environments must be inclusive and gender-sensitive, and offer appropriate facilities to promote the educational needs of all women and girls, including mothers, those living with disabilities and older women.
- Women and girls must be equipped with knowledge on their rights, and the legal protections available to them.
- Education must include the teaching of leadership skills and personal development to encourage the abilities of women and girls to be representatives and leaders at every level of society.
- All learners must acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote human rights, gender equality, and a culture of peace.

### **2. Promote and Ensure the Use of Available Technologies to Increase Access to Quality Education**

Many women and girls live in situations where they are unable to access equitable, quality and safe edu-

cation. Those living in situations where they cannot access education are often vulnerable and face increased risks, and therefore have a significant need to access quality education. In those circumstances new innovative ways to provide education and training must be developed. Technology is an increasingly available educational tool that promotes the availability and accessibility of quality and safe education to all, and especially those unable to access equitable, quality and safe education. Therefore, the following is recommended:

- Technology-based education that provides educational flexibility to those who are living in insecure and vulnerable situations, those who are unable to participate continuous education and those who are time-poor must be made available.
- Use and disseminate technology to improve access to education particularly in times of conflict.
- Education that is made available and accessible through technology must comply with approved educational standards and policies in line with UN international conventions and agreements.

These actions will contribute to the ability of women and girls to access and achieve in STEM careers, to update their skills, increase their employability and will contribute to life-long education.

### **3. Ensure the Existence and Availability of Accessible Community-based Safe Spaces for Inclusive, Continuing and Lifelong Education**

The needs of many women and girls, particularly those who live in vulnerable and marginalised situations and communities, and those who experience multiple discriminations, are not adequately provided for in traditional educational and training environments. Therefore, it is necessary to facilitate and provide flexible and inclusive access to education for all, and non-traditional learning environments and methods must be developed. Community-Based safe and secure spaces provide an important mechanism to provide women and girls with human-rights based education and training. It is recommended that accessible community-based safe spaces for inclusive, continuing and lifelong education be used to achieve the following:

- The creation of inclusive educational environments where women and girls have ownership, can develop themselves socially, educationally and personally, and are able to achieve success as individuals and as members of their community.
- To create support networks that provide a platform for other enabling and empowering opportunities that are necessary for the ongoing development and improvement of the status of women and girls.
- The development and implementation of adaptable, modular learning systems and models that cater for the multitude of circumstances and the lifelong educational needs of women and girls.

These recommendations have been shown to help reduce drop-out rates and combat a multitude of educational challenges that face women and girls. They have been found to be particularly effective in providing education to all women and girls, but especially for mothers, those who are time poor, women living in vulnerable circumstances, those living with disabilities, marginalised groups, and victims of violence.

### **4. Increasing the Inclusion and Participation of Men and Boys in Achieving Gender Equality**

The achievement of gender equality will benefit all of society and empower all people, including men and boys. Men and boys are also well placed to help instigate and contribute to societal, behavioural and attitude change. Therefore, the following recommendations are given to better include men and boys in the achievement of gender equality:

- Gender equality issues, and gender-sensitive expertise must be included on all curricula and educational materials at all levels of education and training.
- Education and training materials, including textbooks, must be non-discriminatory and not reinforce gender stereotypes.
- Gender studies, citizenship and human rights need to be taught in schools and training programs, at all stages of education. All people

should be equipped with the tools to combat gender based violence, discrimination and the negative effects of gender stereotypes that detrimentally affect all members of society.

- Continuing education that includes mutual respect, personal, social, and health education must be included in education programs for people of all ages.
- Programmes and training must be developed and fully implemented to address the attitudes of public servants and those working in areas which demand gender awareness.
- Transformative, normative and inclusive public awareness raising campaigns should be developed with the participation of all stakeholders.
- The Establishment of Effective, Accountable, and Gender Sensitive Monitoring Systems, and to promote Capacity Building.

Proper data collection, monitoring, evaluation and capacity building processes is essential to ensure the full implementation of actions that will contribute to the end of gender inequality and the empowerment of all women and girls, to promote dialogue, interaction and cooperation between stakeholders, and to improve accountability. Therefore, the following is recommended:

- That micro-level data must be collected and used to develop the most effective policies and practices that will benefit communities and individuals.
- Actions must be taken to better develop links and collaborative work between communities, NGOs, CSOs, academia and governments to improve the capacity of effective programs for gender equality.
- Improved and adequate sustainable financing and budgeting is required to be developed and implemented and must include accessible accountability mechanisms.
- Alternative gender-sensitive financing methods should be explored, including community saving schemes and micro-financing.

- All data collection, monitoring, evaluation and capacity building processes must take a human rights-based approach, be inclusive and non-discriminatory, provide disaggregated information and include gender-sensitive mechanisms.

## ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Sexual and reproductive education must have a human rights based approach, be available to all, and include quality education on family planning.
3. Gender awareness training must be included in all professional training, including public servants, health care professionals, education professionals and legal professionals.
4. Access to quality and free childcare is crucial to enable mothers of all ages to access education and training, and to promote skills that will improve employment chances and personal development.
6. Lifelong employment training must be made available to women and girls.
7. Educators and learning environments should adopt gender neutral policies, whilst maintaining awareness of gender-sensitive issues.
8. Access to vocational training and non-formal learning must be promoted.

## CONCLUSIONS

It is essential that the focus of future policies and mechanisms that contribute to the achievement of empowerment and equality for girls and women of all ages must have a gender-sensitive, human rights-based approach and address the specific needs of vulnerable groups. The fundamental problems facing the education and training of women and girls in the ECE region does not differ from the rest of the world. Further concerted, sustained and accountable actions based upon the above recommendations must be taken to close the gender gap and achieve the full realization of the Beijing Platform for Action.

## Interactive Roundtable 3: Women and Health

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 14:30-16:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XXIII

### Co-conveners:

**Afton Beutler,**  
UN Representative, MLP

**Manjit Dosanjh,**  
UN Representative, IFUW

### Moderator: Director, UNFPA

**Alanna Armitage,**  
Director, UNFPA Geneva Office

### Speakers:

**Elizabeth Carll,**  
Coordinator United Nations NGO Committee on  
Mental Health Global Mental Health Action Plan  
& NCDs Initiatives, New York, USA

**Iliana Balabanova-Stoycheva,**  
Coordinator of the Bulgarian Women's Lobby  
and member of Gender Research Foundation,  
Bulgaria

**Katja Iversen,**  
CEO Women Deliver, USA

**Nancy B. Finn,**  
Healthcare Journalist, Global Alliance for  
Women's Health

**Laetitia Van Haren,**  
Cultural anthropologist, MLP

### Rapporteurs:

**Mutua Kobia,**  
Asst. Program Director, Global Education  
Opportunity, Global Education Motivators

## INTRODUCTION

Women have a right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. The enjoyment of this right is vital to their life and wellbeing and to their ability to participate in all areas of public and private life. It is most crucial that women are also able to have control over their sexual and reproductive rights and have the freedom of choice in order to be empowered and live healthy and happy joyous lives.

Improvements are required in areas such as gender specific approaches to health, research and medicines as well as data and specific statistics in fields directly related to physical and mental health such as violence against women, domestic violence, torture and additionally women in marginalized situations and positions.

Political will needs to be intensified, particularly in implementation of providing affordable and accessible health care services, training facilities and educational institutions. It is important to recognized and take advantage of digital technology that improves health outcomes.



## SUMMARY OF PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS & LOBBY POINTS

- Ensure that no-one dies of preventable causes.
- Protect women's rights and freedom of choice to control their body, fertility and sexuality.
- Ensure political will, commitment to and investment in making sexual and reproductive health and rights a reality for all, including ensuring access to age-appropriate evidence-based comprehensive sexuality and HIV education, as well as women's and girls' access to legal, safe, modern and free contraception, abortion services and family planning to end preventable maternal mortality and morbidity.
- Urgently address the emerging incidence of sex selection and foetal abortion in some ECE countries.
- Ensure accessible, affordable and quality health care services to all to ensure health for women and reduce women's unpaid care burden.
- Ensure gender specific health research and medical practices.
- Provide comprehensive mental health care services and support for all women of all ages.
- Provide effective health care services targeted at non-communicable diseases, including diabetes and heart disease.
- Provide free breast cancer screening and free access to testing for and treatment of cervical cancer, especially Human Papillomavirus (HPV) in young women.
- Leverage opportunities of technology for women's access to health information and services.
- Protect women's rights and choice to control our bodies, fertility and sexuality.
- Support and promote nutrition for holistic health and well-being.

- Protect and fulfill women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Protect the right of women to decide freely whom to marry and whether and when to marry and have children.
- Ensure every woman has access to a clean and healthy environment, especially water, sanitation and clean cooking technologies.
- Ensure women's equal access to health care services throughout her life course, including women's shelters, without discrimination based on legal or migration status, disability, sexual exploitation, sex work, sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age or religion.
- Integrate and promote digital tools and eHealth to enhance and empower women's health care and health choices.

### Allana Armitage - Moderator

The health of women should be considered throughout her life course. The time now is crucial for a turning point and agenda – review of 20 yrs, Cairo. There has been confirmed progress but also confirmed growing inequalities, the gains from development in the past few years remain unfair and unjust and continue to be unevenly distributed. The fruits of development gains are not fair nor evenly distributed and currently the right to health is only inspirational and not yet a reality.

**Dr. Elizabeth Carll** - *Coordinator, United Nations NGO Committee on Mental Health Global Mental Health Action Plan & NCDs Initiatives, New York, USA*

Physical and mental well-being is not simply the absence of illness. There is a great need and it is highly critical that the aspects of and services for physical and mental health for women are integrated in policies. Recent studies have suggested that depression may surpass cancer to become the number one concern yet it is hardly addressed, for example, heart disease (chronic illness and desegregated data). The majority of research is focused on men but this is changing and new information coming out, for instance the age of women who suffer from such types of illnesses.





In 2011 the NCD agenda began looking more closely at mental health and every country in the World Health Organization (WHO) signed on and have agreed to the mental health program. Finally, in May of 2012 WHO came with the mental health Action Program that considers many aspects, components, and interactions with mental health including environment, violence, economy, war and many other relevant features. One of the more important aspects is the direct correlation between depression and chronic illnesses and the prevailing differences between men and women to further illustrate the importance of these distinctions. However, more disaggregated data needs to be collected and considered, for instance, the connections between post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and heart and cardiovascular diseases, breast cancer, stroke, and even marital stress and other toxic relationships; further research and better data needs to be collected as the symptoms for women are not the same and are not as predictable as for men. These interconnections demonstrate that the reduction of disease cannot occur without addressing mental health.

In terms of advocacy, mental health was mentioned in the 2013 Review in New York and has been included in the NCDs and chronic illnesses. However, more equitable access to mental health-based facilities and programs is needed. With reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 3 on health must include mental health (possibly under Goal 3.4) as well as give clear and concise definitions and assessments. There is need for a comprehensive



action plan for women's mental and physical health that needs to be all-inclusive and presented with the proper language. Timelines and targets are critical to implementation, and therefore, need to be set as soon as possible.

**Iliana Balabanova-Stoycheva** - *Coordinator of the Bulgarian Women's Lobby and member of Gender Research Foundation, Bulgaria*

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Domestic violence (DV) continues to be a major issue globally. Progress in terms of protection against (DV) has come about but there still remains a large number of victims. For example, in Bulgaria 54 percent of students aged 13-16 are familiar with victims who have experienced (DV) and 1 in 3 women are victims of (DV) (*no official stats but those provided by NGO = 54% victims of sexual harassment and students 13-16 familiar with victims who experienced DV. 1 in 3 women are victims of DV*). More data is needed and should be expanded upon such as that of the FRA survey (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights).

Violence against women encompasses several areas of abuse including violence against elderly women (8 to 10 percent of domestic violence victims are elderly people), domestic and sexual violence, and psychological violence. Considering the situation of refugee women the issue of sexual and gender based violence needs to be addressed and protection and other necessary services should be provided. Among young women and girls, physical violence is more prevalent and can lead to neglect and other psycho-

logical problems; sexual violence is on the rise, yet, discussion of the subject remains a taboo.

Considering the amount of victims from such abuses there is need for more assistance as of: yet protective shelters and women services have not only been shut down but has seen a cut in funding. This calls for more attention to the Istanbul Convention in that all countries must sign and be party to it (Bulgaria has not signed the Convention). Maternal mortality is also another important issue that requires attention. In some countries it is not easy to examine the situation due to fluctuations in data as is the case with Bulgaria. This is due to a lack of services in remote areas, a gap between the rich and poor, and a lack of official statistics from the government; more data should come from organizations such as the WHO and the World Bank.

It is necessary to initiate and monitor the legal systems in place to combat the situation of violence against women. Women must be ensured access to justice and penal reform is essential, particularly on the issue of accountability. A specialized approach to women and refugee women is needed. In order to achieve these goals it is important to increase networking and alliance building as well as work on the international level.

**Katja Iversen** – CEO, *Women Deliver*, USA

Women's ability to control fertility and sexuality leads to empowerment of women. For instance, they should have the right to decide whether or not to get pregnant. By investing in girls and women issues such as health and women's rights will not only get the necessary attention needed but will also help advance, examine and exercise implementation and political will in order to achieve the intended goals such as sexual and reproductive rights. There are many other aspects that relate to maternal, sexual, reproduction, and rights indirectly related to health such as the economy and the infrastructure. Additionally, family planning, education, and the freedom of choice must be prioritized and planned in collaboration with other relevant sectors.

Maternal health remains a critical yet preventable issue. Even though there has been an increase in awareness to the subject, more action needs to be taken especially with relation to access to health services. The attention on family planning is grow-

ing but access to such education and services is uneven. Other critical areas related to maternal health that must be addressed include Women's health in general, non-communicable diseases, and especially the aspect of nutrition, which has for the most part been ignored.

Solutions to such problems exist. However, in order to tackle these problems it is necessary to intensify political will, support a cross-cutting approach that addresses education, water and sanitation, economic empowerment, women and leadership (for example, Rwanda), incorporate and invest in the youth and form strong partnerships and collaborations with other organizations including the private sector as well as journalists and the media. Looking ahead to the Sustainable Development Goals post 2015, the solutions should not only consider the above-mentioned issues but also at the structure itself. Additionally, the women Deliver 2016 will hold its 4<sup>th</sup> Global Conference in Copenhagen (May, 2016), which will provide coverage and solutions.

**Laetitia vanHaren** – *Cultural Anthropologist, MLP*

Motherhood should be a pleasure and joy for women to choose if, how and when and must not be a sad moment in a woman's life. Unfortunately, several obstacles persist towards attaining adequate perinatal health. In order to achieve optimal child birth conditions. It is crucial to have the right attitude and positive bonding between the child and the mother, father, siblings, extended family and community.

Closer attention needs to be paid towards the obstacles experienced by isolated communities; aside from geographical isolation other indirect factors have to be analyzed and addressed. For example, language barriers and discrimination towards isolated women. With regards to poor communities political recommendations are minimal, and therefore, has to increase. There exists a difference/gap between mothers from certain regions of the world and in turn maternal mortality across the globe. It is important to be cautious of this gap and address the particular conditions accordingly. In some areas physical and psychological health and risk of postnatal depression may vary, for instance, the risk of postnatal depression is higher in isolated communities. Other basic risks that require attention include severe bleeding, infection, and eclampsia. Training

and education can help reduce such risks and increase chances of a healthy birth.

In most instances maternal health is more a biological issue but has tended to have become a gender issue because of the patrilineal political system; it is for this reason new insights need to be shared evenly regarding how to approach maternal health. Additionally, it is important to avoid over-medicalized terminology.

It is essential to share and spread information and knowledge particularly through the WHO Global Health Strategy.

The psycho-social aspects of child birth that require immediate attention are first and foremost accessibility and affordability of health services and equipment, respect for the mother's dignity, and the consideration of marginalized groups who suffer alienation. Lastly, cultural sensitive approaches must be considered between regions.

**Nancy Finn** - *Healthcare Journalist, Global Alliance for Women's Health*

The reasons, in which, there are advances in health are due to the three pillars of digital healthcare.

The first is full information at the point of care. Using digital tools (e-health) one can access his or her digital health record that includes their health and medical records in a complete full health profile created by the patient. Additionally, the patient can exchange important health information.

This leads to the second pillar, communication, collaboration, and coordination; the continuity of care. Patient portals enhances various forms of communication through e-mail and e-visits via tele-medicine and video conferencing, which may encourage and promote health social networking communities.

Finally, data access, chronic care management and improved health can be accomplished via the internet through the use of tablets and smart phones but also regular cell phones considering the majority of the population use the latter. Short Message Systems (SMS) can easily be used as notification or reminder tools, for instance, with relation to nutritional advice, organizing and keeping up with appointments, and/or consumption of medication.

Not only can patients seek out relevant information but can also utilise the social networking communities as a platform for the exchange of information. This process enables patients to better understand their health issues and gives them the freedom to choose the best option for themselves. Several digital tools that enables control management of diseases already exist. In addition to smartphone applications, wearable devices facilitates monitoring, for example, with technology that detects heart rate. These devices are quickly gaining acceptance as a mainstream and commodity product. They can be used anywhere, by anyone, and at any time with ease as they are user-friendly and battery or solar powered.

Digital tools, mhealth and ehealth improves health outcomes because they allow women to care for themselves, gives them the freedom to make educated choices for themselves and their families as well as treatment decisions, and provides an effective integration with the e-network and engagement with other women across the globe. Digital tools can lead to empowerment of health choices by women.

## EMERGING ISSUES

Mental health has been gaining awareness in the past few years and is one of the key emerging issues that needs to be addressed as it relates to many aspects of women's health including violence against women. The issue of trauma needs to be recognized across the board (e.g. with relation to prostitution and late-onset depression) as well the association with drugs. Governments, health experts, and patients need to take full advantage of digital tools, mHealth, eHealth, and new technologies for the empowerment of women.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, if effective health care is provided at the community and grassroots level with a pro-active approach then women will be able to receive adequate health care services and enjoy a better life and well-being. Solutions need to be clear and pro-active and those already in place should be implemented immediately. When the world invests in the health, rights and wellbeing of girls and women, a ripple effect develops that benefits all segments of society.



## Interactive Roundtable 4: Violence against Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 11:30-13:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XXII

### Convenor:

**Marie-Claude Julsaint,**  
Global Program Manager for Violence against Women, World YWCA

### Speakers:

**Olena Liakhova,**  
Peacekeeper, UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations

**Marilou McPhedran,**  
Professor and Director, Institute for International Women's Rights, Global College, University of Winnipeg

**Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard,**  
President, Zonta International

**Pierrette Pape,**  
Policy Officer and Project Coordinator, European Women's Lobby

### Moderator:

**Trin Kapp,**  
Pastor, Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church

### Rapporteurs:

**Kawa Banda,**  
World YWCA

**Brigitte Polonovski,**  
International Council of Women

The Interactive Roundtable on Violence against Women provided a space for critical analysis and discussions on the key achievements in combating VAW in the ECE region in the last 20 years, on the existing legal framework for accountability, on the emerging issues and how to address the gap between violence against women in the Beijing Platform for Action and in the proposed Sustainable Development Goals.

Over 90 recommendations were made by the Roundtable participants and speakers. The key recommendations are listed below.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

### Achievements and Progress since Beijing + 15

- In 2009, the United Nations launched a 'global effort' initiative to increase the number of female police officers into national police services and into UN peacekeeping operations, and as a result of this special project, more than 2,000 female police staff were trained.
- In 2013, the CEDAW Committee adopted General Recommendation 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post conflict situations, and that same year the UNSC adopted a 6th resolution on women, peace and security – UNSCR2106 – which noted the range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and requires sexual violence concerns to be addressed in disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration processes (DDR). UNSCR2106 also developed a set of indicators to track implementation of UNSCR1325 globally.
- With CEDAW General Recommendation 30, we see a new development, which is a concerted and integrated approach with the Security Council agenda on women, peace and security.

- In October 2013, a 7th resolution on women, peace and security finally addressed the gap in implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, such as women’s full political participation in peace talks and peace agreements.
- The Istanbul Convention, adopted in 2014, is the first comprehensive European legal framework addressing violence against women, and it strengthens the CEDAW convention.



### Challenges, Barriers and Emerging Issues

VAW has an impact in all the critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action:

- **Poverty:** VAWG increases women’s risk of poverty and social exclusion
- **Education:** Girls and young women experience sexism, sexual harassment and violence in schools and universities.
- **Health:** VAWG leads to several sexual and psychological issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (including for women in prostitution), depression, at-risk behavior, sexually transmitted diseases and mental health
- **Armed conflict:** Rape is used as a “weapon of war” tactic in contemporary wars and conflict situations
- **Economy:** Sexual harassment at work, the situation of migrant women workers, and the impact of the economic and financial crisis
- **Power and decision-making:** Women in politics face sexism, cyber hate and harassment

- **Human rights:** Women human rights defenders face sexual violence, women’s organisations are attacked and threatened.
- **Media:** women face hostility and harassment on the internet and in social media; gender stereotyping, objectification and sexualisation of girls and women, trivialisation of VAWG
- **Environment:** Women climate change activists are threatened by criminalisation and violence, including rape
- **Girl-child:** Violence in the family, girls at higher risk of sexual violence legitimised by sexist stereotypes, religious and customary practices (FGM, child, early and forced marriages), trafficking and prostitution

For the last 20 years there has been a multiplicity of goals relating to many issues in women’s lives, including education, health, equal rights and violence, and actions have been undertaken to achieve these individual goals. However, there has been little success in addressing the interconnectedness between the goals.

At the global level, we witness an attack on women’s human rights, which ultimately has an impact on the scale of VAWG. Progressive language on sexual and reproductive rights, “protection” of and rights within the family, as well as attempts to discredit “dignity” as an old-fashion or moralist concept when dignity is the basis of humanity and human rights, all show that VAW has become negotiable. There is





a lack of political will at all levels to make life free of violence a universal and inalienable right for all women and girls.

In the ECE region, there is also the myth that equality has been achieved, and this acts as a barrier to further eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including emerging forms.

## CONCLUSIONS

- Violence against women and girls is the most widespread violation of women's human rights and it affects all women. It is prevalent in all spheres of society and life, and therefore shapes women's place in society.
- In October 2014, Rashida Majoo, Special Rapporteur on VAW recommended to the UNGA that "a different set of laws and practical measures are urgently needed to respond to and prevent the systemic, widespread and pervasive human rights violations experienced largely by women".
- Member states have a duty of due diligence, therefore they need to be accountable for their (non)-actions. Unless the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process stops to allow States to refuse recommendations by their peers, we will not reach the goal of eliminating VAW.

- There is a need for greater coherence in the UN's system of global governance (eg. the Human Rights Council and the Security Council need to be complementary) in order for women's lived experiences of rights to effectively allow them to live a life free of violence.
- The conclusions of the 2012 Global Study on VAW in 70 countries and over 4 decades which affirmed that feminist movements were key to change and that they were the single most important factor for effectiveness.
- To end VAWG, we need a new model based on other values: respect, solidarity, dignity, equality, care, using feminist economics.
- We demand women's and girls' liberation from violence not just less violence.
- There needs to be a paradigm shift that looks at male responsibility and male leadership. The responsibility for taking a stand on issues of VAW should be on adult men with power and they should be held accountable if silent.
- We need more data, more regional instruments on VAW, like the Istanbul Convention, to strengthen CEDAW, prevention to change mentalities, services to support and assist victims, access to justice to end impunity and with reparation, comprehensive sexuality and equality education.
- Equal rights and a life free of violence can only be achieved with a strong human rights based approach in the post-2015 agenda.
- The nexus between Beijing and the Sustainable Development Goals is in Goal 5 – Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls, which is a pre-requisite for the achievement of all the other sustainable development goals. What has not been pre-defined is how to achieve the indicators of Goal 5: ending all forms of discrimination, violence and harmful practices; ensuring equal access to all resources and opportunities; undertaking the necessary reforms. Prevention of the root causes of violence against women through education could be one way to achieve the indicators with success.

### Key Panel Recommendations

We recall all the recommendations from the Beijing PFA and from the Beijing + 5, Beijing + 10 and Beijing + 15 review sessions that have not been implemented yet.

A human rights based approach must be used in addressing VAW.

All ECE States must sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention, and encourage other States to do the same.

The legal framework on VAW exists, we demand implementation, due diligence and accountability from the States.

The response to VAW should include better connections, intersections and linkages in data and services related to and for women.

All States must ensure national laws criminalize non-State torture perpetrated by non-State actors and that the law is applied to gender-based non-State torture crimes.

VAW must never be justified by religion, tradition or culture. Religious leaders, like all stakeholders, who justify human rights violations and thereby perpetuate VAW should be held accountable.

States must address new and emerging forms of VAW, such as violence as a consequence of cyber technology and other forms of new technologies.

The responsibility of men and boys in the elimination of VAW should be recognized and used in prevention and protection efforts.

All programmes to prevent, protect and eradicate VAW should include women of all ages, not forgetting indigenous women, disabled women, widows, single mothers, children witness of domestic violence, women in armed conflict and post-conflict settings, women killed in the name of honour, rural women, children witness of domestic violence.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women is a cross-cutting issue and should be incorporated in all the SDG goals as a pre-requisite to ending VAW.





# Interactive Roundtable 5: Women, Disarmament and Armed Conflicts

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 16:30-18:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room IX

## Convener & Moderator:

**Krishna Ahojapatel,**  
UN Representative, WILPF

## Speakers:

**Madeleine Rees,**  
Secretary General, WILPF

**Mia Gandenberger,**  
Expert on Military Expenditures

**Kateryna Levchenko,**  
Director of La Strada, Ukraine

**Rehana Hasmi,**  
Refugees expert from Pakistan

## Rapporteur:

**Kathrin Perez,**  
Lawyer

## INTRODUCTION

Since the first UN session on disarmament commission in Geneva, in 1978, its membership, has expanded from ten to 65 countries, which met as a committee with irregular sessions. After difficult negotiations, they came to significant multilateral arms limitations and disarmament agreements in 2006\*. Throughout this period various representatives of WILPF followed these discussions in Geneva and made brief statements at the end of the session, which was officially read out by the chair. As international conflicts multiplied the struggle for women's rights deepened in the 80s and 90s. There was an important diplomatic breakthrough when WILPF was given the privilege of reading their statement to the conference. More and more women's organisations understood the inter-connections between disarmament and armed conflicts. These agreements have great political significance for women and their lives as they continue to affect their national, family and personal security. The existing international legal instruments empowered women to take concrete steps to fulfilling the promises towards stopping war.



\* The CD and its predecessors have negotiated such major multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques, the seabed treaties, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

### Summary of Panel Recommendations & Lobby Points:

- Reduce military expenditure by a minimum of two percent per annum and resource development to ensure progressive realization of social and economic rights from a gender perspective.
- Ensure conflict prevention by transforming the gendered power structures that facilitate and encourage age violence, conflict and occupation. On these points, consult with women in the military on how to change the military culture, which condones and encourages violence against women.
- Implementation of Resolution 1325 through applying affirmative action/quota systems for decision-making in conflict prevention, peace negotiations, peace-making and peace building.
- Ensure the equal participation of women in peace processes by providing financial support to organize during and post-conflict and under occupation, and engage in meaningful consultations.
- Prioritize support for women in conditions of displacement to end their invisibility; address issues on sexual violence, murders under the discourse of honor, civil status and statelessness, and trafficking and sexual exploitation.
- Grant asylum to women and children on the basis of sexual and gender-based violence and conflict.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

The causes of conflict leading to wars are complex: but despite this, global military expenditure continues to increase. The number of weapons with new technologies are continually increasing, for example, the number of nuclear weapons and the production of drones have reached illogical proportions in some countries. There has been hardly any reduction in countries, which produce and sell weapons of destruction. This means that the reduction of military expenditure is not feasible in the current political environment where conflicts continue to multiply. If, military budget is not balanced in favor of women's economic and social rights, then it is the responsibility of the government to find alternative means to achieve the goals of Resolution 1325 and other relevant decisions. The main rationale for adopting Resolution 1325 was to fully involve women in peace negotiations and decision-making. The progress on this point has been very slow and hardly visible.

One method of saving financial resources is to eliminate the need to buy military weapons; in addition, governments should take action on eliminating the need for a regular army as has happened in a few countries. What are the factors that prevent women from participating in peace negotiations? Several reasons have been advanced for women's absence from participating in negotiations none of which are

politically convincing. Meanwhile, women's organizations continue to struggle on this point. In some countries, women have lost their lives and/or livelihoods while attempting to implement Resolution 1325. No other UN resolution has received such attention globally at the grass roots level.

There are several political steps to equal participation of women in peace processes, none of which have been properly implemented by governments. Among the most important step that governments have not taken is the provision of financial and



other support to organize women's participation during and after conflict. To implement Resolution 1325, several steps have to be followed starting from peace negotiations, peace making and peace building. Without financial support and services of government authorities none of these steps can be taken or achieved.

There are other serious repercussions on the reduction of economic and social services for women, for example, sexual violence, murders under the discourse of honor, civil status and statelessness, and trafficking and sexual exploitation. These issues require raising public awareness and creating conditions for political will of the government to ensure financial and civil support for eliminating these social practices.

Until recently, in most countries political asylum has not been granted to men, women, and children on the basis of sexual and gender-based violence and conflict. The definitions of the 1951 Refugee Convention do not include gender-based violence for granting asylum: but some countries have now included these offenses in practice as a basis for granting refugee status and asylum. This new development has not yet been legislated in most countries, however, this political move has been welcomed by women's organizations in some countries.

## CONCLUSIONS

The incidents of sexual crimes against women in most countries have increased as recent UN statistics indicate. The causes of this increase vary from country to country but there is a commonality that links this phenomenon. There appears to be a correlation between women's demand and exercise of their human rights and the various sexual crimes. Legislation on rape and other crimes on sexual violence are weak and very often not implemented. Women's organizations in Europe including organizations including the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the various provisions of the International Criminal Court (ICC) have defined rape as an international crime against humanity. This means that in all wars countries and individuals are subject to criminal prosecution for crimes of sexual violence.

The fact that global, as well as national, military expenditure has increased demonstrates the lack of political will on the part of governments and other non-state actors. In general disarmament and military budget is not related to women's issues on security. In a few countries military budgets have been revised taking into account women's security. The main problem, however, is the mechanisms to implement this new concept, which connects women to military budgets. Related to this is the political will of governments to involve women in peace negotiations, peace making and peace building. For this reason, in most countries there is no gender equality in the decision making process in parliaments or cabinets.

In general, women's organizations struggling for participation in peace making are not adequately funded by their own governments or other donors. In addition the main hurdle in equal participation is that women are frequently not selected for peace negotiations: as their skills for peace making are not recognized by decision makers. For example, at the community and local levels, women have been unofficially involved as peace makers across borders in conflict situations. Due to these unofficial political practices, the Security Council Resolution on 1325 has been interpreted and applied beyond its original interpretation.





# Interactive Roundtable 6: Women and the Economy

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 11:30-13:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XXIII

## Co-conveners:

**Valerie Bichelmeier,**  
UN representative, Make Mothers Matter  
(MMM); Vice-President NGO CSW Geneva

**Catherine Bosshart,**  
UN Representative International Federation of  
Business & Professional Women (IFBPW)

## Moderator:

**Valeria Esquivel,**  
Gender Focal Point, UNRISD

## Speakers:

**Joanna Manganara,**  
President, International Alliance of Women  
(IAW)

**Anne-Claire de Liedekerke,**  
President, Make Mothers Matter (MMM)

**Margunn Bjørnholt,**  
Feminist Economist & Director, Policy and social  
Research AS, Norway

**Subada Shiralayeva,**  
Director, International Center Women &  
Modern World (CWMW), Azerbaijan

**Amelia Espejo,**  
Social and Labour Policy Advisor, International  
Organization of Employers (IOE)

## Rapporteurs:

**Nancy Lyon,**  
UN Representative, Latter Day Saint Charities  
(LDS)

**Laurie Richardson,**  
Vice President, FAWCO; Vice-Secretary, NGO  
CSW Vienna

## INTRODUCTION

Promoting women's economic empowerment – that is, their capacity to bring about economic change for themselves – is key to achieving equality between women and men, a fact that was well recognized in the 1995 BPfA. In addition, research increasingly shows that women, whether as consumers, employees, employers, entrepreneurs or investors, are an untapped economic force, an “emerging market” that has the potential to spur economic growth. Nevertheless, 20 years after Beijing, there is still a tremendous bias against women when it comes to access to the labour market and economic resources, the distribution of economic power, discrimination and career advancement, the level of salaries for the same work and the sharing of unpaid care responsibilities.



## SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS

**Joanna Manganara** pointed out that the realization of human rights should be the central goal of all economic policy, and that recent austerity policies implemented by many governments following the 2008 financial crisis raise important concerns regarding the protection of those rights, especially economic, social and cultural rights: austerity measures are often incompatible with the obligations of States to take steps for their progressive realization using their maximum available resources.

The financial crisis and those subsequent austerity measure have had a negative effect on Women's employment, notably in countries like Greece or Spain, where public sector layoffs have push women towards precarious employment with limited income security and pension benefits, and worsened the overall quality of women's working conditions. Austerity policies have also had severe consequences for those whose livelihood depends on various social benefits, like maternity and parental leave benefits and other care related benefits, thus disproportionately affecting women, especially single mothers, lone female pensioners and migrant women. Women are forced to shoulder the impact of cutbacks in public services such as childcare, healthcare or education services as the services are transferred back to the household. Pensions have been another target of austerity measures, affecting women disproportionately: increases in the minimum contribution period for retirement on full pension as well the calculation based on average career earnings rather than final salary have had stronger impact on women because of their shorter working life and irregular working patterns.

**Anne-Claire de Liedekerke** raised the issue of the "Motherhood penalty", which results from mothers more than fathers putting their family responsibilities before their work, a choice that hinders their careers, their financial income, their future financial security and also their social recognition. While encouraging men and women sharing equal responsibility for family care work is important, governments and society also have to accept both the reality of mothers and what they want, i.e. according to an MMM Survey in Europe: recognition, more time with their children and real choices.

To alleviate women's "time poverty", MMM suggests a life cycle approach that would allow discontinuous career paths, i.e. leaving the labour market partially or completely for a definite period of time to care for and educate children, or to care for other family members. Examples of measures supporting such life cycle approach include: facilitation of re-entry into the labour market (e.g. by life long learning, recognition of skills acquired while caring), adaptation of the regulatory framework of part-time work, and pension credit for unpaid care work. Accurate Time Use Surveys measuring and differentiating unpaid activities are also necessary to make these visible

and accounted for by policy makers and society. Mothers' exhaustion, stress, single motherhood, increased mother and child's poverty are part of family life in Europe today. It is a societal challenge that needs to be addressed.

**Subada Shiralayeva** described the situation of women in Azerbaijan as an example of a transition Economy following the end of the Soviet Union. In spite of a relatively high employment rate compared to men, women continue to face discriminations when creating and developing their businesses in terms of access to capital and other resources, markets and technology, information and financial services. While poverty has been decreasing in Baku the capital, it is still high in rural areas, a dichotomy notably resulting from unequal infrastructure development, the city being the focus of most investments. Poverty rates are especially high for female-headed households, whose number is significant due to war and migration. Further, the conflict with Armenia has fueled high military expenses and, in addition to a high human cost, has had important social and economic costs.

Sudaba's main recommendation is for governments to invest in high-level secondary and tertiary education for girls, which is the first condition for both their future employment and economic independence, and which will contribute to economic development.

**Margunn Bjørnholt** focused her presentation on Feminist Economics and the imperative for Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB). In spite of strong interest after the financial crisis, the implementation of GRB has been slow and uneven across countries and across policy domains, with a handful of European countries institutionalizing this practice. One reason for this implementation gap is the persistent absence of Feminist Economics from University curriculum (in spite of becoming a field in its own), and the unchanged male-dominated economics profession and theories that inform policy makers. Strong women organizations are therefore needed to mobilize and hold their governments to account, and the recent crisis and austerity that followed increased the need and urgency of GRB.

In addition to the institutionalization of GRB, Margunn recommends that examples of best practices be collected and criteria of success be identified.



She also recommends that Feminist Economics and GBR be taught in universities, and that resources be provided for capacity building on these topics for NGOs as well as among politicians and civil servants.

Amelia Espejo highlighted the compelling business and economic case for gender equality and the empowerment women in the business world as it contribute to business efficiency, productivity and sustainability. However, gender equality requires profound changes at all levels of society and across sectors. Employers have a key role to play with a strong commitment to non-discriminatory practices and policies from the top levels of management down across the business, suppliers, and all other stakeholders. But “Public policy should be the result of an active dialogue and engagement between the public and private sector, as well as with other stakeholders, so as to deliver policies that are aligned with and support efforts by business to advance economic opportunities for women in the market place”.

## RECOMMENDATIONS (FROM PRESENTATIONS & FOLLOWING DISCUSSION)

- **Institutionalize Feminist economics at all levels and for all policy domains, and teach this new economic field at all levels in universities as well as to the general public:** continued reliance on obsolete macro-economic theories and models, derived from the male-dominated economics field, is a major obstacle to achieving women’s economic independence and women’s economic citizenship. The general public must be better educated on these financial and economic issues, and they should be monitored by strong women’s organizations

that hold their governments to account. E.g. Time use surveys are conducted in many countries but the data is not fed into policy-making and macroeconomic models.

- **Implement and institutionalize Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) at all levels and for all policy domains:** GBR means a gender-based assessment of government budgets, incorporating a gender perspective at all levels of the budgetary process, and restructuring **both public revenues (taxation) and public expenditures in order to promote gender equality.** It should be complemented by a system of parliamentary monitoring to enable the general public to hold governments accountable.
- **Assess each economic policy based on a women’s human rights approach.** E.g. recently, austerity measures have had significant negative impact on funding for social services that have had disproportionate effects on women.
- **Recognize Motherhood as a reality - not an obstacle:** the “Motherhood penalty” is created by conflicting demands of work and family, and women’s choices to put their families first. The labor market has to adapt to this reality. Both governments and the private sector must recognize mothers’ contribution to society and promote work and family reconciliation that address the issue of **women’s time poverty, and that allows mothers to really choose how they want to combine their work and family lives.** A **life cycle approach** allowing women and men to pursue discontinuous career paths is proposed: e.g. chosen and non-discriminatory part-time work at certain stages of life, and pension credits for unpaid care work, in order to ensure women’s long term economic independence.
- **Encourage all stakeholders, i.e. Governments, Employers/businesses and Civil Society to work together on issues surrounding women at work.** There is a compelling business and economic case in unleashing women’s skills and talents and empowering them to enjoy equal access to job opportunities and career development. Businesses around the world must be supported by strong legal and regulatory

framework and social protection schemes, to support non-discriminatory policies and develop employers' capacity to provide **sustainable career development for women**. This can be done through awareness raising campaigns, materials, capacity building and training, as well as the implementation of such global initiative as the UN Global compact WEP and the sharing of best practices. **Use government procurement policies to start a paradigm shift for increased gender equality in the world of work.**

- **Tackle the issue of unpaid care work as a root cause of gender inequality: reduce women's unpaid work by redistributing care responsibilities within households and between households and governments and other stakeholders.** 2 issues were identified: 1) as more women enter the work force, more older women and men are forced to help with child and family care; 2) pushing women into the labor market is sometimes seen as a new way of exploiting them, moving them from unpaid work to low paid work.
- **It is time for society to reclaim the economy.** The economy has to answer the needs and wellbeing of people and society, and ensure ecological sustainability; not serve businesses and only aim at maximizing profits. Go beyond GDP and develop indicators on wellbeing and alternative accounting, to ensure among others that women's unpaid care work is recognized as a vital contribution to the Economy, and considered as an economic sector in the macro-economic modeling that supports policy making. Such agreements like the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) would move decision-making power to corporations so that they can over-rule national and local government regulations.
- **Regulate multi-national corporations and banks, hold them accountable to human rights including women's rights.** The UN guiding principle for Business and Human Rights should serve as a basis to provide the necessary legal framework.
- **Continue to ensure the provision of Social Protection in times of economic crisis, in**

**particular to part-time workers, unpaid care workers, women working in the informal sector, or others who have precarious situations like single women with children or other dependents.**

- **Devise specific economic policies to tackle the issue of polarization of the labor market:** less educated women are stuck in lower-income jobs, while educated women progress in higher-paid jobs, and the dichotomy between them is increasing. Further, the gender pay gap is higher in the lowest income segment and must be tackled by specific measures.
- **Increase efforts to close the gaps between women's and men's pay,** take steps to instrument the principle of equal remuneration for equal work of equal value, by strengthening legislation, including compliance with international labor laws and standards, and encourage job evaluation schemes with gender-neutral criteria.
- **Adopt, implement and enforce laws against discrimination based on gender in the labor market,** including for hiring and promotion, extension of employment benefits and social security, and working conditions, especially considering older women workers. Also recognize and tackle the issue of discrimination between mothers and women without children.
- **Adopt, implement and enforce laws on women's equal access to education, resources, land, credit and financial services, training opportunities, especially for marginalized groups like rural women, poor women, older women, migrant and refugee women;** and educate Women on their rights in this regard.
- **Promote and support women entrepreneurship,** promote business development centers for young entrepreneurs and women small and medium enterprise owners.
- **Support women's transition from informal to formal work** – to ensure access to social protection and pension schemes.



# Interactive Roundtable 7: Women in Power and Decision-Making

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 14:30-16:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XI

## Convener:

**Heli Bathija,**  
Global Fund for Women

## Speakers:

**Torild Skard,**  
International Alliance for Women, Norway

**Natalia Karbowska,**  
Ukrainian Women's Fund, Ukraine

**Stanimira Hadjimitova,**  
Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation,  
Bulgaria

**Claudia Zwart-Hopman,**  
Global Women Leadership Foundation

## Rapporteur:

**Jane Muthumbi,**  
Consultant

## INTRODUCTION

Women's equal participation in decision-making is essential for achieving open and accountable government and providing a balance that more accurately reflects the composition of society, highlighting the need to accelerate access to and full participation in power structures and decision-making.



## Summary of Panel Recommendations

- **Develop and strengthen mechanisms for young women to become involved in political leadership** by providing training for this early on and encouraging young women to make plans for getting to leadership positions.
- **Develop communication strategies – targeting both men and women – that advocate voting for women candidates.**
- **Ensure electoral systems are women-friendly.** Replace plurality with proportional representation or mixed systems and adopt “critical measures” such as stimulation programmes, training, support groups and effective quotas for women in order to ensure that women are represented at least at 50 per cent at all levels of political and economic decision making.
- **Provide financial support and opportunities that will allow women candidates, women's organizations and networks to participate in as well as gain leverage in political deliberations** at all levels, and provide training on fundraising as well as on the gendered implications of political financing for women politicians.
- **Develop mechanisms that will ensure the inclusion of gender equality in macro-economic policy making processes** as well as in sensitizing women on the impact of macro-economic policies on socio-economic issues such as employment, social programmes, etc. and training women to become leaders in these fields.

A short film on the role of women in politics in the Republic of Georgia, which highlighted the barriers that women face in politics, set the stage for the roundtable discussion.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

There was consensus among the speakers that 20 years after the Beijing Conference, progress with regard to women's participation and representation in politics and decision-making at the global level has been protracted.

**Natalia Karbowska** discussed the current developments in Ukraine. While Ukraine set a target of having 30% of women in parliament by 2015 as part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and took steps to create favourable conditions to meet the MDGs, the results in the recent elections fell short of the target, with 11.5% women elected to parliament. Evidence suggests that when women get adequate (at least 30%) representation in decision-making bodies, national development becomes more balanced, with issues such as education, health care, children's issues, and social infrastructure, among others, moving to the top of political agenda, with adequate state funding allocated to these priority areas, and where women are present in parliaments in equal proportions with men, the economy is more effective and stable, and society strives more for peace and stability. According to the 2013 *Global Gender Gap Report*, Ukraine ranked 119th out of 136 countries in terms of political empowerment of women. Although women are better represented in local governments (at 50%), as noted previously, their representation at the national level is much lower, which can be attributed to systemic barriers. To ensure greater representation of women at the national level, the following steps need to be taken:

- Implement programmes that support women involvement in pursuing a career as well as meeting their household obligations;
- Implement policies that support women's leadership at the national level;
- Provide funding to women candidates to enable them to run for an office;

- Encourage women to support each other and create networks, databases as well as a platform for information exchange and mutual support, and
- Support the next generation of young women leaders.

Supportive policies such as quotas for women's representation would be effective in Ukraine since women are well educated, have skills and have experience in leading their communities. Since all European countries have legislatively secured effective quotas and given that Ukraine has signed the Association Agreement with the European Union, it should implement these principles as they have been effective in the EU.

**Stanimira Hadjimitova** noted that neoliberal patterns of development, which have exacerbated inequalities in wealth and incomes at the global level, with negative consequences on women's political participation and a loss of some of their social, economic and political rights, have been particularly detrimental to women in semi-periphery (new EU member states for example, and Arab Spring countries) and in the periphery of the global capitalist centers.

Systemic and structural barriers in social, political and economic spheres including the dominance of patriarchy, prescribed gender roles, incumbent's favourable electoral system, lack of political will in the parliamentary parties to apply voluntary or enact effective positive measures and political financing persist. Moreover, exorbitant costs for running of personal electoral campaigns exclude most of women from engaging in politics. While men also experience difficulties in obtaining political financing, women often face greater challenges for several interrelated reasons such as their lower socio-economic status in most countries which often means that they lack the economic independence to pursue a political career.

Measures to improve women's status include:

- Developing mechanisms that will ensure the inclusion of gender equality in macro-economic policy making processes;

- Introducing measures that will ensure women's access to high-level decision-making positions in commercial companies and state institutions;
- Promoting women's economic empowerment, including women's entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship;
- Supporting women in rural areas by organizing training sessions and maintaining their networks maintenance, and
- Introducing measures that support work/life balance.

**Torild Skard** addressed the issue of women's involvement in politics in Norway and the ECE region. While Norway has long been heralded as the "land of equality" because of its higher scores in international rankings of gender development and gender gap indexes, and has a good gender balance in higher education, women as well as men are engaged in paid employment and the participation of women in politics is considerable when compared to other countries, challenges in achieving real gender equality remain. Although there has been progress with respect to gender i.e. the world's first Equal Opportunities Commissioner, the world's first "women's cabinet", self-determined abortion, paternity leave and a women's quota in board rooms, gender stereotypes not least in the media, and male dominance and discrimination of women in all sectors remain. Moreover, there is a tendency to conceal or underestimate gender inequalities and in many cases special measures to strengthen the position of women are resisted. Quotas for women in politics are not established by law but are left to each political party.

Within the ECE region, women comprise 25 per cent of the MPs and 28 per cent of the ministers in 2014. While this is higher than the global average of 22 per cent according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), it is far from 50/50. Only 8 per cent of the presidents and prime ministers in the ECE are women. There is great variation in the region. More women hold political positions in the West when compared with the East, with 29 per cent women MPs and 31 per cent ministers in 2014 in Western Europe, while in the East, there are only 19 women MPs and 15 per cent ministers, respectively. Of the 7 women presidents and prime ministers 5 are in the West and 2 in the East.

Torild presented the findings of her recent study of 73 women presidents and prime ministers in 53 countries worldwide from 1960 to 2010 titled *Women of Power*, Policy Press, 2014, which suggest that the number of women top leaders has increased since the 1990s due to democratization, allowing these women to gain access to power, mostly through the political parties. Many of the women who came to power in times of crisis, including unrest and armed conflict, and transition from authoritarian to democratic rule did not become top leaders primarily because they were women. Most had extraordinary qualifications: high education and long political careers. But they had to be accepted by male dominated political institutions who pressed them to conform to the majority. Some women leaders also acted in the same way as their male colleagues. While the majority made a difference and supported women specifically, only a third explicitly promoted feminist policies.

The following recommendations were made:

- take special measures to ensure that CEDAW and the Beijing Platform for Action are properly known to the general public, show the political consequences and establish special institutions for implementation;
- provide financial support and societal opportunities for women's organizations and networks to participate in political deliberations at all levels and promote feminism and genuine gender equality;
- increase social science research of the political institutions, including gender dimensions, and in particular evaluate the political culture and the role of parties in shaping an inclusive democracy where women can promote their interests on a par with men;
- ensure that electoral systems are woman-friendly: replace simple plurality with proportional representation or mixed systems, and adopt "critical special measures" such as stimulation programmes, training, support groups and effective quotas for women, to ensure at least 50 per cent women at all levels of political and economic decision-making.

**Claudia Zwart-Hopman's** presentation focused on a study that was conducted by the Global Women's

Leadership and undertaken in 6 countries around the world. It was noted that given the interconnected nature of business and politics, there is a need for new leadership in times of economic and financial crisis that will offer new insights. Results of the study involving 5 women leaders of international businesses in 6 countries (India, South Africa, Suriname, Russia & Holland, USA and Australia) demonstrated a need for new leadership that is rooted in promoting inclusion, optimizing business awareness and leadership by integrity and conscious choice-making. There is a need to encourage career planning for women and men in order to stimulate and support career involvement in business and politics and life-long learning as a basis for change.

## PARTICIPANTS' COMMENTS

- Support women's mentorship programmes in order to maintain and promote the ongoing involvement in political positions.
- Promote and advocate for the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) and their government for decent work, non-discrimination, promotion of women on boards, education and training.
- Increase women in decision-making in science and research
- Create mechanisms to monitor political assemblies, committees, working groups and corporations to ensure equal representation of women and gender inclusion.
- Create structures to monitor women's inclusion and leadership at corporate level, including finance
- Develop gender-literate diplomacy and a culture of international relations as if women mattered.
- Train lawyers and political scientists who are knowledgeable in women's short history as agents of democracy.
- Work with civil service together with political decision-makers and link national and regional levels within countries and across the European region.
- Create a political, economic and social environment that makes women economically independent

- Engage men consistently in advancing gender equality in politics and civil society
- Prepare girls for leadership by encouraging them from a young age to speak up, offer their opinions and lead groups, and not be afraid to be labelled as being 'bossy'
- Demand greater personal rights for women, including access to education, employment and representation in positions of authority
- Improve the monitoring of the implementation of programmes on the advancement of women with a special focus on the prevention and revival of patriarchal tendencies in society, and
- Promote positive role models in political, social, economic areas.

## EMERGING ISSUES

The following emerging issues were brought up during the roundtable discussion:

- Need for a shift in discourse from the underrepresentation of women to the overrepresentation of men in order to provide the appropriate focus on the problem;
- Need to engage more women in leadership positions in international civil society as a pipeline for women in decision-making;
- Need to offer young women an opportunity to participate in leadership and decision-making;
- Need to explore how to change the portrayal of men in leadership and decision-making positions in the media as it reinforces gender stereotypes, and
- Need to promote the inclusion of all women – including women with disabilities, poor women, among others.

## CONCLUSION

It was noted that there is a need to move from the recommendations to demanding that the rights be implemented as well as the need to empower young people at home.

# Interactive Roundtable 8: Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2004 – 14:30-16:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room IX

## Convener:

**Simone Overt,**  
Zonta International – UN Representative,  
Co-Chair, Geneva NGO Forum – Beijing+20

## Moderator:

**Erika Kavipilova,**  
PhD Social Scientist, UN Women Representative  
in Georgia

## Speakers:

**Kareen Jabre,**  
Head of partnership between men and women –  
Interparliamentarian Union – IPU

**Annette Lawson,**  
NAWO – UN Rep. (UK)

**Dr. Jean Bolen,**  
Pathways to Peace – UN Rep and  
5WCW (USA)

**Prof. Kathleen A. Lahey,**  
Faculty of Law, Queen's University (Canada)

## Rapporteurs:

**Sallie Chaballier,**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of FAWCO

**Megan Moleski,**  
WWSF Boston University intern

## INTRODUCTION

*“Appropriate governmental machinery for monitoring and improving the status of women should be established where it is lacking. To be effective, this machinery should be established at a high level of government and should be ensured adequate resource, commitment and authority to advise on the impact of women of all government policies.*

*Such machinery can play a vital role in enhancing the status of women, inter alia, through the dissemination of information to women on their rights and entitlements, through collaborative action with various ministries and other government agencies and with non-governmental organizations and indigenous women's societies and groups”.*

The twelve critical areas of concern identified during the United Nations 4<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women included **“The insufficient mechanisms at all levels to promote the advancement of women”**: *“National machineries are diverse in form and uneven in their effectiveness, and in some cases have declined. Often marginalized in national government structures, these mechanisms are frequently hampered by unclear mandates, lack of adequate staff, training, data and sufficient resources, and insufficient support from national political leadership. (as Beijing Platform for Action, paragraph 196)”*

## OBJECTIVES

- 1) Create and Strengthen national machineries and other governmental bodies.
- 2) Integrate gender perspectives in legislation, public policies, programs and projects.
- 3) Generate/disseminate gender-disaggregated data & information for planning/evaluation.



## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

**§ 1 Introduction:** Effective institutional mechanisms are vital to the advancement of women, and form the one critical area of the Beijing Platform for Action which is essential for progress in the other 11 critical areas of concern. Such mechanisms must be established at a high government level with sufficient resources and power to make an impact on women's lives. Yet national mechanisms are uneven at best and in some cases have regressed; many institutional mechanisms have no clear mandate and lack both staff and funding. This roundtable sought to examine what has gone wrong with institutional mechanisms, and to recommend initiatives to create or reinforce mechanisms for gender equality.

### § 2 Recommendations:

**Jean Bolen** noted that both top-down and bottom-up initiatives are necessary to generate the political will to implement existing UN resolutions. She advocates a strong ground-level feminist movement, mobilizing young women and social media, to press for political action at the top. In her view, only a Fifth World Conference on Women can provide an ade-

quate platform to build upon the accomplishments of Beijing.

**Annette Lawson** outlined how the economic crisis and recent government policies in the UK have adversely affected the cause of social justice, with a disproportionately negative impact on women. Institutional mechanisms for gender equality have been reduced and the women's movement fragmented. She exhorts women and girls to use their voices through NGOs to make themselves heard.

**Kathleen Lahey** demonstrated how many countries' tax policies have changed over time, cutting tax revenues that should have gone into institutional mechanisms for gender equality and services. At the same time, not coincidentally, wealth and income disparities have increased. In her view, taxes are the life blood of any state and yet human capital has been sacrificed for tax cuts. She urges women to "take back our budgets".

**Dilovar Kabulova** gave an overview of the increase in women's participation in government in Uzbekistan as well as the work of Uzbek NGOs in supporting women.

**Kareen Jabre** emphasized that parliaments are existing institutional mechanisms which must be transformed and empowered into serving as mechanisms for the advancement of women. Democracy and gender equality are closely linked, and parliaments are an integral part of democracy. The challenge, then, is for parliaments to become gender-sensitive and respond to the needs and interests of all people.

**§ 3 Emerging issues:** Many countries' failing economies and resulting tax cuts and austerity measures have had a negative impact on women and have im-



ped institutional mechanisms for women's rights. Suggestions included that by including women, Non-Governmental Organizations, and gender-disaggregated data in government's reactions to economic issues, the poverty rate will go down, violence against women will decrease, and society as a whole will benefit. More recent issues not a part of the original or previous Beijing fora are the struggle for equal access to decent work and aid, the problem of food safety and security, increased trafficking of women and girls as well as drugs, issues of migration, the economic consequences of divorce, climate change and the impact on women and their livelihood, and finally the growing income gap. To address these issues there is a call for a new and revised Platform for Action.



**§ 4 Conclusion:** Institutional mechanisms are necessary to achieve and build on the Beijing Platform for Action. Women need to work both through mainstream processes and through collective action. Politicians must be held accountable for their actions or inaction. What women have achieved is fragile and can disappear overnight. Gender equality must be central to economic issues.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- Bring about a Fifth World Congress on Women to address emerging issues regarding gender equality, women's involvement in power and decision making, as well as creating and strengthening the institutional mechanisms for women's rights. While at this Fifth World Congress on Women, include the role of the internet and live-streaming to broadcast what is being said to the people of the world.

- With the rate of those living under and around the poverty line in many ECE countries, governments should create a program to study and disseminate the causes of poverty, specifically ones that have previously not been directly associated, such as the impacts of divorce on women. It is vital to include gender-disaggregated data covering age cohort and marital status.
- Parliaments are encouraged to become more gender-sensitive and embody, as well as deliver, gender equality. Further, they are encouraged to set clear and tangible objectives that speak out and advocate for women and encourage more female parliamentarians.
- Governments need to realize the impacts that austerity measures have on women, particularly when it comes to cutting funding to institutional mechanisms that advocate women's rights and gender equality.
- Governments are urged not to cut taxes and instead to use tax revenues to fund institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women.
- Governments are encouraged to include Non-Governmental Organizations and lobby groups in their law and decision-making processes in order to include the female perspective and to understand how their actions impact women and girls.
- Governments, as well as the people, need to encourage and create awareness in public administration regarding gender equality and create a network to bring about positive change and reform in the public sector.





- Governments are encouraged to protect the growth and achievements that have been made regarding gender equality and put in place strong mechanisms that protect these advancements from being degraded or taken away.
- It is urged that mechanisms and government actions be put in place that educate women and young women on the importance of voting and making thoughtful and intellectual decisions when they vote for party members.





## Interactive Roundtable 9: Human Rights of Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 14:30-16:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XVII

### Conveners:

**Rita Muyambo,**  
Head of Programs, World YWCA

**Hendrica Okondo,**  
Global Programme Manager SRHR and HIV and  
AIDS, World YWCA

### Moderator:

**Ilona Graenitz,**  
Austrian Board Member, European Women's  
Lobby; President, NGO Committee on the Status  
of Women, Vienna

### Speakers:

**Veronica Birga,**  
Chief, Women's Human Rights and Gender  
Section, Office of the High Commissioner for  
Human Rights.

**Ana Paradowska,**  
Young Women Gender Advocate, Po-land

**Helga Konrad,**  
International Consultant and Coordina-tor of  
the Regional Implementation Initiative on Pre-  
venting and Combating Human Trafficking.

**Donika Godaj,**  
Executive Director of YWCA, Albania

### Rapporteurs:

**Marcia Banasko and Gladys Yegon,**  
World YWCA

## INTRODUCTION

The 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) has been ratified by 189 countries thus promoting the rights of women worldwide. 1993, the United Nations Conference on Human Rights in Vienna affirmed that Women's Rights are Human Rights. This was confirmed at the UN Conference on Women in Beijing 1995, which set the agenda for advancing Women's Rights and promoting Gender Equality. The Beijing platform consolidates women's human rights as a specific area of concern and puts human rights at the heart of the remaining 11 critical areas of concern setting a comprehensive expression of Member States commitment to the Human Rights of Women. As a follow up to the policy and legal framework developed after Beijing to guide Member States in meeting their obligations since 2010, 11 countries have partially or fully withdrawn their reservations to CEDAW and the committee issued 30 General Recommendations, all of which are directly related to the Beijing critical areas of concern.



## Summary of Panel Recommendations & Lobby Points:

### Veronica Birga

- Human rights mechanisms must continue to provide coherent and consistent guidance to states on the implementation of their obligations towards de jure and de facto discrimination.
- UN Mandate holders must be gender sensitive, have knowledge of women's rights framework and have experience of working with women's rights organizations.
- Women's rights defenders must also be engaged in analyzing the impact of human rights mechanisms and UPR recommendations.
- Country specific situations should be analyzed and women's rights organization's capacity to engage in human rights at the national level must be strengthened.

### Helga Konard

- There must be meaningful political will to implement the conventions and laws.
- Victims of human trafficking should have the full right to the 30 Day Reflection Period.
- The human traffickers are not sufficiently prosecuted and sentenced, governments should provide measures to protect victims and implement appropriate amendments to legislation to end impunity of perpetrators.
- Greater work on prevention needs to be done by developing education and prevention programmes as well as addressing poverty and supporting economic empowerment initiatives for women.
- To prevent and eliminate labour exploitation ensure monitoring of private business.
- Ensure governments establish assessment mechanisms.
- Anti-trafficking programmes should be seen as components of sustainable development, anti-discrimination and anti-violence programmes.
- Adopt diverse, long-term policies and strategies in dealing with unemployment and labour migration.

### Anna Paradowska

- Engage with religious leaders to promote human rights values that enhance women's capacity to claim their sexual reproductive health and rights.
- Government must ensure the inclusion of comprehensive sexuality education in formal and non-formal education programmes.
- Governments must be held accountable for commitments they have made at national, regional and global level. There must be monitoring of the implementation process.
- Accountability and budget mechanisms for funding allocated to gender equality programmes.

### Participants Recommendations

- Child registration at birth should be mandatory and free regardless of marital or residential status of the mother
- Criminalize purchase of sex and sexualization of women and girls bodies in media and advertisement
- Reinforce the capacity of Police, Judiciary to prosecute human traffickers and violators of human rights

- Honor commitment to women's rights and implement legislation to universal access to education as well as health and legal services
- Adequate representation of Central Asia Region in Human rights mechanism e.g. CEDAW committee
- Identify and recognize non-state torture by non-state actors e.g. spouses, parents and human traffickers, protect the victims of this type of torture.
- Include the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its third Protocol on 'communication procedures'
- Protecting Human Rights of women by fully implementing Human Rights Mechanisms in particular CEDAW.
- Promote comprehensive sexuality education and sexual reproductive health rights for women and girls regardless of their diversity
- Acknowledge that women are not homogeneous and promote the rights of women and girls in their diversity particularly widows, indigenous women, women with disabilities, sexual orientation.
- Recognizing that five members of the Permanent Security Council reside in the EU, participants recommended an interdependence of human rights, thus a collective responsibility and accountability on human rights.
- Solidarity with women in other regions whose rights are being violated.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

- **Veronica Birga**, Chief Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, OHCHR summarized the normative framework on Women's Human Rights developed since Beijing identified the processes at the Human Rights Council that respond to Member States commitment linked to the Human Rights mechanisms to the UNSC. Anna Paradowska, a young woman gender advocate from Poland shared the achievements

and policy gaps and implementation challenges at national level giving specific examples from her country Poland. She highlighted the risks of losing gains because of religious fundamentalism and lack of political will. Reallocation of resources earmarked for implementation of gender equality programs has been noted

- **Helga Konrad** identified the causes of Human Trafficking as complex, noting that a society that accepts Violence Against Women also



accepts trafficking. She also noted that the prevailing marketing systems, unequal global trade systems and poverty are the primary root cause of trafficking. Regions where economic opportunities are limited and conflict prevail, are likely to be sources of trafficking, meanwhile receiving states treat victims as criminals and regardless of the various existing conventions and legal framework, do not prosecute traffickers or provide protection mechanisms for the victims. People who are trafficked are still treated as criminals.

- **Donika Godaj** presented the situation of the human rights of women in Albania. Through her presentation she looked at the legal framework for equality, mechanisms of gender equality such as the commission for health, labour and social issues and the national council of gender equality.

### EMERGING ISSUES

- Shifting from criminalizing victims to addressing the root causes and implementing procedures that safeguard the interests of the victim, providing them with adequate information on shelter, legal procedures that protect their rights to make informed choices on integration and re-integration.

- Shifting from prosecuting victims of prostitution and trafficking to criminalizing purchase of sexual activities and commodification of women and girls.
- Advocating for a more robust UPR process and demanding for accountability of member states to limit the system of opting out.
- Encouraging debate on country specific issues and outreach to marginalized and excluded women by mandate holders.
- Strengthening the capacity of Human Rights defenders to strategically engage with the Human Rights mechanisms

### CONCLUSIONS

There was recognition that progress has been made in the many areas of concern since 1995 however implementation and political will are still bottlenecks to the full realizations of women's rights as Human Rights.

It was noted that women's organizations need to analyze UPR and human rights mechanisms in order to promote accountability and transparency and also to dialogue with other stake holders such as the Human rights institutions, government ministries and law enforcement agencies. This will require strengthening capacity and increasing resources, and protection of women Human Rights defenders



# Interactive Roundtable 10: Women and the Media

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 11:30-13:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room IX

## Co-conveners:

**Elly Pradervand,**  
CEO & UN Rep., WWSF; Taskforce Chair,  
Substantive Issues, NGO CSW Geneva Beijing  
+20 Review Forum

UNESCO represented by **Alton Grizzle,**  
Program Specialist, Communication and  
Information Sector; UNESCO Designated  
Manager, Global Alliance on Media and Gender  
(GAMAG)

**Lois A. Herman,**  
Coordinator, Women's UN Report Network  
(WUNRN)

## Moderator:

**Annika Nyberg Frankenhaeuser,**  
Director, European Broadcasting Union

## Speakers:

**Alton Grizzle,**  
Program Specialist, Media & Society Section,  
UNESCO

**Oleksandra Kunovska Mondoux,**  
UN Rep., World Federation of Ukrainian  
Women's Organizations

**Donatella Martini,**  
WECAMS/Donne in Quota, Women's European  
Coalition Against Media Sexism

**Frieda L. Werden,**  
Veteran Media Specialist & Women's Advocate  
(Radio Specialty/Local to Global), Women's  
International News Gathering Service

**Lois A. Herman,**  
Coordinator, WUNRN – PPT on Gender Stereotypes

## Rapporteurs:

**Megan Moleski,**  
WWSF intern, Boston University

**Shannon Meehan,**  
Advocacy Coordinator, Children's Section,  
WWSF

## INTRODUCTION

Over the past 20 years, since the first Beijing Conference in 1995, there has been little improvement in the representation and involvement of women in the media. Although some improvement can be noted, the predominance of the hyper-sexualization of women and young girls, continued gender stereotypes, and a focus on gender violence in the media has proven that much progress must still be made when it comes to women's decision-making and representation in the media.



## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- Stop the spread and proliferation of negative and violent videos, images, and stereotypes throughout television, print, and radio media. Shift the scope and content of coverage to highlight positive stories, with inspiring messages, and constructive action.
- Create standard-setting and regulatory mechanisms, legislation, and codes of conduct to end sexism and sexist stereotypes in media.
- Increase funding for gender analysis and research on women and media.
- Support, develop and finance alternative media, such as community media, that shows women and their varied experiences, including young, old, and vulnerable women.
- Promote and involve women in content development and ensure the positive representation of women in the media, for example, through the sharing of experiences of women politicians, business leaders, social workers, and grassroots women role models with good practices.
- Institute policies that monitor the sources of funding to public and private media outlets, including women-specific media.
- Educate politicians and members within the media about gender stereotyping and the impact it has on women, men and society as a whole.
- Maintain the civil society partnership by facilitating national dialogue on gender issues, and empowering women to advise on how to advance gender issues in the media.
- Involve women at all levels of production and decision-making in the media.
- Address issues faced by women journalists, especially women journalists covering conflicts.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

**Alton Grizzle** discussed the importance of women's involvement and empowerment through the media. He said that gender in the media has to be viewed with a new lens, and that there needs to be a change in the actions and views of the media regarding gender equality.

Grizzle noted that by empowering women in and through the media, the process of gender equality will be aided and better addressed. In order to achieve progress, Grizzle recommended that media and information literacy be afforded to all. This would enable people to understand that they have the power to change the media, particularly through demanding change in substance and representation, and creating their own content and advocacy messages. Grizzle stated that media is the "secret weapon to accelerate achievement of gender goals" and recommended that civil society push for national policies and develop strategic actions related to gender equality in the media. In addition, in order to eliminate sexist, violent, and stereotypical portrayals, media organizations should self-regulate their content based on an ethical code of conduct, and governments should monitor and ensure adherence to these regulations.

**Donatella Martini** similarly spoke on the negative impact the media has on women and girls and recognized that the disadvantages women often face in development, social status, the labor market, professions, and accessing positions of power are often linked to the frequent use of women as sexual objects. Martini informed the roundtable that many advertising agencies still view issues of sexism as a matter of personal opinion and visual preference. Due to its incredibly negative impact on women and girls and its contribution to violence against women, Martini called on advertisers to stop the sexual objectification of women. She urged ECE governments to ban the portrayal of women as sexual objects in the media. Martini emphasized that a European directive is necessary to facilitate the creation of national regulations against sexism in the media. Martini recommended that governments, in consultation with gender experts, devise and implement specific laws outlining objective criteria in order to assess whether advertising content is discriminatory towards women.

**Lois A. Herman** shared that gender stereotypes have a major impact on women and girls all over the world, assuredly in the UNECE Region, in every sphere of their lives. The Beijing Platform for Action clearly includes multiple references to the negative effects of many existing media gender stereotypes of women and girls. Media plays a crucial role in shaping opinions, values, ideals, and buying pat-

terns. Gender stereotypes portrayed by media often create unreal pressures for beauty, perfection, and youth. The commodification of women and girls can well be catalyzed by traditional, negative, and patriarchal female images. Gender stereotypes can affect female physical and mental health, self-esteem, freedom from violence, and opportunities for equality, human rights, dignity, empowerment, and justice. As the Beijing Platform encouraged a more significant presence and leadership of women in media, so it is hoped that this review is a step forward in addressing gender stereotypes in media, advertising, and marketing.

**Frieda L. Werden** discussed the importance and influence that community radio can have on gender equality and informing the public on gender-based discrimination. Community radio is a worldwide movement committed to getting under-represented voices and ideas onto the air. Women have a major role in it, including international and regional women's networks. Werden shared the impact that community radio has in the US and Canada, and its growing emergence in 17 European countries. With this, the Community Media Forum Europe continues to lobby for its full recognition as part of the “third sector”.

Paragraph 240 of the Beijing Platform for Action calls for media systems to include women in developing regulatory mechanisms. In Canada and at the international level, community radio organizations require that 50% of directors be women. This is important because these directors develop interventions with regulators, and civil society can take part through them. Werden suggested that women enhance their technological skills and use resources such as community radio and social media to further advocate for gender equality and speak out about gender discrimination. Werden urged governments to support and finance community radio, as such channels build community alliances geared towards positive social change.

**Oleksandra Kunovska Mondoux** spoke of the importance that social media had in mobilizing and involving women in the Maidan Protests in Ukraine. Mondoux relayed that the media coverage of the recent crises in Ukraine has shown that there is a large, active group of women within the country who are dedicated to civic activism and making

changes towards how women are viewed in society. She explained that many Ukrainian women were very active and received significant attention during the Maidan Protests for their involvement in traditional service roles such as nursing and providing meals, but also for their leadership in the female armed group. Mondoux confirmed that women must continue to be allowed freedom of expression and that improvement is needed in the education and training of women to be involved in the media.

Mondoux stated that the difficulties in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action lie in the lack of effective legislation. The simple monitoring of media content, for example of sexism in advertising, is alone insufficient if gender equality is not a key priority of governments. In order to improve the situation of women in the media, governments should strengthen national gender mechanisms, provide codes of conduct to ensure correct and varied portrayals of women in the media, increase women's involvement in media production and decision-making with civil society to reinforce national dialogue on women's issues, and consult with women's organizations to integrate gender expertise into media policy.

## CONCLUSIONS

There is a need to acknowledge the undermining role that the media can have towards gender equality. Many recommendations were made to increase monitoring and regulation of the sexualization of women and the perpetuation of gender stereotypes. There were also calls for an interactive and prolific conversation regarding gender equality and stereotyping in the media. As Elly Pradervand stated, “the media must replace the daily overdose of the three S's – sex, scandal and too much sport – with more balanced reporting, focused upon the four C's – courage, creativity, compassion and cooperation – which are an integral part of humanity's values. Frankenhaeuser called attention to the “constructive news” movement, which she hopes becomes mainstreamed into commercial media in order to transform its content to inspire and empower societies.

There is a lack of women in leadership roles to combat the sexualization of women within the media, as well as a lack of media-information understanding



within the public. Increasing the number of women in leadership and increasing the public's media literacy can solve many issues regarding gender inequality in the media. There is a lack of broad-based leadership promoting gender equality within the media, but Grizzle highlighted encouraging developments: journalists have been trained to report on gender inequality issues, the number of conferences on gender within the media has increased, and there has been an emergence of youth media projects particularly focused on women and their portrayal in the media. The roundtable came to the conclusion that there is still a long way to go in order to achieve gender equality within the media. The only way for these changes to occur is to have concrete change within the media itself, and for guidelines to be developed and implemented to identify discriminatory content as well as reduce gender stereotyping.





# Interactive Roundtable 11: Women and the Environment

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 16:30-18:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XXIII

## Convener:

**Adebisi Adebayo,**  
Inter-Africa on Practices Affecting the Health  
of Women and Children (IAC)

## Moderator:

**Lorena Aguilar,**  
International Union for Conservation  
of Nature (IUCN)

## Speakers:

**Michel Jarraud,**  
Secretary General, World Meteorological  
Organization (WMO)

**Hilary Gbedemah,**  
Member, Committee on the Elimination of  
Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

**Irene Dankelman,**  
Women's Environment & Development  
Organisation (WEDO)

**Ewa Larsson,**  
Green Women

**Nadejda Vakhitova,**  
Women of Mountains Group

**Corrine Hart,**  
Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves

**Liliya Abbazova,**  
Association for the Environmentally  
Clean Fergana

## Rapporteur:

**Ariel King,**  
Founder & President, Ariel Consulting  
International

## 1. OPENING

The Convener opened the session with a brief introduction of the roundtable, the moderator and the panelists. She also noted that men and women play different roles in relation to consumption and production patterns as well as to natural resource management. She recalled that the ultimate purpose of the review was to assess what has been accomplished, identify the gaps in order to formulate recommendations to governments in the ECE region on confronting the effects of climate change, on women and girls in order to fully and effectively realize the recommendations of the Platform for Action.

The Moderator recounted that 20 years ago, it was very hard pushing forward the environmental agenda within the women rights movement. She observed that in spite of this situation, since 1995, a lot has been achieved with respect to Point K. For the past 20 years, governments, women's organizations, and international institutions have worked to secure global agreements laying out concrete areas of action to achieve gender equality, women's empowerment and sustainable development. It was also noted that governments and other institutions are struggling to integrate a gender approach in environmental decision making and facing challenges in reporting and implementing these agreements.

## 2. SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PANELISTS

**Mr Jarraud** reflected on some of the points to further guide discussions during the session. He acknowledged that women play a special role in sustainable development, as both users and managers of resources. As caretakers, women also have knowledge of the natural environment. While they do not enjoy equal rights and economic status with men they are also more vulnerable to climate change issues. They also remain largely absent in policy formulation and decision-making regarding natural resources management. As a result of their double role as both us-

ers and managers of the environment, they require specific environmental information (e.g. water resources, disaster risk reduction). Women therefore require tailored information and gender sensitive services. He took the opportunity to announce the Gender in Weather, Climate and Water Conference organized by the WMO commencing the following day in Geneva at the Headquarters.

**Ms. Gbedemah** reviewed the objectives of the Beijing platform for Action resonate with the CEDAW and therefore it also links gender, environment and climate change. Women are recognized as active participants and right holders in the climate change discourse and NOT just as victims. She noted that in CEDAW's review process state parties have to submit reports on the 16 articles. Observations from State reports show that rural are especially impacted even though they are the backbone of agriculture. She advocated the need for a constructive dialogue with states. CEDAW is articulating a general recommendation for climate change and disaster risk management.

**Ms. Dankelman** focused on women and environment issues that was first introduced in 1985 at the Nairobi Women's conference. She also observed that agenda 21 was shaped by women's groups through the organized caucuses. Furthermore, she expressed the view that women's groups got the strong language on environmental issues into the Beijing platform for Action. She also observed that the existence of these same women's organizations is threatened by lack of resources. While also expressing the view that at national level it seems to become more complicated to integrate a gender perspective in environmental work in the region.

**Ms. Larsson** noted that 1995 is a key eye opener, as well as that the Rio+20 conference further opened more doors but there is need for more. She also drew attention to the call by the Secretary-General of the UN, Ban Ki Moon for a focus on civil societies. She observed that climate change is not about carbon, but about attitudes, hence it cannot be business as usual anymore. Ms Larsson advocated the need to make financial market to be socially accountable, as well as the need for social banking, while the world joins hands together by creating a win-win world where we all can succeed.

**Ms. Vakhitova** informed the gathering that Central Asia has serious internal and cross border envi-

ronmental problems (e.g. nuclear catastrophe in Chernobyl that is still impacting the environment), which pose economic and social risks for the life of women. In this regard, she noted that women and environment have to become a priority in action plans for Central Asia. She observed that in the ECE country review for Central Asia, only one review contains information about strategic goals about this area of concern.

**Ms. Hart** discussed access to energy is a critical issue. She noted that household energy is core driver of gender (in) equality and an emerging issue with a critical gap. It was also further observed that every person everywhere needs to eat cooked food and see in the dark. In this regard, three billion people (40% of world population) rely on traditional biomass for heating and cooking. This kills a lot of people due to exposure to harmful smoke while cooking (especially women!). Families spend a lot of money on fuel which has a negative economic impact. My Hart also noted that women spend a lot of time collecting firewood. Using clean cookstoves, they could spend more time with their children instead or pursue income-generating activities. Women cookstoves entrepreneurs sell more cookstoves than men (economic empowerment of women in this sector). She advocated investment in clean energy especially have an impact on women and girls. Poverty of women is exacerbated by time wasted collecting firewood.

**Ms Abbazova** noted the need for environmental education as a way of promoting sustainable development, as a viable solution to environmental problems. She observed that young people are more interested in gender issues at colleges and universities, then paradoxically we see many bright women but then get marry and disappear from the "public life". On this basis, she advocated the need to improve self-consciousness of young women so that they do not become victims of gender stereotypes.

### 3. SOME OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE LAST 20 YEARS AND EMERGING ISSUES

In reviewing achievements made in the past 20 years, it was noted that more effort should be made to overcome implementation gaps. Furthermore, it is important to take up new challenges of realizing rights, well-being and participation/contribution of



all women and girls to sustainable development. In academia, girls are not very well represented in the fields of environment and climate change. We need to improve self-consciousness of young women so that they do not become victims of gender stereotypes. For some states, there is no reporting on women and environment to CEDAW. For other states, there wasn't enough description of the framework they are using. Some reports did not recognize vulnerability, especially for women. There is also not enough information on disaster risk reduction strategies.

The need for institutional strengthening and capacity building for women was emphasized, as well as the need to adopt reporting framework based on country realities. Women's rights mechanisms lack environmental specialists and there is a need for more environmental specialists in women's organization.

- Climate change is the result of mismanagement. Deforestation has to be stopped not only for environmental reasons, but also because depletion mean women have to go further and further to go and fetch firewood which negatively impacts their health, security, economic statue etc.
- Traditional structures impede women's access to land and education about natural resource management.
- As a way of getting out of poverty, trade is seen as an avenue for increasing wealth (which can also have the exploitation of natural resources as consequences). Policies related to trade and environmental issues are not gender sensitive.
- The impact of environmental pollution on reproductive health: we need more research, training Men regulate ecological consumptions for men and women.

#### 4. WHAT IS THE WAY FORWARD?

Here is a snapshot of the way forward, as summary of issues that arose from the discussions:

- Specific efforts are needed to increase and improve meaningful participation of women and girls in the environmental sector and in environmental decision-making: monitor, communicate, bring environmental sector and gender machinery together, but also ensure gender policies in the environmental sector and real commitment (male champions)- assess/ communicate the positive results.
- Highlighting the important role of women as vectors of change in promoting responsible positive consumption patterns.
- Enforcing gender issue in the theme of common shared responsibility with stronger penalties for violating gender and environmental legislation
- Giving visibility to the role of women in creating and sustaining the social values and principles and empower them in their sustainability work.
- Promote curricula about climate change risks, food insecurity, overfishing, generally all areas of environmental concern and mainstream gender in those curricula.
- Need for capacity building for women in this area through the establishment of national and/ or regional centres of expertise on gender and environment.
- The recognition of local women as environmental experts and their inclusion in environmental-gender risks assessment.
- Support to women-environment organizations and their networking with adequate resources. With all the societal benefits they have generated over the past decades, lack of resources might never threaten their existence! A financing programme for the support exchange and up-scaling within the context of a green and just economy. Access to environmental resources is crucial.
- Support and promote alternative and sustainable livelihood initiatives by local women, and organization and implementation

of gender-specific environmental agenda.

- Gender networks of environmental experts need to be created.
- Strong accountability mechanisms are needed to be delivered into people's hands like community report cards (on environmental health) and introduced by WEDO, are interesting instruments.
- Access to environmental information to women and men with clear and transparent communication: the Aarhus Convention is an important frame-work . But this information also needs to be gender-specific. 9 Environmental literacy of local women (and men) including on their environmental rights – should be promoted.
- Promoting environment and climate change in the curricula of schools (example: EU is funding multidisciplinary university programme that includes changing consumption patterns.
- Need for Governmental policies to encourage more girls to take up scientific subjects in school and at the University level.
- Formal education on the inter-linkages of gender issues and environment. Including on management of natural resources.
- Promote curricula at high level about climate change (example: EU is funding multidisciplinary university programme about climate change/ environment). Need to ensure that gender is included in curriculum of school as it is very important in changing consumption patterns.
- Access to Energy needs to be recognized as gender issue with the promotion of alternative energy sources, increased knowledge on water preservation, strengthening policy advocacy and cooperation between women's movements.
- Implement the recommendations in the UN Women 2014 World Survey regarding cookstoves and electrification – to increase investment and use access to energy as an indicator for women's health.
- Integrate access to energy interventions into global implementation strategies for gender equality and make it a basic right of living.

- Ensure that issues around natural resource control and management are not in siloed only in environment discussions – access to energy has serious implications for women's health, economic empowerment, VAW, etc.
- Gender-Disaggregated Data is crucial to effective decision -making in the fields of women and environment including on the time spent on unpaid care work.
- Increased Awareness raising sessions and workshops in rural areas on mitigation of risks of climate change and environmental degradation to women. There is also need to make the IPCC report, more readily available
- Increased involvement of media to increase information about gender role and management of natural resources.
- Create awareness Knowledge Transfer to grassroots organizations. As well as the promotion of financed exchange programs with for young women to facilitate the exchange of experiences around the world.
- More support for youth projects in local communities and the policies that facilitate the start up of youth projects.
- Promotion of democratic land resources, democratic sharing of productive land. As well as easier access to unused land for community garden projects.
- Budget allocation: Increase in budget allocation to environment and women. In many developing countries there is no state money for environmental problems.

## 5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

The forum concluded on the desire for gender-mainstreaming a clear and healthy stream (not in a polluted stream) -> policies have to be clear and healthy with adequate representation of women in the decision making process. It is important to link the B+20 and post-2015/SDG processes and frameworks with a strong gender perspective. Proper environmental management would also amount to giving better future to women and men, boys and girls at least a future.

## Interactive Roundtable 12: The Girl Child

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 16:30-18:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XI

### Convener & Moderator:

**Anne Guyaz,**  
Coordinator, NGO-Coordination post Beijing  
Switzerland

### Speakers:

**Petra Stipanic,**  
Ambassador of the World Association of Girl  
Guides and Girl Scouts

**Natalie Trummer,**  
Executive Director, Terre Des Femmes,  
Switzerland

**Susan O'Malley,**  
UN Representative, International Federation  
of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW).  
Vice Chair, NGO CSW New York

### Rapporteur:

**Roman Helfer,**  
European Delegate, Swiss Council for Youth  
Activities

## INTRODUCTION

The girl is the woman of the future, she is facing a double discrimination that restrains her: first as a woman and then as a child.

Even though she needs a safe space to develop her potential and her skills, she is more likely to be facing issues in her family, her school, her community, during her free-time activities.

Numerous are the kinds of violence she might be confronted to, such as feminine genital mutilations, trafficking, sexual exploitation, health issues, lack of literacy and so on. To this long list could be added other emerging issues such as the violence linked to the new technologies, such as cyber-bullying.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

All along the discussion, some themes appeared as priorities to the participants and panelists.

To bring a real change, it needs more than just legislative texts. The implementation is also mandatory and more than that a deep change in the mentalities. If not, backlashes are always possible.

This is why a real emphasize was placed on education, education for girls, education for parents, education for professionals working with girls.

The education for girls, formal and non-formal should focus on their skills and competences, allowing them to develop their skills and leadership. This education should also take place in a safe, available space and be of good quality. The group insisted on certain topics that should be addressed in the curriculums proposed to the girls. A comprehensive sexual education is a top priority. It will allow them to choose freely about their sexual and reproductive life and raise their awareness on the dangers linked to early and frequent motherhoods.

The education for parents, members of the community should be focused on the harmful cultural practices such as FGM, early, forced and child marriages, common use of violence (especially with fire guns), and so on.

Some participants highlighted the ongoing issue of trafficking. A good prevention in the original country as well as in the destination countries is mandatory. Legislations should be changed and issues of the families addressed in order to prevent them to sell their girls abroad.

## EMERGING ISSUES

Among the emerging issues discussed during the Round Table, the participants identified the violence linked to the new technologies. Cyber-bullying, sexting and others are putting the girls in great danger and can lead them even to suicide.

As the girls are a special group cited in the texts about women's human rights, they also should be mentioned in the texts about the children's rights. This would ensure that their needs are fully taken into consideration in their particular identity as women and children.

A participant underlined the good practice in France, where systematic health control at different ages allow a better identification of the victims of violence. She spoke then in particular about the girls victims of FGM. Would the parents put their girl into this practice if a doctor would then control her systematically?

## Main Recommendations

- Through education and prevention for communities and parents, create a transformative change in the society in order to break the stereotypes and social norms that are the root causes of gender-based violence.
- Deliver in a safe space a comprehensive sexual education to every single girl, but also to every single boy, going far beyond family planning but allowing them to choose freely about their sexual and reproductive life.
- Implement systematic health controls allowing to identify victims of harmful practices such as FGM or domestic violence.
- Implement measures to promote cyber safety for girls and prevention programs to raise the girls' awareness on the dangers linked to new technologies.
- Call on governments to ensure that education, formal and non-formal, for girls is accessible, safe, available and of good quality, particularly for girls living in rural or remote areas. This education should promote gender equality and develop skills such as leadership competences.
- Allocate more economic and legislative efforts to prevent sex trafficking of girls.
- Develop training programs for professionals who work with girls and boys such as teachers, social workers, police and medical staff to increase their capacity to identify the needs related to gender.
- Recognize girls as a distinctive group in the policies for children rights, on the global and national levels.

## Interactive Roundtable i: Human Rights & Migrant Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 09:30-11:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room IX

### Conveners:

**Joyce Jett**,  
International Representative, Medical Care  
Development International and Solar Cooker's  
International

**Colette Samoya**,  
Fondatrice de BANGWE et Dialogue

**Patrick Taran**,  
President, Global Migration Policy Associates  
(GMPA)

### Speakers:

**Krishna Ahooja-Patel**,  
International Representative, Women's  
International League for Peace and Freedom  
(WILPF)

**Gloria Moreno Fontes**,  
Senior Labour Migration Specialist,  
International Labour Organization (ILO)

**Patrick Taran**,  
President, Global Migration Policy Associates  
(GMPA)

**Monica Cristea**,  
Board member, European Network of Migrant  
Women (ENOMW)

**Nunu Kidane**,  
Director, Priority Africa Network (PAN)

### Rapporteurs:

**Dylan Terry**,  
GMPA

**Katherine Youtz**,  
GMPA

### Resource Team:

**Rachel Babecoff**,  
International Council of Jewish Women

**Dinara Gozalova**,  
Geneva School of Diplomacy

**Olga Kadysheva**,  
Financial University of the Russian Federation



Migrant and displaced women have emerged as a population group of critical concern in recent years and will likely be more so in the future. Women and girls make up 51% of total migration in the ECE region with higher percentages in some countries. All 12 areas of critical concern in the Beijing Platform for Action apply to migrant and displaced women, although there remain severe gaps in implementation in some areas – particularly for migrant women in irregular situations. This session provided an understanding of the condition of migrant women in the legal and social context of the ECE region while also demanding recognition of migrant women as central to the conversation about women's rights.

First and foremost, we must reframe the discourse around migrant women. Human rights are women's rights and women's rights are inherently migrant women's rights. Migrant women face a battle on two fronts: equality with men and equality with



native-born women. We do migrant women a great injustice when we reduce them to their legal status, their victimhood, or their contribution to economic development. We should celebrate the knowledge,

**HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS WHICH ARE INHERENTLY MIGRANT WOMEN'S RIGHTS.**



tures and labour markets, access to social protection and healthcare, and an increasing debate about government policy on sex work, especially as it pertains to trafficking of women and girls. Discussion also included reference to legal empowerment and rights literacy of migrant women, access to education and training, and self-organization of migrant women for the purpose of advocacy and collective bargaining efforts. Critically, speakers and participants noted the increasing deskilling of migrant women due to lack of recognition of foreign credentials and limited opportunities for upward mobility.

expertise and experience migrant women bring to all Member States. In order to provide a context that allows equal access to the full experience of life in the ECE region, Member States have a responsibility to formulate gender-sensitive, rights-based policy on the basis of equality and non-discrimination. International law has provided the region with various international instruments that protect the rights of migrant women. It is not a lack of rules the region suffers, but generally a lack of implementation due to political will.

States should ratify key international conventions on migration, develop domestic law and policy that reflect the rights based framework upon which these conventions and standards are built, and ensure that mechanism are in place to uphold and enforce such standards.

Speakers and participants raised a series of concerns relating to the welfare of migrant women, refugees, asylum seekers, minorities, victims of trafficking, and displaced women. Key areas of concern range from equality and participation in economic and social life to discrimination at all stages of migration. Issues of continuing concern include integration into host cul-

Migrant women actively contribute a wealth of diverse skills and knowledge to the ECE region. It is critical to halt the divisive conception of society in terms of “us” and “them.” Recommendations from this session are intended to protect and support migrant women in the ECE region, but it is equally important to celebrate the achievements of migrant women. Using their own language, migrant women continue to challenge policy and re-frame the debate on displacement and migration. In solidarity with these efforts, we urge the Forum and all ECE mem-





ber states to promote and implement the recommendations offered here to ensure that the rights of migrant women are upheld.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Uphold and Promote the equality of treatment and non-discrimination of all migrant women, recognizing first and foremost their humanity and innate dignity.
2. Reframe our discourse and framework on migrant women to recognize that human rights are women's rights which are inherently migrant women's rights.
3. Extend the Beijing Platform for Action with specific reference to the condition of all migrant women and girls, regardless of status.
4. Ratification and Implementation of international conventions on migration as well as international labour standards to strengthen the protection of migrant women.
5. Empower migrant women to self-organize, support migrant women's organizations, and facilitate networking and advocacy by migrant organizations and women organizations.
6. Regularize migrant women and children in irregular situations.
7. Support migrant family unity and integrity by family reunification policies and an immediate end to deportation practices that separate families.
8. Extend social protection, social security coverage and full health care including covering sexual and reproductive rights to migrant women.
9. Demand equal treatment for refugees, asylum seekers and displaced women.
10. Provide quality secondary, vocational, and tertiary education and lifelong learning for migrant girls and women particularly to support integration and access to employment.



### Side-Event on “Human Rights and Migrant Women” at the 59<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women – 11 March 2015

GMPA, in partnership with the Young Leaders Caucus (YLC) and the NGO CSW Geneva, carried the momentum from the NGO Forum Beijing+20 UN ECE regional review forward to a panel on Human Rights and Migrant Women at the CSW Global Beijing+20 Review in New York. Jitka Markova, vice-chair of the European Network of Migrant Women acted as moderator. Dylan Terry (GMPA, YLC) introduced the panel, giving an over-arching, global context to the themes discussed. She urged participants to prioritize diversity in strong coalition building through inter-regional, cross-sectoral, and intergenerational alliances.



Three panelists presented the work their organizations are doing to address each of the three themes. Melissa Garcia Velez, co-coordinator of the New York State Youth Leadership Council, gave her personal account of struggling for access to education as an undocumented young person in America. She emphasized the role of young activists to publicly influence the immigration debate in the USA, especially in securing in-state university tuition for undocumented youth.

Alicia Arbid, coordinator of the Arab Women’s Solidarity Association – Belgium, highlighted the need for a pro-active approach to encourage and empower migrant women to engage in the social and cultural life of the countries in which they live. She called for the celebration of the pluralities and diversities of migrant women’s identities, especially in Arab communities.

Roksana Mun, “Youthpower!” campaign coordinator at DRUM South Asian Organizing Center, spoke passionately against the criminalization of migrant communities in New York City, calling in particular for reform of the “school-to-prison pipeline” that disproportionately affects youth from migrant and/or minority communities. She emphasized successful grassroots campaigns against structural violence that have relied on strong alliances across communities.

Finally, the panelists and participants exchanged ideas on how best to identify common interests and move forward with mutually reinforcing advocacy and programmatic strategies.

# Interactive Roundtable *ii*: Science, Technology and Innovation for the Advancement of Women

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 9:30-11:00 AM, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XI

## Convener:

**Manjit Dosanjh,**  
UN Rep., IFUW; CERN; Chair of Editing  
Committee, Taskforce Beijing+20, NGO CSW

## Moderator:

**Ewa Ruminska-Zimny,**  
President, International Forum of Women in  
Science and Business, Poland

## Speakers:

**Susan Schorr,**  
Head of Special Initiatives, ITU

**Stephan Monterde,**  
Director, CISCO Systems

**Zoya Apevalova,**  
Coordinator of International Relations,  
Federation of University Women, Russia

**Audrey Van Belleghem,**  
Anita Borg Institute, US

## Rapporteur:

**Antonella Del Rosso,**  
CERN

## INTRODUCTION

Access to and control over science and technology play a role in determining which countries, and which people within these countries, are rich and powerful. Scientific research and technology are key drivers in today's economies as twin pillars of progress in knowledge and quality of life which women need to have equal access and benefit. The gap must be bridged if women are to contribute and profit equally from the potential of science and technology and participate meaningfully in a global knowledge society, to maintain families out of poverty and provide educational benefits to the next generation. Science, technology and innovation (STI) are necessary to improve education, eradicate poverty, prevent exodus from rural communities, fight diseases, and respond to the challenges of climate change. They have emerged as a means for countries to improve productivity and competitiveness. Eliminating barriers will further the goals of employment, decent work and supporting families. Objectives: Bringing participants interested in these topics into contact with each other; informing governments and the ECE of the enormous power of STI and empowering women; action for moving forward.



## SUMMARY OF PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS

### Political will

More political will of governments and other actors to include a gender perspective in STI is needed. Today some companies are more forward thinking in this respect than the governments appear to be. This approach increases their profitability and future prospects.

### Strategic planning

To make STI work for the advancement of women, we need a long term, strategic approach. Longer-term commitment and actions should be put in place by governments and other actors; including gender equality as a part of the DNA of development strategies.

### Work - family

Institutional framework to combine work and family should be provided at a company level including access to high-quality care infrastructure (child and elderly dependents), flexible working conditions (times and locations) and family related career breaks. (Guarantee position on return)

Governments should provide sustainable care infrastructure.

### Education and Learning/ role models

Active encouragement of girls should start with the involvement of parents in setting the right environment for both sons and daughters;

STI education by organizing campaigns, providing role models in male dominated STI areas, to break stereotypes and traditional views of women's roles in society.

Special attention to provide access to learning opportunities to older women - large unemployment among middle aged women.

### Data

Collection and analysis of data on gender perspective in STI to document the gaps in access for women

and girls, but to also provide arguments that gender equality is helping STI development at the company level and have better economic results.

### Platform and cooperation building among actors

Use STI to build a new platform for corporation and networking among all actors (governments, private sector, international org. and companies) to facilitate advancement of women.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

**Manjit Dosanjh:** Dosanjh stated that the topic of our discussion is one of the new emerging issues, cross-cutting topics. On this Beijing +20 document, the civil society can be provocative and daring and making outrageous demands. Dosanjh confirmed that the recommendations made at the roundtables will make a difference and this is why an open discussion will take place after the speakers' presentations. She also emphasized the importance to make recommendations that are useful to all of us. Dosanjh claimed that some of the issues discussed at Beijing seem to go backwards and lacking implementation. Therefore, it is vital to touch base now and suggest concrete and pragmatic improvements for the future.

**Ewa Ruminska-Zimny:** Ruminska-Zimny addressed the audience saying how important it is that so many people are in the room. She commented that, from a gender perspective, technology is still considered as gender neutral and people do not know very much how to introduce a gender perspective there. The difficulty is partly given by the fact that people working on gender issues (NGOs, institutes, academia, government) are not specialists in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). They usually come from social sciences. On the other hand, in science perhaps there are people who have never heard about gender issue.

Ruminska-Zimny emphasized the fact that STI have an impact on women potential and their fights for equal rights; equality is a key element of the development of STI. STI cannot function without women who are a potential of creativity. She mentioned a recent very effective science communication campaign in Poland where Marie Skłodowska-Curie was quoted to say: "Man can also make science".



Ruminska-Zimny repeated that the recommendations are expected to say what we can do and who will have to take action in order for the gender gap to disappear in STI where the women potential needs to be better used.

**Susan Schorr:** Schorr addressed the question “how can women face gaps using Information Communication Technologies (ICT) and how can they be empowered by ICT”. She reminded the audience that twenty years ago, in the first Beijing document that was issued in 1995 no email, no internet were mentioned. There was no Twitter, no Facebook, no social media. She emphasized the fact that over the last 20 years, the gender gap in ICT has not improved.

Based on ITU recent studies, Schorr showed that once women have received basic training on ICT, they want more. She also showed that ITU has reached the goal of training 1000000 women and has launched the “Girls in ICT Day” events (23 April in 2015). However, Schorr commented that the issue now is to make women become tech creators, not just consumers.

Schorr showed the results of a report issued by ITU that focuses on how ICTs can be used to tackle one of the biggest challenges facing youth around the world: youth unemployment. The report states that women who develop STI skills will have many more job opportunities before them because even in the face of a global youth unemployment crisis, jobs requiring STI skills, and more specifically, jobs in the ICT sector, are going unfilled. Schorr also noted that ICTs are changing the way we learn, facilitating our ability to learn new technical, business and soft skills. This includes an ever-increasing number of free online learning resources. Practically this means women and girls outside of formal education can access these free resources and formal institutions of learning don’t have to invest in developing their own costly training.

Schorr’s recommendations included the importance of incorporating digital solutions in national strategies and educational curricula to promote the empowerment of girls and women as well as the importance of encouraging young women to take up ICT careers. This latter point involves, of course, the ICT companies that are called to recruit, retain and promote women in tech careers.

**Audrey Van Belleghem:** Van Belleghem presented the work of the Anita Borg Institute (ABI). One of the institute’s goals is understanding how to keep women in technologies. Van Belleghem observed that there is an explosion of the need of tech skills. According to a recent study carried out by ABI, 72% of business executives believe there is a direct correlation between company’s gender diversity and financial success. However, she also pointed out the problems faced by women. In particular, Van Belleghem claimed that women lack role models because men are more likely to be at senior level and women often face a lack of mentors and sponsors. Women in tech face barriers such as a male dominated culture and a tough work-life conflict. As a result, the study shows that women leave jobs in computing at a rate that is twice as much that of men.

ABI conducted studies prove that female employment rates are higher when parental leave is allowed and/or where child and elderly care services are available. The institute works in collaboration with several tech companies. Van Belleghem stated that the companies ABI is working with are becoming more transparent about the gender problem although they still have a big challenge to overcome in bringing women into their technical workforces.

**Ewa Ruminska-Zimny:** The moderator commented that the private sector seems to be far ahead (with respect to governments) in this issue. In Europe it is quite new. Polish Stock Exchange asked that the companies to include into their annual reports to stakeholders the data on the share of women in their Boards. This could be a good practice and a general recommendation for other Stock Exchanges.

**Zoya Apevalova:** Apevalova started off saying that being the mother of two daughters is the most important occupation of her life. She reported that there is a large number of women scientists, some members of the Russian government are now wom-

en and there are a number of grants to support young scientists. However, women being awarded the scientific research grants significantly less than men and no special systematic work on grant funding programs development for women in Russia.

Apevalova reported that more than 90% of the female scientists in Russia are mothers (older than 30), some of them – being unmarried. This, together with an insufficient medical care for kids, an insufficient number of nursery schools and the career interruption caused by the maternity leave, determine a situation where women are not usually promoted further than the position of a Dean or a Head of the Scientific Department in their career ladder and there are not enough women among scientific projects managers.

For Apevalova, it is vital to increase women's academic mobility through international cooperation between high education institutions and Scientific institutions and to develop social security programs for young female scientists who have become mothers and wish to continue their scientific research.

**Ewa Ruminska-Zimny:** The moderator commented that Russia has a huge number of female scientists but this does not mean that they have a real impact on the management of science because they usually are low in management. This has an impact: they do not decide on which type of research is funded (technical versus social innovation).

**Stephan Monterde:** Monterde presented CISCO's commitment to the women's development in the company. The speaker reported that the company does a lot of pragmatic things, including asking all vice presidents and senior directors to identify three or four things they would do differently to increase the number of women in the work environment. The company has introduced a strategic approach, where continuity – as opposed to one-off actions – has an important role. It has to be something that becomes part of the DNA of the company. One of the focuses of the CISCO policy for the women's development is on authenticity: as role models are mostly men, women are tempted to imitate men's behaviours, which decrease the beneficial effect of having diverse workshop and leadership.

Monterde claimed that one of the messages CISCO tries to put forward is: you can be a successful

woman manager and still have a balanced life. Any CISCO employee can be a STI ambassador. The Cisco International Internship Programme is to offer women an opportunity to join the company and like ICT companies. Cisco works for that with many universities. CISCO has also included training, mentoring programmes, and workshops tailored for young women.

**Ewa Ruminska-Zimny:** The moderator commented that CISCO strategic thinking is to be particularly appreciated and could serve as a good practice for other companies.

#### **A few selected comments and questions received from the floor audience:**

A participant pointed out that technology can be considered as a lifesaver for women involved in family violence. Another participant observed that, as the population ages, it will not be only child care that women will need help with but also elder care. Middle age women have more time to be trained in ICT and STI and can become potential ambassadors and active members in these fields. Finally, a participant emphasized the role of parents in driving kids in their career. Van Belegem confirmed that ABI studies show that when girls have parents in science the girl is more likely to go for science but there is a need to expand this and reach girls who do not have parents in science.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

Science, Technology and Innovation have evolved into a critical cross cutting issue for the empowerment of women and the implementation of the Beijing platform.

We need to keep up with technologically driven development including the Internet and the new virtual space created by it. STI thus become a powerful tool to ensure equal access to education, employment and participation in civil society. At the same time, gender equality is an important factor behind STI development and economic growth. Governments should therefore encourage educational programmes to increase the number of digitally and scientifically literate women in the world. They should also develop social security programs to support the young female scientists and should monitor how private STI companies deal with gender-related issues.

# Interactive Roundtable *iii*: Women and Ageing – Older Women Count

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 11:30-13:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XI

## Co-conveners:

**Silvia Perel-Levin,**  
International Longevity Centre Global Alliance  
(ILC GA)

**Ursula Barter-Hemmerich,**  
International Network for the Prevention of  
Elder Abuse (INPEA)

## Moderator:

**Bridget Sleep,**  
HelpAge International

## Speakers:

**Elizabeth Sclater,**  
Executive Officer, Older Women's Network,  
Europe (OWN)

**Andrea Ferenczi,**  
President, Association for Women's Career  
Development in Hungary

**Israel Doron,**  
Head, Department of Gerontology, Haifa  
University, Israel

**Lisa Warth,**  
Technical Officer, Department of Ageing and  
Life Course, World Health Organization (WHO)

## Rapporteur:

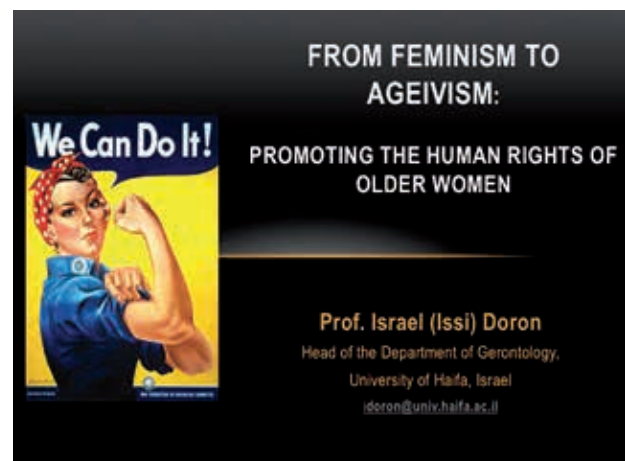
**Kelly Fitzgerald,**  
International Federation on Ageing (IFA)

## INTRODUCTION

Population ageing is one of the most significant global trends and achievements of the 21st century, yet ageism is tolerated or ignored. Older women generally live longer than men, they are more likely than men to live alone, and less likely to have access to an income. Women suffer from multiple and cumulative forms of discrimination and violence throughout their entire life and as they age, the intersection of the multiple discriminations exponentially affects their daily existence.

The Beijing Declaration recognized age discrimination as one of the factors contributing to hampering women's empowerment and advancement. The Beijing Platform for Action specifically mentioned older women with regard to poverty, health, violence, obstacles in entering the labour market, discrimination at work, and as a civil society group particularly affected by armed conflict. Recommendations for government action were made in each of these areas but there were also gaps, including the omission of widows and widowhood.

Twenty years later the questions remain: To what extent have governments and others implemented these measures? Are older women and population-ageing priorities identified in future programs?



### Summary of recommendations made by the round table panel and participants

- Condemn and tackle ageism and multiple, cumulative, and intersectional discrimination against older women.
- Adopt and implement transformative social protection laws and policies to reduce income insecurity and inequality in older age.
- Recognize and address all forms of violence, abuse and neglect of older women including financial abuse and non-state torture.
- Governments should meet their human rights obligations towards older women under CEDAW General Recommendation No. 27 and include older women in their reports to all UN mechanisms.
- Collect, analyze, and report using data disaggregated by sex, age and marital status.
- Enable age-friendly physical and social environments, structures, and services that are accessible to, and inclusive of, older women with varying needs and capacities in urban and rural settings.
- Promote social inclusion and participation of older women, including through access to formal or informal work, volunteering, and life-long learning.
- Promote the positive role and image of older women in the media.
- Recognize the role of older women in caring for the young and promote intergenerational solidarity through specific activities involving young and old together.
- Provide older women with information on their rights, entitlements, and availability of services.
- Provide equal access to affordable and appropriate health care including mental health as well as sexual and reproductive health throughout the life course.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

**Elizabeth Sclater** presented the results of a review of 43<sup>\*</sup> UNECE Member States' national reports exploring the extent to which they have reported on older women. For the Beijing +20 review, governments were to provide information on the situation of older women wherever possible. A handout with the results of the review was distributed at the session. Since the Beijing+15 review, a number of opportunities have arisen to improve the protection of older women's rights including the post 2015 sustainable development framework, the 2010 CEDAW General Recommendation No. 27 on older women's rights, Human Rights Council resolutions leading to

the appointment of an Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, and five sessions of the UN Open-ended Working Group on Ageing in New York.

This review, conducted by OWN, HelpAge International and the Geneva NGO Committee on Ageing, revealed that while there have been positive developments, older women were rarely mentioned in the national reports. Only 12 reports (28% of the 43 reviewed) specifically mentioned older women or ageing in their review of achievements and challenges. The achievements mentioned included increasing retirement ages, supporting older women's employment, abolishing gender differences in pensions, a law addressing multiple discrimination, and specific projects for older women. Two reports recognised population ageing as a challenge. The other challenges listed included older women's poverty, lower pensions than men, and multiple discriminations based on gender and older age.

\* Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom



As to the implementation of the 12 areas of concern since 2009, 23 reports recognised the particular **poverty** that older women experience. The most common reason given was lower pensions due to gender inequalities in work histories. Only one country described **education** opportunities for older women. Only two reports mentioned any specific **health** concerns and two commented on the fact that women's longer life expectancy was accompanied by more years in ill health. Eleven reports mentioned breast cancer screening programmes but generally with upper age limits of 69. Six of the reports recognised the specific vulnerability of older women to **violence and abuse**. Three of them, referred to elder abuse without any gender analysis. There was no reference to abuse in care settings, including neglect or financial exploitation. One report cited a study on **armed conflict** that included a focus on older women.

Regarding older women and the **economy**, twelve reports mentioned the barriers that older women face with employment, with eight countries describing programmes on reintegration into the workforce that include older women. One report stated that older women often work in part time, low paid jobs. Another addressed the burden of unpaid care work on older women. Three reports referred to **institutional mechanisms for the advancement of older women**. Only two reports related to the rights of older women referring to laws that prohibit age and sex as grounds for discrimination. One report discussed the negative images of older women in the **media**, describing a project aimed at breaking stereotypes of beauty based on youth in order to increase women's self-esteem, regardless of age. No report addressed **older women and the environment**.

Only two of the reports reviewed identified population **ageing as a future priority**. Two reports recognised the need to look at older age from a gender perspective, another the need to discuss the intersection between age and gender. One prioritised older women's employment. One recognised the importance of rural transport systems for all older women. The only areas where older women have received any significant attention in the reviews were related to their poverty and barriers to employment.

The panel then focused on areas where the Beijing Platform of Action had not specifically mentioned older women: women and the media, women and the environment, and human rights of women.

**Andrea Ferenczi** described her project “*Women's Career for a Lifetime*” in Hungary. She stressed the importance of raising women's awareness of the need to continue living active and healthy lives and the need to update their skills and competences. Women should be provided with the opportunity to stay in the workforce and share their experience, keep playing an active role in society, participate in volunteering opportunities, and prepare consciously for a longer, healthier, and meaningful life.

The media plays an important role in portraying older women as a valuable but discriminated group and in calling attention to the need to promote their participation in the labour market as well as their vital role in all fields of society. The media should play an active role in combatting negative stereotypes.

**Professor Israel Doron** described the gendered aspects of ageing: women live longer, they are lonelier, poorer, more vulnerable to abuse, neglect and social isolation; older women are more vulnerable to dementia, hip fracture, and other age-related diseases; they carry the burden of care but are left with no one to care for them; and they are disproportionately institutionalised.

He claimed that the feminist movement has been largely ageist by ignoring older women and that the rights of older persons are a social justice issue. He presented a new concept that he coined as “**Ageivism**”. He proposed that ageing should be seen as an opportunity and old age as an emancipatory trigger for women. We need to recognise the power that women hold in old age and address ageing through a human rights lens. “Ageivism” looks beyond active ageing through promoting activism for social change in older age. It is essential to take a life course approach to examine how the discrimination and marginalization that girls and young women experience have a profound impact on older age.

Older women should be recognized for their positive role in society and development. A UN Convention on the Rights of Older Persons would provide governments with a binding legal framework and the required mechanisms to help reduce age discrimination and enable women to age with dignity.

**Lisa Warth** presented the WHO initiative “Age Friendly Cities and Communities” which involves older persons through adapting environments to

their varying needs. An age-friendly world is a place that enables people of all ages to participate in community activities. It is a place that treats everyone with respect, regardless of his or her age. It is a place that makes it easy to stay connected; that helps people remain healthy and active even at the oldest ages. It is also a place that helps those who can no longer look after themselves to live with dignity and enjoyment. Many cities and communities are already taking active steps towards becoming more age-friendly. However, many barriers remain. Some of these are found in services, policies, and systems, while others are found in the physical environment. Easily recognized examples include poorly designed buildings or lack of transportation that prevents older people from accessing the places they want to visit. Many barriers result simply from the way we think about ageing and the way we view and treat older people. [www.agefriendlyworld.org](http://www.agefriendlyworld.org)

Following the panel speakers, a rich discussion took place. The key points raised included:

Older women are strongly underrepresented and often stereotypically represented in the media. We need to change the language we use when addressing the issue of ageing.

Older women's poverty persists and women are often forced to leave the labour market to care for older family members, which affects their return to work and thus their pensions. Older women can experience multiple discriminations based on a range of characteristics, such as migrant status, ethnic origin, and physical or mental health.

Older women experience different types of violence and abuse which must be recognized as human rights violations including unnecessary institutionalization, non-state torture, over-medicalization, and denial of a dignified death. There is an urgent need to prevent, detect, and address elder abuse in all its forms.

Resources should be allocated to create an age-friendly environment, for example, through appropriate planning when new housing and infrastructure are designed and built. Encourage all women's organizations to include plans for the advanced age, including their own.

With greater life expectancy, ill health can also increase which is a fact to be considered when plan-

ning health services. The life course perspective should be fundamental to any long term planning.

Older women often carry the burden of care not only for the younger generation, such as their grand children, but also for their very old parents. Some worry about who will care for them in old age.

Social and economic policies, services, and research are needed to enhance the well-being of older women and to eliminate the ageism that prevents older women from living with dignity, realizing their full potential, and accessing resources.

Older women must have universal and equal access to affordable comprehensive and coordinated services in all sectors of society, including safe housing and life-long education and training.

## CONCLUSION

The Beijing Platform for Action will never be fully realized unless older women's needs and rights are addressed in national plans and policies are fully implemented. Finally, and of great importance, the future role of feminism must include the struggle for the human rights of older women.



# Interactive Roundtable iv: Men and Boys – In Solidarity for Gender Equality

Tuesday, 4 November 2014 – 16:30-18:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XVII

## Co-conveners:

**Mrs. Elly Pradervand,**  
WWSF CEO and UN Representative, Swiss  
White Ribbon Secretariat

**Mr. Ricardo Espinosa,**  
Moderator, Head of Development and Global  
Initiatives, Geneva Centre for Human Rights  
Advancement and Global Dialogue (GCHRAGD),  
and Swiss White Ribbon Ambassador

## Speakers:

**H.E. Ambassador Mehmet Carikci,**  
Permanent Representative of Turkey to the  
United Nations Office at Geneva

**Pr. Nago Humbert,**  
Founding President of Doctors of the World  
Switzerland, and Swiss White Ribbon  
Ambassador

**Pr. Dr. Ervin Laszlo,**  
Founder and President of The Club of Budapest

## Rapporteurs:

**Daniel Fuhrer,**  
Swiss White Ribbon Program Coordinator

**Shannon Meehan,**  
Swiss White Ribbon Program Coordinator

## INTRODUCTION

Engaging men and boys has become essential for any discussion around gender equality issues. Acts and threats of violence, whether occurring in the home or in the community, or perpetrated or condoned by the State, instill fear and insecurity in women's lives and are obstacles to the achievement of equality, peace and development. By launching the White Ribbon Campaign in 2009 in Switzerland, the initiative joins about 60 countries that follow the original Call to Action to men and boys, and also to women and girls, to mobilize them to pledge not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls. Women are speaking up and out, and men's voices need to be heard more loudly to make the end of violence a global reality.



Image of the 'Men and Boys – In Solidarity for Gender Equality' Round Table at the UN in Geneva, 4 November 2014

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- Lobby your government to sign and ratify the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)
- Promote the fact that gender equality liberates not only women, but also men who suffer from gender norms and stereotypes

- Promote non-violent communication trainings among youth, and particularly boys, as an alternative means for solving conflict without resorting to violence
- Mainstream the idea that violence against women is not a private matter, but constitutes a violation of human rights
- Improve training in responding to violence in specific sectors such as law enforcement, justice, health and social services in order to avoid re-victimization and ensure that women feel adequately supported in seeking help
- Actively encourage the implementation of sex education where it does not exist and shift the focus from biological matters to social dimensions such as consent and gender identity
- Recognize that the values, attitudes and actions of men stem largely from their education and socialization as boys, and ensure that early education introduces gender equality
- Address emotional management skills in school curricula, ensuring that boys learn to express their feelings and are encouraged to do so
- Empower young boys through the promotion of positive role models in families, schools and media
- Acknowledge that cooperative values are necessary and that traditional gender roles must be replaced with ideas of complementarity and partnership
- Expand the definition of violence beyond physical and sexual violence to include other dimensions such as emotional, psychological, financial violence, etc.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION



**Mr. Ricardo Espinosa** moderated the Interactive Roundtable and stated that violence against women and girls is an obstacle to attaining equality and peace between human

beings, and equally an obstacle to achieving human rights and development. He also presented the re-

cently published (Le Temps, 4 Nov. 2014) 'Declaration by the Swiss White Ribbon Ambassadors on the Elimination of violence against women and girls in Switzerland: A horizon for 2030' which was projected on the conference screen, distributed among the participants, and read aloud by Mr. Daniel Fuhrer, Swiss White Ribbon Program Coordinator. Mr. Espinosa stressed the target year 2030 as a first national step forward not only to diminish violence, but also to actually eliminate it.



**H.E. Ambassador Mehmet Carikci**, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations Office at Geneva, started his presentation by stating that violence

against women is degrading not only to women, but to men as well. We have an obligation as societies and a duty as individuals to empower women and girls for the sake of our societies, he said. Ambassador Carikci provided the audience with a detailed presentation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), which entered into force on 1 August 2014. The Convention has a strong focus on prevention. The Convention binds Government parties to:

- train professionals in close contact with victims
- organize regular awareness-raising campaigns
- take steps to include issues such as gender equality and non-violent conflict resolution in interpersonal relationships in teaching materials
- set up treatment programs for perpetrators of domestic violence and for sex offenders
- work closely with NGOs
- involve the media and the private sector in eradicating gender stereotypes and promoting mutual respect

"It is our firm belief that, achieving gender equality and eliminating all forms of violence against women requires a multilateral, long-term and decisive struggle based on an integrated approach by all relevant stakeholders. Efforts have to be deployed in

all realms, such as law enforcement, justice, health, social services and labor by the state, NGOs, media and the private sector altogether. In fact, this idea is not new. The Istanbul Convention prescribes that all policies must be formulated with the effective cooperation of all relevant parties. Hence, legal measures require strict implementation based on a strong network of institutions. To this aim, the National Action Plan on Combating Violence against Women 2012-2015 is under implementation,” he added.

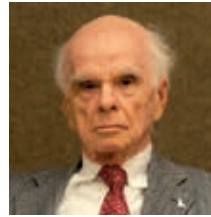
Ambassador Carikci invited the Council of Europe Member States to join the list of states that ratified the Convention, with Turkey being the first one to do so. To date, 36 Member States have signed and 15 of them have ratified the Convention (Albania, Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, France, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey). (Full presentation available on [www.white-ribbon.ch](http://www.white-ribbon.ch))



Pr. Nago Humbert, Founding President of Doctors of the World Switzerland and a Swiss White Ribbon Ambassador, gave a powerful speech on gender-based violence. “There is

still so much violence against women,” he said, “more insidious and unrecognized, and even trivialized because it is sometimes incorporated into the thinking and habits of certain societies.” To trivialize this violence is to justify what is unacceptable. Globally, at least one in three women is a victim of physical or sexual violence in her intimate relationships.

Pr. Humbert explained that ‘Doctors of the World’ is fighting for global access to healthcare and noted that it is often women who pay the heaviest price in the absence of it. “Being pregnant is still a risk,” he stated. In Bangladesh, 18% of deaths are the result of intentional and unintentional injuries inflicted by men on women, 52% of them occurring during or after pregnancy. In 2008, one abortion in two around the world was made in bad conditions, leading eventually to death in some cases. “Culture is often invoked to justify violence against women. That is why institutions like governments can be said to be complicit in this form of violence,” he added, before concluding with a powerful “Silence is complicity.” (Full presentation available on [www.white-ribbon.ch](http://www.white-ribbon.ch))



Pr. Dr. Ervin Laszlo, Founder and President of The Club of Budapest, philosopher of science and systems theorist, shared about the roots of gender-based violence and the

necessity for men and women to evolve together with cooperative values, which should be considered as complementary instead of competitive. He especially stressed the importance of the socialization and education of young boys, which shapes their notion of privilege and manhood. He emphasized the problem of cultures placing women in a secondary position with men representing the highest expression of being human. To move beyond this, cultures must embrace a higher consciousness of what it means to be human.

This led to a lively intervention from the audience, who had the opportunity to share their recommendations orally and in writing. Finally, **Elly Pradervand**, UN Rep. and CEO, Women’s World Summit Foundation’s (WWSF), and a Swiss White Ribbon member, invited participants to place on the white ribbon statue, provided for this Forum, a personal pledge not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls.



## ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRESS

Around the world, there continues to be increasing efforts to involve men and boys in challenging societal attitudes that undermine gender equality. Indeed, a growing number of men are joining forces to question social norms and speak out against gender-based violence. Substantial and significant international initiatives and campaigns such as the White Ribbon, MenEngage, Mencare, Sonke, and ProMundo, among others, are addressing new measures aimed at ending violence against women and girls and redefining men's role in society and in the family. Yet, in general, more has to be done to understand how to involve men to recognize their stake in the global gender equality agenda.

## CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

Despite the increasing attention paid to the important role that men and boys play in gender-based violence – not only in its perpetration but also in its prevention, issues such as childcare, HIV prevention, and family planning have a potential for increased involvement of men to be engaged in dedicated programs and policies. While a silent majority of men believe such violence is unacceptable, most men ultimately do little to prevent it.

The benefits of working with men and boys to provide practical strategies in ways that address the underlying gender stereotypes and social norms remain insufficiently addressed. Men and boys are

often seen as the perpetrators of violence – in its widest sense, i.e. also against other men and against themselves – without considering the fact that the socialization of men and boys may encourage, at least to some extent, the perpetration of violence. In this regard, the home needs to be a place of peace with shared responsibilities.

Given how much early childhood experience influences men's adult attitudes and practices, more programs and policies must address men and boys to take an equal share in caregiving and family activities. Eliminating men's violence against women will require sustained and systematic efforts both within communities and families.

## EMERGING ISSUES

- Violence against women has to be approached as a tradition instead of an act supported by traditions
- There is an urgent need to engage popular culture and to change narratives around masculinity/ies
- Understanding how men are socialized and examining men's entitlement and privileges to question patriarchy can benefit both women and men
- Governments must recognize elder women abuse as well, as it is often under-reported



# Declaration

♀ 20 IF NOT NOW, WHEN?

by the Swiss White Ribbon Ambassadors



## The Elimination of Violence Against Women : a Horizon for 2030

Among the Sustainable Development Goals of the Post-2015 Agenda, developed by the United Nations, stands the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against women.

In Switzerland, 1 in 5 women fall victim to physical or sexual violence. This number must change.

*We*, as part of the Swiss White Ribbon Campaign, *We* reiterate our commitment to commit to

- make the elimination of all types of violence against women a top priority
- make every effort to ensure that Switzerland, home to international human rights and the Geneva Conventions, continues to be a model working to counter this phenomenon which now, more than ever, threatens the stability of modern democracy
- end these violations against women's rights by 2030 in Switzerland through a system of social justice and peace
- irrevocably reject any act of violence against women, reiterating our pledge not to commit, condone or remain silent about violence against women and girls
- inform and instill from an early age the principles of equality and humanism that underpin the rule of law
- involve men and women, as well as boys and girls, in targeted actions in order to develop a harmonious society based on the values of non-violence and respect.



- promote the values of solidarity and goodwill to all citizens – regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, sexuality, or ideological background – so that they can contribute to the growth and prosperity of our country as a model at the forefront of human rights, which includes the right for women to live free from all forms of discrimination
- invite everyone to individually participate in this campaign whose aim is to improve gender equality and increase the collective well-being in order to create a Switzerland free from violence against women and girls.

*We,*

the Ambassadors to the Swiss White Ribbon Campaign, adhere to this Declaration for the elimination of violence against women and girls in Switzerland by 2030 on 4 November 2014 at the NGO-CSW-Geneva Review Forum - Beijing+20 - at the United Nations in Geneva.



By wearing a white ribbon, men and women commit to end violence against women.

### The Swiss White Ribbon Ambassadors (2009-2014, alphabetical order)

- **Barazzone** Guillaume, Conseiller administratif, Ville de Genève, et Conseiller national
- **Barthassat** Luc, Conseiller d'Etat, République et Canton de Genève, ancien Conseiller national
- **Bernasconi** Paolo, Prof. Dr. h.c., avocat et ancien procureur tessinois
- **Blatter** Joseph S., Président de la Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA)
- **Bourgoz** David, Délégué aux violences domestiques, République et Canton de Genève
- **Buhler** André, Ancien président de l'Association Le Tour du Canton de Genève
- **Chowdhury** Anwarul K., Ambassadeur et ancien Secrétaire général adjoint et Haut Représentant de l'ONU
- **Comte** Raphaël, Conseiller aux Etats, Canton de Neuchâtel
- **Dal Busco** Serge, Conseiller d'Etat, République et Canton de Genève, ancien Maire de Bernex
- **Espinosa** Ricardo, Head of Development and Global Initiatives – GCHRAGD, ancien Chef de l'unité de liaison de l'ONU avec les ONG à Genève
- **Forte** Fabiano, Ancien Vice-président du Grand Conseil de Genève, ancien député
- **Germanier** Jean-René, Conseiller national, Canton du Valais, ancien Président du Conseil national
- **Guénial** Olivier, Commandant de la police cantonale jurassienne
- **Guterres** António, Haut Commissaire des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés
- **Humbert** Nago, Président fondateur de Médecins du Monde Suisse, Professeur agrégé au département de pédiatrie de la faculté de médecine de Montréal
- **Jaffé** Philip, Spécialiste en psychothérapie et en psychologie légale
- **Jobin** Thierry, Directeur artistique du Festival International de Films de Fribourg
- **Kanaan** Sami, Maire de Genève et Conseiller administratif, Ville de Genève
- **Kenel** Philippe, Avocat spécialisé en droit européen, Président de la LICRA
- **Kolly** Pierre, Directeur général de l'enseignement obligatoire (DGE0), République et Canton de Genève
- **Longchamp** François, Président du Conseil d'Etat de la République et Canton de Genève
- **Longet** René, Président de la Fédération genevoise de Coopération, ancien Maire de la Ville d'Onex
- **Maillard** Pierre-Yves, Président du Conseil d'Etat vaudois et Chef du Département de la santé et de l'action sociale
- **Maudet** Pierre, Conseiller d'Etat, République et Canton de Genève, ancien Maire de Genève
- **Membrez** Claude, Directeur général de Palexpo SA, Genève
- **Ould** Ahmed Abdessalam, Ancien Directeur du Bureau de la FAO aux Nations Unies à Genève
- **Pagani** Rémy, Conseiller administratif, Ville de Genève et ancien Maire de Genève
- **Pradervand** Pierre, Auteur et Formateur
- **Raemy** Pierre-Alain, Commandant de la Police Municipale de Lausanne
- **Rapp** Jean-Philippe, Journaliste et producteur, Directeur du Festival International du film des Diablerets
- **Rielle** Jean-Charles, Médecin, Député au Grand Conseil Genevois, ancien Président du Conseil Municipal, Ville de Genève, et ancien Conseiller national
- **Rizzi** Carlson Oliver, Représentant à l'ONU – United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY)
- **Rossellat** Daniel, Président du Paléo Festival de Nyon
- **Solari** Marco, Président du Festival du Film de Locarno
- **Steiert** Jean-François, Conseiller national, Canton de Fribourg, Président de la Société suisse pour la politique de la santé
- **Subilia** Vincent, Conseiller municipal, Ville de Genève, Président fondateur de Action pour la Genève Internationale et son Rayonnement (AGIR)
- **Thentz** Michel, Chef du Département de la santé, des affaires sociales, du personnel et des communes, Canton du Jura
- **Vibourel** Guy, Président du Conseil d'administration de la Coopérative Migros Genève et Président de la Fondation Au Coeur des Grottes, Genève
- **Ziegler** Jean, Auteur, Membre du Comité consultatif du Conseil des Droits de l'Homme de l'ONU

2030 is tomorrow! The Swiss White Ribbon Campaign invites you to participate in the creation of a Switzerland without violence against women and girls.

[www.white-ribbon.ch](http://www.white-ribbon.ch) - [contact@white-ribbon.ch](mailto:contact@white-ribbon.ch)

With thanks to:



Swiss White Ribbon Campaign  
c/o WWSF, 11 av. de la Paix,  
1202 Genève, Suisse





# Lobby Session: Advocacy & Lobby Skills – The How!

Wednesday, 5 November 2014 – 15:00-17:00, Palais des Nations Geneva, Room XVII

## Convener:

**Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF)**  
Geneva

## Speakers:

**Sonia Heptonstall,**  
UN Main Representative, Solar Cookers  
International

**Hamish Jenkins,**  
Senior Program Officer of the UN Non-  
Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS)

**Pierrette Pape,**  
Policy Officer and Project Coordinator,  
European Women's Lobby

**Carolina Rodriguez,**  
Head, International Geneva Perception Change  
Project, Office of the UN Director General

## Rapporteurs:

**Shannon Meehan,**  
Advocacy Coordinator, Children's Section,  
WWSF

**Megan Moleski,**  
WWSF intern, Boston University

## INTRODUCTION

Possessing the skills and knowledge to advocate and lobby for civil society's goals and interests is very important for an NGO. Just as important is informing civil society that they have the ability and right to do so as declared by Article 71 of the UN Charter. There are certain techniques and skills that produce effective lobbying such as working with ECOSOC to obtain Consultative Status, either General, Special or Roster. NGOs are able to use their extensive knowledge and expertise in a variety of fields to promote agendas and inform IGOs, governments, and legislators of emerging issues or problems that have not yet been sufficiently addressed.



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## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

- ECOSOC accredited NGOs should use their status to advocate and lobby governments in accordance with Article 71 of the UN Charter.
- Levels of awareness should be raised about the benefits and duties that accompany ECOSOC status to enable those accredited to realize their full lobbying potential, and to increase the number of NGOs involved within UN advocacy.
- When lobbying governments, be sure to have clear, concise, and precise statements supported by facts, figures, explanations why something is an issue and what is proposed to alleviate the problem.

- Define a lobbying objective and devise the strategy to best achieve the advocacy goal.
- Be proactive when a new issue emerges to help set the agenda and desired terminology before decisions are made by governments.

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION



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**Sonia Heptonstall** shared the historical origins of the United Nations system and the introduction of ‘consultative status’ as a means to involve the voice of civil society in international

decision-making. She explained that the twentieth century devastation unleashed by the First World War (1914-1918) had raised public demand for peace building and cooperation. This was to ensure techniques of conflict resolution rather than the use of military force to settle disputes. The League of Nations was set up as the institution to mediate such dangerous situations but the geopolitics of the time were such the League had no overriding authority and could not avert the Second World War (1939-45). Despite this failure, the victorious allies did not give up and returned yet again to gathering support for an international organization to underpin world peace.

Following a 1945 Conference of government representatives held in San Francisco, the United Nations Charter was drawn up. The Charter Preamble made civil society central with the statement: We the Peoples of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war. The question was how this might be actualized and recognized internationally. It was settled by Eleanor Roosevelt, who pressed the inclusion of the UN Charter Article 71. This spelled out the role of ‘consultative status’ as follows:

*The United Nations Economic and Social Council may make suitable arrangements for consultation with non governmental organizations which are concerned with matters within its competence, Such arrangements may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate with national organizations after consultation with the Members of the United Nations.*

In 1947 an ECOSOC Standing Committee on NGOS (19 government members) was established and continues to meet twice annually. It is this structure that legitimizes the ability of representatives to advocate and lobby governments, delegations and legislators. It is the foundation of civil society’s ability to make their voice heard in international decision-making. It is however circumscribed by the UN Economic and Social Council and the UN General Assembly Resolutions (currently GA 1996/31) that determine the use of consultative status. This provides international non-governmental organizations with a unique opportunity to carry their members thinking into international decision-making within the United Nations system. It is an opportunity to influence change and develop effective future strategies. More publicity is needed to make consultative status better known and exercised.



|||||  
**Hamish Jenkins** pointed out that by involving civil society and providing them a space to advocate within the UN, NGOs are able to implement various ideas and terminology that

governments would not have previously acknowledged or applied. Having this ability to influence governments and inform them of what civil society needs is a great benefit. Jenkins informed the roundtable that one of the obstacles NGOs face regarding their right to Consultative Status within the UN is that not everyone is aware of its existence. This often leads to NGOs not applying for Consultative Status and NGOs being asked to leave a meeting because governments and delegates are sometimes also unaware of the right provided under Article 71.

Jenkins also noted that with regard to gender equality and the needs of women and girls, the issue has not been fully streamlined throughout UN and government goals, but he applauded civil society for the hard work and achievements made in giving this topic the attention it holds today.



|||||  
**Pierrette Pape** spoke and gave advice about strategies and tips to keep in mind while lobbying governments. Pape noted how important it is to have a

credible and trustworthy relationship with legislators as well as making sure there is regular dialogue between the parties. By having such a relationship, civil society is able to inform governments of their goals and also let them know that civil society is monitoring their actions and making sure they follow through on their promises. Pape also suggested that when lobbying, it is important to have clear, concise, and precise statements supported by facts, figures, an explanation why something is an issue and what is proposed by civil society lobbyist to alleviate this problem. She explained that every objective has a different strategy, which will best promote and advance it; the possibility to advocate through manifestos, publications, rallies, and social media are just some potential strategies. Pape also implored the audience to be proactive when a new issue emerges so civil society can help set the agenda and desired terminology before decisions are made by governments.



**Carolina Rodriguez** addressed the Geneva International Perception Change Project, aimed at changing the perception of Geneva International by putting the spotlight back

on the relevance and impact of the work done by all of the UN and international organizations, NGOs and other institutions based in Geneva. Rodriguez spoke on the need to disseminate information about the UN to the public in order to show the world how the work done in Geneva affects every person on the planet, every single day. Rodriguez also elaborated on the efforts being undertaken to raise all the organizations in Geneva, as well as the work they do, to a higher threshold of public awareness. The project strives to achieve an elevation of awareness so that all organizations which fall within the three main clusters of activism within Geneva (peace, rights, and well-being) have a common platform. Rodriguez stated that participation must be approached differently and barriers must be broken down in order to improve the relations and cooperation between UN agencies as well as between the UN and non-UN agencies.

## CONCLUSION

The roundtable covered several aspects of lobbying including the historical role and achievements of NGOs in influencing the UN agenda. Tangible advocacy strategies were shared to help increase the effectiveness of participants' lobbying for women's rights and gender equality. Hepstonstall emphasized that Article 71 of the UN Charter outlines that ECOSOC-accredited NGOs not only have the right to lobby, but also the duty. Pape provided a plethora of examples of effective advocacy strategies, such as the importance of timing, the need to tailor approaches to suit the advocacy goal, and the integral role of maintaining credible partnerships with key stakeholders. Jenkins explained the role NGOs have played historically to influence the UN agenda through working groups and lobbying. Rodriguez then described the clusters of expertise of Geneva International, of which NGOs are, and have long been, a central part. The participants affirmed that as we move forward to accelerate implementation of the promises made at Beijing, effective advocacy, lobbying, and coalition-building will be more essential than ever.



## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
Albania	Donika	Godaj	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association, Albania
	Monika	Kocaqi	Expert, GRB & GBV - Gender Responsive Budgeting & Gender-Based Violence
	Fabiola	Laco Egro	Community Development Centre «Today for the Future»
	Afferdita	Prroni	Human Rights in Democracy Centre
Armenia	Alisa	Amiraghyan	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association
	Svetlana	Aslanyan	Center for the Development of Civil Society
	Jemma	Hasratyan	Armenian Association of Women with University Education
	Tamara	Hovnatanyan	ProMedia-Gender NGO
	Emma	Temrazyan	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association
	Susanna	Vardanyan	Women's Rights Center NGO
	Lilit	Zakaryan	Armenian Association of Women with University Education
	Aida	Zurabyan	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association
Australia	Carolyn	Hudson	Soroptimist International
	Robyn	Lenn	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Elisabeth	Newman	ICW - International Council of Women
	Jan	Williamson	MCDI - Medical Care Development International
Austria	Hava	Bugajer	World WIZO - Women's International Zionist Organization
	Ingeborg	Geyer	Zonta International
	Ilona	Graenitz	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Helga	Konrad	Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing and Combatting Human Trafficking
	Marlene	Parenzan	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Laurie	Richardson	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Dora	Vrdlovec	Soroptimist International
	Rosy	Weiss	IAW - International Alliance of Women
Azerbaijan	Sudaba	Shiralayeva	CWMW - International Center Women & Modern World
Belgium	Anne-Claire	de Liedekerke	MMM - Make Mothers Matter
	Patricia	Foito e Camisao	International Grail
	Joanna	Maycock	EWL - European Women's Lobby
	Francine	Mestrum	Global Social Justice
	Mireille Benedicte	Metoukam Djongue Simo	Le Collectif des Femmes Africaines du Hainaut
	Olalla	Michelena	MMM - Make Mothers Matter
	Annette	Ntignoi	Le Collectif des Femmes Africaines du hainaut
	Pierrette	Pape	EWL - European Women's Lobby





COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Regina	Smit	Vrouwenbelangen / Zonta International
	Daniel	Wisniewski	WYA - World Youth Alliance, Europe
<b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b>	Natalija	Petric	United Women
	Memnuna	Zvizdic	Women to Women / Žene ženama
<b>Bulgaria</b>	Miglena	Avramova	Zonta International
	Iliana	Balabanova-Stoycheva	Alliance for Protection against DV and other forms of GBV
	Radka	Bogdanova-Bancheva	Zonta International
	Staminira	Hadjimitova	Gender Project for Bulgaria Foundation
	Diana	Ivanova	Zonta International
	Ivanka	Mihaylova	Zonta International
	Venelina	Mileva	Zonta International
	Rumyana	Peneva	Zonta International
	Vladimira	Tracheva	Zonta International
	Yana	Yaneva-Gencheva	Zonta International
<b>Canada</b>	Janis	Alton	Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
	Barbara	Byers	Canadian Labour Congress
	Ann	Denis	Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
	Janice	Du Mont	Women's College Research Institute, Women's College Hospital
	Olena	Hankivsky	World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
	Nayyar	Javed	Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
	Kathleen	Lahey	Faculty of Law, Queen's University Ontario
	Aoua B.	LY-Tall	Réseau «FEMMES AFRICAINES, Horizon 2015 (FAH2015) & IAC Canada
	Linda	MacDonald	NST - Persons Against Non-State Torture
	Sarah	Macharia	WACC - World Association for Christian Communication
	Kate	McInturff	Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
	Marilou	McPhedran	Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, IWR Canada
	Marilyn	Porter	Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
	Joan	Russow	Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
	Jeanne	Sarson	NST - Persons Against Non-State Torture
	Daniel	Sansfaçon	Status of Women Canada
	Frieda	Werden	Women's International News Gathering Service
	Elham M.	Zanjani	UAW - Useful to Albanian Women
<b>Cyprus</b>	Aristi	Hadjisavva	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Dora	Tsioli Artemi	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
<b>Denmark</b>	Hanne Fokdal	Barnekow	The Women's Council in Denmark
	Nana	Højlund	The Women's Council in Denmark
	Eva	Nielsen	Zonta International
	Randi Theil	Nielsen	The Women's Council in Denmark
	Maria Jose Landeira	Oestergaard	Zonta International
<b>Egypt</b>	Douaa	Hussein	Hatshepsut Foundation for Development and Human Rights
<b>Estonia</b>	Triin	Käpp	Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church
<b>Finland</b>	Tarja	Halonen	Former President of the Republic of Finland
	Paivi	Kannisto	Government of Finland
	Anja-Riitta	Ketokoski-Rexed	HYVA ry
	Arja	Saijonmaa	UN association of Finland
<b>France</b>	Régine	Acquier	Zonta International
	Evelyn	Askolovitch	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Claire	Aubepart	Femmes Solidaires
	Kawa Beatrice	Banda	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Fanny	Benedetti	Government of France
	Chantal	Bodard	Zonta International
	Monique	Bouaziz	IAW - International alliance of Women
	Ursula	Bouchard	Zonta International
	Marie-Laure	Brouillard-Tanguy	Zonta International
	Stephen	Brown	WACC - World Association for Christian Communication
	Jocelyne	Bruyere	NGO CSW Geneva - Secretariat
	Lucie	Canal	The Gender Lens Institute
	Dany	Castany	Zonta International
	Nanoué	Cesar	Zonta International
	Sallie	Chaballier	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Lydia	Chaillou	Zonta International
	Pascale	Chatton	Zonta International
	Sigrun	Christiansen	Zonta International
	Marie-André	Clément	Regards de Femmes
	Paulette	Clerc	Soroptimist International
	Catherine	D'Arcangues	Global Fund for Women
	Annick	Dubois	Zonta International
	Christèle	Dumas	Regards de Femmes
	Marie-Cécile	Dymarski	Zonta International
	Maryse	Fangain	Zonta International
	Jean	Fangain	ORSAC - Organisation pour la Santé et l'Accueil
	Rose	Fernandez	Zonta International
	Hanna	Fey	Zonta International
	Marie Pauline	Fraizy	Zonta International
	Claudie	Galifer	Zonta International
	Renée	Gérard	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Maryline	Gillet Brun	Zonta International
	Isabelle	Giraud	University of Geneva
	Marie-Christine	Gries	Soroptimist International
	Alton	Grizzle	UNESCO - United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
	Wilfrida	Hendrickx	Soroptimist International
	Nicole	Herb	Zonta International
	Daniele	Heredia	Zonta International
	Monique	Hubert	Zonta International
	Michèle	Idels	Alliance des Femmes pour la Démocratie
	Olivia	Jaillet	N/A
	Golnar	Khoshbakhti	UAW - Useful to Albanian Women
	Agnes	Landrieu	Zonta International
	Françoise	Lathuille	Soroptimist international
	Gwendoline	Lefevbre	Femmes Solidaires
	Dominique	Lefevre	Zonta International
	Marion	Leuba	Zonta International
	Danielle	Levy	IAW - International alliance of Women
	Florence	Lhote	AEMF - Association d'Entraide et Mouvement des Femmes
	Marie-Claude	Machon-Honoré	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Nathalie	Mallet	Zonta international
	Marie-Hélène	Mallet	Zonta International
	Marie-Claude	Mas	Zonta International
	Elisabeth	Mejean	Zonta International
	Natacha	Mension	Center for Research and Information on Human Rights

COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Simonne	Mirabel	Zonta International
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	Cecile	Moueza	Soroptimist International
	Jamileh	Nedai	Comité des Femmes Contre la Lapidation
	Francine	Noel	Zonta International
	Margaret	Palu	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Naina	Patel	Consultant
	Marie-Claude	Pichery	Zonta International
	Katherine	Piquet-Gauthier	Zonta International
	Brigitte	Polonovski	ICW - International Council of Women
	Holger	Postulart	Global Alliance against Female Genital Mutilation
	Michele	Prades	Zonta International
	Sophie	Ribes	Zonta International
	Michele	Rossano	Zonta International
	Ouafae	Sananes	Government of France
	Alice	Santamaria	MMM - Make Mothers Matter
	Marie	Sarrasin	Zonta International
	Christine	Schurr	Zonta Bourg Macon
	Veronique	Sehier	IPPF - International Planned Parenthood Federation, European Network
	Patrizianna	Sparacino-Thiellay	Government of France
	Chantal	Soulière	Zonta International
	Françoise	Stratigos	Zonta International
	Monique	Szabo	Zonta International
	Dylan	Terry	GMMA - Global Migration Policy Associates
	Maryelle	Tourvieuille de Labrouhe	IIW - International Inner Wheel
	Amélie	Traverso	Geneva International Centre for Justice
	Lucette	Tupinier	Zonta International
	Isabelle	Vackat Romain	Femmes Solidaires
	Danièle	Varnerot	Zonta International
	Michele	Vianes	Regards de Femmes
	Françoise	Vincent	Zonta International
	Suzanne	Wheeler	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Elisabeth	Wilson	Global Alliance against Female Genital Mutilation
	Christiane	Zbar	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Marianne	Ziss	Government of France
	Ivalda	Zorino	Zonta International





COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
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	Erika	Kvapilova	UN Women
	Ivanna	Machitidze	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association, Georgia
	Elene	Rusetskaia	Women's Information Center, Network of East-West Women
	Latamze	Verulashvili	Union Women's Center
Germany	Ligia	Boueres	BTU - Brandenburgische Technische Universität Cottbus
	Barbara	Devin	Zonta International
	Sigrid	Duden	Zonta International
	Gertrude	Eigelsreitter-Jasharf	WIDE - Women In Development Europe
	Anke	Gimbal	Deutscher Juristinnenbund e.V.
	Julia	Goldsby	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Robin	Goldsby	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Inge	Kleine	KOFRA - Kommunikationszentrum für Frauen München
	My-Linh	Kunst	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Nicolle	Macho	Zonta International
	Erika	Ortmanns-Mueller	Zonta International
	Elke	Persohn	Zonta International
	Anita	Schnetzler-Spranger	Zonta International
	Florian	Schunck	BTU Cottbus University
Brigitte	Triems	National Council of German Women's Organisations	
Greece	Joanna	Manganara	IAW - International Alliance of Women
Hungary	Andrea	Ferenczi	Association for Women's Career Development in Hungary
	Edit	Frivaldszky	Human Dignity Center
	Judit Pálma	Halász	Hungarian Large Families Association
	Ervin	Laszlo	The Club of Budapest
	Ivan	Nyiri	Hungarian «Life-Value» Foundation
	Eniko	Pap	Hungarian Women's Lobby
Ireland	Maria-Gisela	Sagi	The Club of Budapest
	Ann	Pender	IPA - International Presentation Association
Israel	Audrey	Wilson	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association, Ireland
	Israel	Doron	University of Haifa
Italy	Inon	Schenker	Teva Pharmaceuticals
	Sonia	Albanese	Zonta International
	Rosangela	Bainotti	Zonta International
	Nadia	Biancato	Zonta International
	Simona	Biancu	Zonta International
	Simonetta	Bisio	Zonta International
	Sylvina	Boissonnas	Alliance des Femmes pour la Démocratie
	Maria Grazia	Bronchi	UIL - UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning
	Barbara	Cacciabue	Zonta International
	Patrizia	Carradore	Zonta International
	Graziella	Cavanna	Zonta International
	Elena	Chiaberge	COPEAM - Perm. Conference of the Mediterranean Audio Visual Operators
	Flavia	Ciribello	Zonta International
	Antonella	Conti	Zonta International
	Leonilda	Cussotto	Zonta International
	Gabriella	Daini	Zonta International
	Fernanda	Gallo Freshi	Zonta International
Nelida Rosa	Galluzzo	Zonta International	



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Elisa	Gazzotti	SGI – Soka Gakkai International
	Anna	Girello	Zonta International
	Lois A.	Herman	WUNRN – Women’s UN Report Network
	Luciana	Loccatelli Mottino	Zonta International
	Angelamaria	Loreto	IPV – IUS Primi Viri International
	Fatima	Mannino	UIL – UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning
	Donatella	Martini	WECAMS – Women’s European Coalition against Media Sexism
	Simone	Ovart	Zonta International
	Luisa	Ponzalino	Zonta International
	Maria	Rivelli	Zonta International
	Rachele	Sacco	Zonta International
	Marina	Sangalli	Il Graal Italia
	Monica	Tesone	D.i.Re. – Donne in Rete contro la violenza
	Vera	Weill-Halle	GGCA – Global Gender and Climate Alliance
	Maria Lia	ZERVINO	WUCWO – World Union of Catholic Women’s Organisations
<b>Kazakhstan</b>	Yelena	Bilokon	Kazakhstan Network of Woman HIV
	Assiya	Khairulina	Women’s League of Creative Initiative
	Shakhnoza	Khassanova	The Legal Center for Women’s Initiatives «Sana Sezim»
<b>Kosovo</b>	Luljeta	Vuniqi	Kosovar Gender Studies Center
<b>Kyrgyzstan</b>	Munara	Beknazarova	Public Foundation «Open Line»
	Gulnura	Chekirova	Public Foundation «Open Line»
	Olga	Djanaeva	Rural Women’s Association «Alga»
	Meerim	Kadyrkulova	“Sezim” Crisis Center Public Association
	Farida	Lansarova	Bishkek Feminist Collective
	Aibek	Rudbek uulu	Tendesh
	Bermet	Stakeeva	Forum of women’s NGOs of Kyrgyzstan
	Rimma	Sultanova	«Women Support Center» Public Association
<b>Latvia</b>	Gunta	Anca	European Disability Forum
<b>Luxembourg</b>	Joelle	Letsch	European Centre of the International Council of Women
	Florence	Fischer-Herber	Zonta International
	Claire	van der Ent Braat	ZONTA International
<b>Macedonia</b>	Marija	Savovska	Association for Advancement of Gender Equality Akcija Zdruzhenska Skopje
<b>Mexico</b>	Yasmine	Darwich	IFBPW – International Federation of Business and Professional Women
<b>Moldova</b>	Valentina	Bodrug-Lunga	Gender-Center
	Daniela	Terzi-Barbarosie	Partnership for Development
	Angelina	Zaporojan-Pirgari	Women’s Law Center
<b>Morocco</b>	Saadane	Maoulainine	ISESCO – Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>Netherlands</b>	Martha	Canning	FAWCO – Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas
	Irene	Dankelman	WEDO – Women’s Environment & Development Organization
	Johanna	Dishongh	FAWCO – Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas
	Inge	Donkervoort	Global Women Leadership Foundation/ 12Change Learning
	Sascha	Gabizon	WECF – Women in Europe for a Common Future WMG – Women’s Major Group
	Sanne	Holtslag	WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform
	Istarlin	Ismael	Africa Sky / Somali Women Agenda
	Elisabeth	König	UFER – International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples
	Lyda	Verstegen	IAW – International Alliance of Women
	Anje	Wiersinga	IAW – International Alliance of Women
	Antia	Wiersma	Atria Institute on Gender Equality and Women’s History
	Claudia	Zwart	TOTARA / Global Women Leadership Foundation

COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
Norway	Margunn	Bjørnholt	Policy and Social Research AS / IAW - International Alliance of Women
	Astrid Grude	Eikseth	Zonta International
	Lone Alice	Johansen	MIRA - Secretariat of Shelter Movement in Norway
	Gro	Lindstad	FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development
	Mette	Moberg	FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development
	Lene	Nilsen	LDO - The Norwegian Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud
	Frøydis	Patursson	Legal Advice for Women / FOKUS / Women's Lobby of Norway
	Rachel Eapen	Paul	LDO - The Norwegian Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud
	Elisabeth	Rusdal	The Norwegian Women and Family Association
	Fakhra	Salimi	MiRA Resource Center for Black Immigrant and Refugee Women
	Torild	Skard	IAW - International Alliance of Women
	Marta	Trzcinska	Women's Lobby of Norway
	Pakistan	Rehana	Hashmi
Palestine	Farouq	Nazzal	PBA - Palestinian Bar Association
	Mousa	Sayyad	PBA - Palestinian Bar Association
	Dorgham	Tahayna	PBA - Palestinian Bar Association
Poland	Kinga	Lohmann	The Karat Coalition
	Ana	Paradowska	Young Women Gender Advocate
	Ewa	Ruminska-Zimny	International Forum of Women in Science and Business
	Marta	Szostak	Federation for Women and Family Planning
	Malgorzata	Tarasiewicz	Network of East-West Women
Portugal	Jose	Mariano Gago	IST - Instituto Superior Técnico / LIP - Laboraory for Particle Physics
Russia	Elena	Agapova	Independant
	Zoya	Apevalova	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Larissa	Gromova	State Pedagogical University, St Petersburg
	Olga	Kadyшева	Finance University under the Government of the Russian Federation
	Irina	Petrova	International Federation of University Women
Serbia	Radmila	Zecirovic	Association of Roma Women Amarilis
Slovenia	Petra	Stipanac	WAGGGS - World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts
Spain	Nuria	Alonso-Aguilar	AMFAR - Federacion de Mujeres y Familias del Ambito Rural
	Juana	Borrego Izquierdo	Federación de la Mujer Rural
	Elena	García Gil	Federación de la Mujer Rural
	Susana	Martinez Novo	Comisión para la Investigación de Malos Tratos a Mujeres
	Lucia	Mazarrasa	Fórum de Política Feminista
	Maria Dolores	Merino Chacon	AMFAR - Federacion de Mujeres y Familias del Ambito Rural
	Pilar	Morales Pacheco	Confederacion sindical de comisiones obreras
	Maria Luisa	Peña	Profesionales por la Ética
	Patricia Viviana	Ponce Pascuale	Haurralde Foundation
	Beatriz	Sagrado Roberto	Médicos del Mundo Spain
Begoña	San José	Fórum de Política Feminista & COMPI	
Sweden	Monica	Cristea	RIFFI - National Federation of Immigrant Women's Associations ENOMW - European Network of Migrant Women
	Johanna	Dahlin	The Swedish Women's Lobby
	Marie Lou	Espiritu Olsson	Zonta International
	Vivianne	Gunnarsson	Green Women
	Sonja	Hönig Schough	Zonta International
	Ewa	Larsson	Green Women
	Aase	Smedler	SWL - The Swedish Women's Lobby
	Margit	Webjörn	Zonta International
Switzerland	Ayomide	Adaranijo	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Adebisi	Adebayo	IAC - Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices
	Krishna	Ahooja Patel	WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Mariam	Ali	MCDI - Medical Care Development International
	Anne	Argi	World WIZO - Women's International Zionist Organization
	Alanna	Armitage	UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund
	Rachel	Babecoff	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Luisa	Ballin	Press Officer
	Marcia	Banasko	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Kawa	Banda	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Ana	Barfield	Soroptimist International of Europe
	Jean	Barry	ICN - International Council of Nurses
	Ursula	Barter Hemmerich	INPEA - International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse
	Annuka	Bathija	HOBI - Hope for the Babies International
	Heli	Bathija	Global Fund for Women
	Gizeh	Becerra	Soroptimist International
	Seynabou	Benga	WHO - World Health Organization
	Valérie Anne	Bernard	Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University
	Corinne	Besson Simko	Zonta international
	Valerie	Bichelmeier	MMM - Make Mothers Matter
	Veronica	Birga	OHCHR - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
	Régine	Bitter-Müller	Zonta International
	Renate	Bloem	CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation
	Catherine	Bosshart	IFBPW - International Federation of Business and Professional Women
	Louis	Bosshart	Fribourg University
	Isabelle	Broquet	ICW - International Council of Women
	Helena	Buehler	Zonta International
	Emma	Burgisser	WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
	Regula E	Burki	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Enid	Burki	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Mirjam	Cahn	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Khalea	Callender	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Mehmet	Carikci	Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Turkey
	Leonella	Castellano	Boston University
	Danièle	Castle	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Jane	Connors	OHCHR - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
	Yannick	Courmarin	FAS - Femmes Africa Solidarité
	Olivier	Couteau	State of Geneva - International Geneva
	Catherine	d'Arcangues	Global Fund for Women
	Paula	Daepfen	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Regula	Dannecker	ZONTA International
	Joanna	David-Mangin	World WIZO - Women's International Zionist Organization
	Jeannine	de Boccard	ICW - International Council of Women
	Maria Elisabetta	de Franciscis	Soroptimist International
	Claire	de Lavernette	OIDEL - Organization the Right to Education and Freedom of Education
	Léonie	de Picciotto	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Antonella	Del Rosso	CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research
	Muriel	Delucinge	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
	Annette	Di Rosa	Zonta International
	Gozalova	Dinara	Global migrants and their rights
	Manjit	Dosanjh	IFUW - International Federation of University Women / CERN
	Geneviève	Durrer	FPS - Femmes Protestantes Suisse
	Kristin	Engvig	WIN - Women's International Conferences
	Amelia	Espejo	IOE - International Organisation of Employers



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Ricardo	Espinosa	Geneva Center for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue
	Valeria	Esquivel	UNRISD - United Nations Research institute for Social Development
	Iilise	Feitshans	WIZO - Women's International Zionist Organization, Swiss Federation
	Juliette	Ferron	The Geneva Academy
	Tonny	Filedt Kok Weimar	Soroptimist International
	Kelly	Fitzgerald	IFA - International Federation on Ageing
	Priska	Fleischlin	IFSW - International Federation of Social Workers
	Tchaurea	Fleury	European Disability Forum / International Disability Alliance
	Bettina	Friedrich	Caritas Switzerland
	Yotal	Fogel	Permanent mission of Israel to the UN
	Maria Luisa	Frosio	Soroptimist International of Europe
	Daniel	Fuhrer	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
	Kazunari	Fujii	SGI - Soka Gakkai International
	Ursula	Funk	SDC - Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation
	Elena	Gaia	UNICEF
	Mia	Gandenberger	Reaching Critical Will
	Greg	Garras	UNHCR - United Nations High Commission for Refugees
	Maximilian	Gatica	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
	Hilary	Gbedemah	OHCHR - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights CEDAW - Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
	Liliane	Gertsch	Zonta International
	Dorna	Ghiassi-Maasser	University of Geneva
	Elissa	Golberg	Ambassador, Mission of Canada
	Larisa	Gromova	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Nyaradzayi	Gumbonzvanda	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Gabrielle	Gutmann	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Anne-Thérèse	Guyaz	NGO-Coordination post Beijing Switzerland
	Bettina	Hahne	Soroptimist International of Europe
	Susanna	Hast	The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva
	Inken	Heeb	Zonta Club Zurich
	Aoife	Hegarty	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Roman	Helfer	SNYC - Swiss National Youth Council
	Sonia	Heptonstall	SCI - Solar Cookers International
	Bianca	Hofer	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women





COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Sylvette	Huguenin	The Salvation Army
	Nago	Humbert	White Ribbon Ambassador
	Juan Felipe	Hunt Ortiz	ILO - International Labour Organization
	Kareen	Jabre	IPU Gender Partnership Programme Mgr.
	Selina	Jackson	Worldbank
	Michel	Jarraud	WMO - World Meteorological Organization
	Hamish	Jenkins	UN NGLS - United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service
	Joyce	Jett	MCDI - Medical Care Development Int'l / SCI - Solar Cookers International
	Nina	Joyce	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Marie-Claude	Julsaint	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Yvonne	Juvet	Zonta International
	Emily	Kalis	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Murielle	Kathari Lauritzen	Convergence 21
	Nicolas	Kerguen	State of Geneva
	Sabine	Kinzer	Soroptimist International
	Mutua	Kobia	GEO - Global Education Opportunity
	Claudia	Köfer	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Malinka	Koparanova	UN ECE - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
	Marta	Kowalczyk	Messaggio SARM
	Vera	Kronenberg	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Oleksandra	Kunovska Mondoux	World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations
	Myrna	Lachenal	World Fédération for Mental Health
	Katerina	Leb Bitsakopoulou	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Ana	Leurinda	Commission Africaine des Promoteurs de la Santé et des Droits de l'homme (CAPSDH)
	Marie Betty	Liling	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Ann	Lindsay	MLP - Mothers Legacy Project
	Monika	Linn	UN ECE - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
	Helen	Lom	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Francois	Longchamp	State Council for the Canton of Geneva
	Joseph	Lyon	Latter-day Saint Charities
	Nancy	Lyon	Latter-Days Saint Charities
	Ulla	Madsen	Soroptimist International
	Micheline	Makou Djouma	OCAPROCE International
	Barbara	Manser	Zonta International
	Marie-Lise	Margot	Zonta International
	Helga	McGrew	Freelance Interpreter
	Shannon	Meehan	Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF)
	Yolande	Meyer Perez	Zonta International
	Megan	Moleski	Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF)
	Michael	Møller	United Nations Office Geneva
	Stephan	Monterde	CISCO Systems
	Gloria	Moreno Fontes	ILO
	Rita	Muyambo	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Ursula	Nakamura Stoecklin	ADF-SVF Association Suisse pour les droits de la femme
	Sparsh	Navin	CERN - European Organization for Nuclear Research
	Shreen	Nawaz	Media21 Geneva
	Janet	Nelson	ATD Quart Monde
	Mandy	Nogarede	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Annika	Nyberg Frankenhaeuser	EBU - European Broadcasting Union
	Elena May	Okondo	The Women's Rights and Empowerment Partnership in Africa
	Hendrica	Okondo	World YWCA
	Melik	Özden	CETIM
	Rhiannon	Painter	Student Volunteer
	Janet	Paone	The Salvation Army
	Alexander	Paperny	UNECE
	Francine	Paschoud	ICW - International Council of Women
	Silvia	Perel-Levin	INPEA / International Longevity Centre Global Alliance
	Kathrin	Perez	WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
	Hillevi	Perraudin	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Anne	Pétremand Berger	Sante Sexuelle Suisse
	Elly	Pradervand	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
	Hayley	Ramsay-Jones	SGI - Soka Gakkai International
	Berhane	Ras-Work	UFER - International Movement for Fraternal Union Among Races and Peoples
	Madeleine	Rees	WILPF - Women's International League for Peace and Freedom
	Maria Cristina	Rendon	Lutheran World Federation
	Barbara	Robinson	Human Rights Centre, University of Essex
	Carolina	Rodriguez	Office of United Nations Director-General, Geneva
	Anabel	Rodriguez	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundatio
	Adriana	Rottenberg	WIZO - Women's International Zionist Organization
	Gisele	Rufer	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Vanessa	Salamanca	UniCam - University of Fribourg Student Television
	Colette	Samoya	BANGWE AND DIALOGUE
	Jaspreet	Sandhu	The Graduate Institute
	Chantal	Savioz	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundation
	Melodie	Schlaepfer	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Sabine	Schmelzer	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Rafaela	Schmid	WWSF - Women's World Summit Foundatio
	Susan	Schorr	ITU - International Telecommunication Union
	Monique	Serneels	Zonta International
	Josée-Anne	Simard	International Partnership for Human Rights
	Kathleen	Simon	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Anne	Simon	Soroptimist International
	Olivia	Sinel	Women's International Networking
	Michel	Sintes	N/A
	Diana	Skelton	ATD Quart Monde
	Ruthi	Solari	SuperFood Drive
	Clarissa	Starey	PPSEAWA - Pan Pacific & Southeast Asia Women's Association International
	Sina	Stiffler	Soroptimist International
	Hanna	Stoate	IHEID Gender Dialogues
	Regula	Stotz	World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women
	Esther	Suter	IAW - International Alliance of Women
	Violetta	Szikriszt	Zonta International
	Patrick	Taran	GMPA - Global Migration Policy Associates
	Paola	Tedeschi	Soroptimist International
	Dylan	Terry	GMPA - Global Migration Policy Associates
	Besigin	Tonwe-Gold	NWDE
	Renata	Trottmann Probst	Soroptimist International

COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Natalie	Trummer	Terre des Femmes Schweiz
	Christine	Tursi	The Salvation Army
	Seema	Uplekar	IAW - International Alliance of Women
	Françoise	van Leeuwen	IFBPW - International Federation of Business and Professional Women
	Els	van Winkel	Zonta International
	Sandra	Vermuyten	PSI - Public Services International
	Joanna	Vogel	WHO - World Health Organization
	Sara	von Moos	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Elisabeth	von Sachse	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
	Reinout	Vos	Mission of the Netherlands
	Arielle	Wagenknecht	OCAPROCE International
	Georges Marshal	Waklatsi-William	Aspafrique
	Lisa	Warth	WHO - World Health Organization
	Elizabeth	Williamson	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Gladys	Yegon	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Sharon	Yendevenge	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
	Armik	Yeromian	Armenian Relief Society
	Diana	Yol	Global Alliance against Female Genital Mutilation
	Katherine	Youtz	GMPA - Global Migration Policy Associates
	Esther	Zehntner	World YWCA - World Young Women's Christian Association
<b>Tajikistan</b>	Dilorom	Atabaeva	Civil Society Support Center «Consortium of Initiatives»
	Abdujabbor	Homidov	Public Organization Rural Development Center
	Muatar	Khaydarova	«Society and Law»
	Takhmina	Khaydarova	Tajikistan Network of Women living with HIV
	Mavluda	Rafieva	AntiAIDS
<b>Turkey</b>	Selma	Acuner	Women's Coalition
	Nihan	Atalay	Mimar Sinan Fine Arts State University
	Senem	Aydogan	UN Women
	Ingibjorg	Gisladottir	UN Women
	Enkhtsetseg	Miyegombo	UN Women
	Gulriz	Ozyildirim	Soroptimist International
	Arzu	Özyol Irge	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Gizem	Yarbil Gurol	UN Women
<b>Ukraine</b>	Meliya	Asanova	„Independent Life“ Assistance Center for People with Disabilities
	Huliara	Asanova	„Independent Life“ Assistance Center for People with Disabilities
	Tetiana	Iakovenko	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association, Ukraine
	Natalia	Karbowska	Ukrainian Women's Fund
	Larysa	Kobelyanska	Ukrainian Women's Fund
	Kateryna	Levchenko	International Women's Rights Center «La Strada Ukraine»
	Olena	Suslova	Women's Information Consultative Center
	Natalia	Ulianets	YWCA - Young Women's Christian Association, Ukraine





COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
United Arab Emirates	Monica	Jubayli	FAWCO - Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas
United Kingdom	Nazmeen	Amin	Restless Development
	Brigitte	Aoust	Zonta International
	Rachel	Aston	Mothers' Union
	Amany	Asfour	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Deborah	Bridger-Elerick	WPD - Widows for Peace Through Democracy
	Chiara	Caprano	Christian Aid
	Penelope	Conway	ICJW - International Council of Jewish Women
	Louise	Coyle	Northern Ireland Women's European Platform
	Jasmin	Darwich	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Lynda	Dearlove	NAWO - National Alliance of Women's Organisations
	Clarissa	Fabre	MWIA - Medical Women's International Association
	Francesca	Fletcher-Williams	Soroptimist International
	Jan	Floyd-Douglass	National Committee of UN Women UK
	Evelyn	Fraser	Scottish Women's Convention
	Anne	Garvie	Soroptimist International
	Britt	Gustaws\$son	Zonta International
	Fatima	Haase	Progressio
	Zarin	Hainsworth	NAWO - National Alliance of Women's Organisations
	Richard	Hart	Trainer and Consultant on Gender Equality
	Emma	Johnston	NIWEP - Northern Ireland Women's European Platform
	Jackie	Jones	Wales Assembly of Women
	Griselda	Kenyon	IFUW - International Federation of University Women
	Elizabeth	Law	NIWEP - Northern Ireland Women's European Platform
	Annette	Lawson	NAWO - National Alliance of Women's Organisations
	Andrea	Matolcsi	Equality Now
	Elma	McCausland	NIWEP - Northern Ireland Women's European Platform
	Maureen	Meatcher	National Board of Catholic Women of England and Wales
	Sadia	Mir	WUNRN - Women's UN Report Network
	Tuula	Nieminen	UN Women NCUK
	Margaret	Owen	Widows for Peace Through Democracy
	Jennifer	Richmond	Soroptimist International Great Britain and Ireland (SIGBI) Limited
	Lizzette	Robleto-Gonzalez	Progressio
	Deqa	Salad	GarGar Foundation
	Elizabeth	Sclater	NAWO - National Alliance of Women's Organisations
	Yvonne	Simpson	Soroptimist International
	Bridget	Sleap	HelpAge International
	Katarzyna	Staszewska	ActionAid
	Deborah	Thomas	Soroptimist International
	Ann-Marie	Wilson	28 Too Many
United States of America	Lorena	Aguilar	IUCN - International Union for the Conservation of Nature
	Catalina	Bajenaru	AT&T
	Lynn	Bakaires	GAWH - Global Alliance for Women's Health
	Nina	Besser	International Women's Health Coalition
	Afton	Beutler	MLP - Mothers Legacy Project
	Ellen	Black	Global Alliance for Women's Health (GAWH)
	Elizabeth	Carll	CMH Global Mental Health Action Plan
	Rachel	Chardon	Anglican Communion Office at the United Nations
	Tricia	Cook	Mothers Legacy Project



COUNTRY	FIRST NAME	FAMILY NAME	ORGANISATION
	Susana	Crowley	Global Alliance for Women's Health (GAWH)
	Nancy	Finn	Global Alliance for Women's Health (GAWH)
	Marilyn	Flood	New York County Lawyers' Association
	Ivy	Gabbert	SGI - Soka Gakkai International
	Houry	Geudelekian	Armenian Relief Society, Inc.
	Caren	Grown	World Bank Group
	Donna	Hakimian	National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States
	Corinne	Hart	Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
	Irene	Hoskins	Chevy Chase at Home
	Katja	Iversen	Women Deliver
	Margaretha	Jones	IHEU - International Humanist and Ethical Union
	Paula	Kamena	Soroptimist International
	Jackson	Katz	MVP - Mentors in Violence Prevention
	Nunu	Kidane	PAN - Priority Africa Network
	Jensine	Larsen	World Pulse
	Bette	Levy	NGO CSW NY / Soroptimist International
	Jody	Mahoney	Anita Borg Institute
	Karen	Milco	Global Alliance for Women's Health (GAWH)
	Vicky	Moore	Global Alliance for Women's Health (GAWH)
	Carl	Murrell	National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of the US
	Susan	O'Malley	IFBPW - International Federation of Business and Professional Women
	Lakshmi	Puri	UN Women
	Rosemary	Rasori	Village Hopecore
	Elicia	Reed	MLP - Mothers Legacy Project
	Eileen	Reilly	SSND - School Sisters of Notre Dame
	Eva	Richter	IFBPW - International Federation of Business & Professional Women
	Barbara T.	Rochman	New York County Lawyer's Association
	Wintersong	Safronoff	Pathways to Peace
	Jean	Shinoda Bolen	Pathways to Peace
	Thayvie	Sinn	Save Cambodia
	Susan B	Somers	INPEA - International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse,
	Mary Ellen	Stephens	LDS Charities
	India	Supera	Pathways to Peace
	Bien-Aimé	Taina	CATW - Coalition Against Trafficking in Women
	Audrey	Van Belleghem	Anita Borg Institute
	Janet	Wasko	IAMCR - International Association of Media and Communication Research
	Gail	Weis	GAWH - Global Alliance for Women's Health
	Linda	Witong Abrahm	Soroptimist International
	Elaine	Wolfson	GAWH - Global Alliance for Women's Health
	Leslie	Wright	Zonta International
	Soon Young	Yoon	IAW - International Alliance of Women
	Chiratidzo	Zhou	Abilene Christian University/ Mediators Beyond Borders
<b>Uzbekistan</b>	Liliya	Abbazova	Association for the Environmentally Clean Fergana
	Sevara	Aminova	NGO Center for social economical empowerment of women «Mehr kozda»
	Lola	Gulyamova	Fulbright Association of Uzbekistan
	Oliya	Ilmuradova I	NGO ISTIQBOLLI AVLOD
	Dilovar	Kabulova	Civic Initiatives Support Center
	Gulruksor	Khatamova	The Independent Institute of Monitoring the Formation of the Civil Society
	Dilshodbek	Otaboev	NGO Kelajak Nuri
	Nadejda	Vakhitova	Ecoforum of Uzbekistan



# ABOUT THE NGO COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, GENEVA

## HISTORY

Formally established in 1973, on the eve of the first United Nations World Conference of Women in Mexico in 1975, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva (NGO CSW Geneva) had already been an active working group within the Conference of NGOs since 1947.

The NGO CSW Geneva has a long history of working on women's rights, gender equality and peace: it was an active participant at all 4 UN World Conferences on Women, and a key contributor to the 1995 Beijing Conference and its landmark outcome document, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Over the years, NGO CSW Geneva members have been actively involved in the work of the United

Nations and its specialized agencies in Geneva, including the UN Treaty Bodies System (in particular, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women - CEDAW), the Commission on Human Rights and its successor the Human Rights Council, as well as the International Labour Organization. The Committee has been an active partner of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in mainstreaming gender equality and women's rights within the UN system.

The NGO CSW Geneva has also been collaborating with its sister NGO Committees in New York and Vienna, particularly, in supporting the work of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and more generally, the UN development and peace agenda.

## WHAT WE DO

### Objectives

The principal aim of the NGO CSW Geneva is gender equality in all spheres of life. Its objectives are

- To work in partnership with the United Nations and its specialized agencies to monitor women's rights and ensure that governments respect the commitments they have made at world conferences and through international human rights treaties and principles
- To influence international decision-making and maintain a global momentum for the advancement of women's rights, gender equality, peace and development.

### Thematic Priorities

The NGO CSW Geneva works through five thematic priorities:

- Women's Rights, Peace & Justice
- Women Economic, Empowerment & Employment
- Displacement & Migration
- Women's Health & Education
- Violence Against Women & Girls

Regular members' meetings and communications provide a platform for networking, sharing of information, monitoring, and strategizing on joint advocacy projects. These notably include the elaboration of joint oral or written statements, and the organization of side-events at the Human Rights Council and other UN conferences.



NGO CSW Geneva members meeting with UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on 15 January 2014

### Recent & Current activities

- Preparation for the Geneva NGO Forum with a view to the Beijing+20 Review in collaboration with the UN ECE, 3-5 November 2014, and active support for a 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Women
- Publication of a series of Advocacy Briefs on violence against women, with focus on sexual violence, domestic violence, crimes in the name of “honor”, workplace violence, elder abuse, child early and forced marriage, trafficking of women, harmful traditional practices, etc.
- Advocacy on recognition, reduction and redistribution of women’s unpaid care work, as a key step for women’s economic empowerment
- Research and advocacy strategizing on the rising issues of women’s migration and displacement
- Active participation in the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Draft UN Declaration on the Right to Peace

(MMM) • Medical Care Development International (MCDI) • Mothers Legacy Project (MLP) • OCAPROCE • Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women’s Association International (PPSEAWA) • Salvation Army • Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) • Soka Gakkai International (SGI) • Solar Cookers International (SCI) • Soroptimist International • International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) • Women’s UN Reports Network (WUNRN) • Women’s World Summit Foundation (WWSF) • Women’s International Zionist Organization (WIZO) • Women’s World Young Women’s Christian Association (World YWCA) • World Council of Churches (WCC) • World Federation of Ukrainian Women’s Organizations • ZONTA International

### WHO WE ARE

The NGO CSW Geneva is a network of about 40 international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative relationship with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), representing networks of millions of women throughout the world.

#### 2014-2015 Committee Members

Bahá’í International Community (BIC) • Bangwe & Dialogue • Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) • Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) • Global Fund for Women • Inter-African Committee (IAC) • International Alliance of Women (IAW) • International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW) • International Council of Women (ICW-CIF) • International Federation of Business and Professional Women International (IFBPW) • International Federation of University Women (IFUW) • International Movement for Fraternal Union Among Races and People (UFER) • International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) • IUS Primi Viri International (IPV) • Latter-Day Saint Charities • Lutheran World Federation/Women in Church and Society (WICAS) • Make Mothers Matter International



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# THANK YOU!



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA  
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



## Organising Committee



## Contributors

