



Action Plan for the EDVAW Platform

Co-Chair mandate of CEDAW and MESECVI: March 1st, 2024 – February 28th, 2025.

A. Strengthening the EDVAW Platform.

1. Create EDVAW Platform Internal Rules.
2. Update the [EDVAW Platform Website](#).
3. Find options for collective fundraising to support EDVAW activities.
4. Empower regional mechanisms, including underrepresented areas.

B. Increasing the visibility of the EDVAW Platform.

1. Increase platform presence at the events of the individual mechanisms.
2. Increase joint events and country visits where possible.
3. Women, Peace, Security Agenda.
 - a. Secure a meeting with the UN Security Council to introduce the work and mechanisms of the EDVAW Platform.
 - b. Set up a meeting with the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict to present the work and mechanisms of the EDVAW Platform, and to consider avenues for collaboration and mutual support on eliminating violence against women and girls in situations of conflict.
4. Hold the 19th meeting of the EDVAW Platform during CSW68.
5. Set up high-level meetings during CSW68 to introduce the platform with:
 - a. The President of the General Assembly.
 - b. The Secretary General.
 - c. The President of CSW.
 - d. Deputy Executive Director of UN Women.
6. Organise a joint EDVAW Platform side-event during CSW69.
7. Increase engagement with civil society organisations (CSOs).
 - a. Hold online briefings and talks with civil society.
 - b. Organise an online pre-event NGO and civil society briefing before CSW sessions.

C. Joint advocacy of the EDVAW Platform.

1. EDVAW Platform to issue a joint statement on 8 March, International Women's Day, titled "Awareness and Action – Poverty, Inequality and Gender Based Violence against Women".
2. EDVAW Platform to publish a joint position paper on the current global context in relation to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and violence against women and establish a working group.
3. EDVAW Platform to issue a joint statement on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, focusing on women and girls affected by different forms of conflict, including the use of weapons.

Appendix A: Table format of action plan with mechanism responsibilities and timelines.

A. Strengthening the EDVAW Platform		
Action	Responsibilities	Deadlines
1. Create EDVAW Platform internal “Internal Rules”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW to draft the first version. - MESECVI to comment and finalise. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to comment and edit once shared with Platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalise first version: early May 2024. - Draft to be shared with platform: late June 2024. - Draft to be discussed at 20th Meeting: 18 July 2024. - Updated draft to be shared: August 2024. - Working Methods adopted during the 21st Meeting: 26 September 2024.
2. Update the EDVAW Platform Website.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW secretariat to update changes and communicate with the UNOHCHR web design team. - ALL mechanisms to bring desired changes or comments to the co-chairs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.
3. Find options for collective fundraising to support the EDVAW Platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MESECVI sees an opportunity to collaborate with UN Women to secure support at global level for the EDVAW Platform within the “Act to end violence against women and girls” programme. This collaboration needs follow up and proposals to be drafted. - ALL mechanisms have a responsibility to work on securing funding or support for the platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.
4. Empower regional mechanisms, including underrepresented areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to bring ideas and collaborations forward to empower regional mechanisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.

B. Increasing the visibility of the EDVAW Platform.

<p>1. Increase platform presence at the events of the individual mechanisms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW and MESECVI to draw up an evolving document with events information. - CEDAW and MESECVI will also consider other informal communication that could be enhanced. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to publicise their participation in the EDVAW Platform in their communications. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to consider where they may have key areas for collaboration with different EDVAW mechanisms. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to inform the platform of their events with advanced notice and all information needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.
<p>2. Increase joint events and country visits where possible.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW and MESECVI will bring proposals for joint events to the platform. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to bring forwards proposals for joint events. - ALL mechanisms are encouraged to consider reaching out to relevant EDVAW mechanisms when doing country visits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.
<p>3. Women, Peace, and Security Agenda (WPS).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW and MESECVI to consider avenues for influence and find space to discuss EDVAW support to the UNSC with UN Women and, if possible, the Secretary General. - CEDAW to set up a meeting with the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict. - ALL mechanisms to be aware of issues being raised in connection to WPS and be ready to provide support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Throughout mandate.
<p>4. Hold the 19th meeting of the EDVAW Platform during CSW68.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW to chair the 19th meeting of the EDVAW Platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting to take place: 13 March 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ALL mechanisms to be represented by their mandate holders or representatives. 	
<p>5. Set up high-level meetings during CSW68 to introduce the platform.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW and MESECVI to set up high-level meetings with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The President of the General Assembly. o The Secretary General. o The President of CSW. o The Deputy Executive Director of UN Women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings to take place between 11 – 15 March 2024.
<p>6. Organise a joint EDVAW Platform side-event during CSW69.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEDAW and MESECVI co-chairs to release information and more specific timelines as the details are finalised and will inform if more member states join. - ALL mechanisms to discuss responsibilities and concept note in an upcoming EDVAW meeting in 2024, ahead of the session. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Side-event to take place: first week of CSW, 12 March 2025.
<p>7. Increase engagement with civil society organisations (CSOs).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ALL mechanisms to consider civil society in their networks and seek collaboration when appropriate to hold online briefings and talks with civil society. - ALL mechanisms to attend or support the civil society briefings before a CSW session. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Online NGO briefing on the EDVAW Platform and gender-based violence prior to CSW68: 5 March 2024. - Online NGO briefing on the EDVAW Platform and gender-based violence prior to CSW69: before 10 March 2025.

C. Joint advocacy.

1. EDVAW Platform to issue a joint statement on 8 March, International Women’s Day, titled “Awareness and Action – Poverty, Inequality and Gender Based Violence against Women”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CEDAW to lead the drafting and release of the statement.- ALL mechanisms are encouraged to give feedback, support and publicise statements as they are circulated and released.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Statement release: 8 March 2024.
2. EDVAW Platform to publish a joint position paper on the current global context in relation to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and violence against women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CEDAW to draft a concept note and first draft of the position paper.- MESECVI to comment and finalise.- ALL mechanisms are encouraged to comment and edit once shared with Platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Concept note discussed and possibly adopted during the 20th meeting of the EDVAW Platform: 18 July 2024.- Initial draft of the position paper to be completed and circulated: August 2024.- Draft to be discussed at the 21st meeting of the EDVAW Platform: 26 September 2024.- Updated draft to be circulated: Early November 2024.- Position paper adopted at the 22nd meeting of the EDVAW Platform: January 2025.
3. EDVAW Platform to issue a joint statement on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, focusing on women and girls affected by different forms of conflict, including the use of weapons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- MESECVI to lead the drafting and release of a statement.- ALL mechanisms are encouraged to comment and edit once shared with Platform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Statement release: 25 November 2024.

Appendix B: Representatives of the Individual Mechanisms to the EDVAW Platform for the 2024-25 mandate.

Co-Chairs

- **CEDAW** is chaired by Ms. Ana Peláez Narváez, who has designated Ms. Genoveva Tisheva as second official representative.
- **MESECVI** is chaired by Ms. Gloria Camacho, who has designated Ms. Sherna Alexander as second official representative.

Other Mechanism Representatives

- **GREVIO** is chaired by Ms. Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, who designated the two members of the GREVIO Bureau, Ms. Aleid van den Brink and Ms. Ellen O'Malley Dunlop as official representatives should she not be available herself.
- **IARWHR** is an individual mandate held by Ms. Roberta Clarke, so there is no other official representative.
- **SRRWA of the ACHPR** is an individual mandate held by Ms. Janet Ramatoulie Sallah-Njie, so there is no other official representative.
- **SRVAWG** is an individual mandate held by Ms. Reem Alsalem, so there is no other official representative.
- **WGDAWG** employs a rotating chair system. Until 31 July 2024, the WGDAWG is chaired by Ms. Dorothy Estrada-Tanck, who has designated Ms. Laura Nyirinkindi, vice-chair of the WGDAWG, as second official representative. From 1 August 2024, the WGDAWG will be chaired by Laura Nyirinkindi, who has designated Claudia Flores, incoming vice-chair as second official representative.
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The EDVAW Platform is also supported by a **CEDAW-MESECVI Co-Secretariat:**

- **CEDAW's** co-secretary is Mr. Marco Zanin, supported by Ms. Matilda Siri, CEDAW intern.
- **MESECVI's** co-secretary is Ms. Luz Patricia Mejia, supported by Ms. Eva Villarreal, Ms Tatiana Bensa, and Ms. Sara Brochet, MESECVI's Technical Secretariat.

Appendix C: EDVAW Meetings

The **CEDAW** and **MESECVI** co-chairs will hold monthly co-ordination meetings where they will monitor the progress of the action plan. These will generally take place the last Friday of every month, but this is subject to change should the need arise. The dates are as follows:

- 20 February 2024.
- 26 April 2024.
- May 2024.
- To be determined.

Further progress towards the objectives above will be monitored and evaluated throughout the year at the quarterly meetings of the EDVAW platform. These are scheduled to take place as follows:

- 13 March 2024 – hybrid meeting in New York City, U.S, chaired by CEDAW.
- 18 July 2024 – virtual meeting, chaired by MESECVI.
- 26 September 2024 – virtual meeting, chaired by MESECVI.
- 23/24 January 2025 – hybrid in Madrid, Spain, chaired by CEDAW, with the support of CERMI Women's Foundation.

Appendix D: EDVAW Platform Events and Activities Tracker 2024-2025

CEDAW: Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

- Ongoing: Open consultation on its draft General Recommendation No 40 on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems. To be adopted by the end of 2024.
- Ongoing: CEDAW is working on General Recommendation No 41 on gender stereotypes, for which a concept note has been drawn up and adopted by the Committee. A general discussion will take place, but no date has been set yet because GR No 40 must first be adopted. Contributions to the concept note and general discussion are welcome from the other mechanisms either individually or jointly.

GREVIO: Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

- 30 May 2024: "United around gender equality: making space for women and girls" in Strasbourg.
 - o This event, organised under the aegis of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, will officially launch the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 and mark the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the Istanbul Convention. All Platform members are invited to attend at their own cost.

IA RHWR: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' Rapporteur on the Rights of Women.

MESECVI: Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention.

- June 2024 – June 2025: MESECVI is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention and the first event is scheduled for Santiago de Chile on 10 June 2024.
- October 2024: the 20th anniversary of the establishment of MESECVI. It is hoped to hold an event in the Caribbean region.
- Ongoing: MESECVI is developing a recommendation on the use of stereotypes in access to justice and it could be a useful tool for all mechanisms. MESECVI is also finalising a general recommendation on women of African descent, a cross-cutting issue of interest to other mechanisms.

SRRWA of the ACHPR: African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa.

- 25 – 27 April 2024: Inaugural Joint Forum of Special Mechanisms of the ACHPR, from 25 to 27 April 2024 in Dakar, Senegal. This pioneering event, was hosted under the theme "*Advancing the protection and promotion of human rights in Africa: Strengthening commitments, overcoming challenges, and reinforcing opportunities.*" The Forum served as a platform for stakeholders to engage in joint initiatives and transversal activities addressing cross-cutting issues that underscore the interdependence of all human rights. The primary objective of this Forum is to deepen the ACHPR's intersectional approach to human rights, reinforcing the indivisible and interrelated nature of all human rights.
- 14 May – 3 June 2024: 79th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).
- 17 May 2024: Honourable Commissioner Janet Ramatoulie Sallah-Njie in collaboration with Equality Now is organising a Panel on challenges on the implementation of Article 5(b) of the Maputo Protocol and Launch of the Second Edition of the Maputo@20 Newsletter dedicated to victims of Female Genital Mutilation.
- 28 May 2024: Honourable Commissioner Janet Ramatoulie Sallah-Njie, in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on Harmful Practices of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the ACHPR Country Rapporteur of The Gambia, and in

partnership with UN Women, is convening a Roundtable on the Proposed Repeal of FGM Law in The Gambia. The Roundtable is scheduled for 28 May 2024 in The Gambia. The Roundtable aims to address several objectives, including discussing the implications of repealing the law that prohibits FGM in The Gambia and the potential broader challenges to women's rights and gender equality.

- 81st Ordinary Session of the ACHPR- Panel/Event Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Mechanism of the SRRWA -Venue to be determined
- September 2025: A flagship event organised on the margins of the 81st Ordinary Session of the ACHPR in October 2024, funded by GIZ, to address the intersectionality of women's rights across all the mechanisms of the ACHPR, where we could consider ways of involving the other mechanisms from EDVAW.
- 2025: Formulation of Model Law for implementation of the Maputo Protocol in collaboration with sister organs of the AU.

SR VAWG: Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls.

- June 2024: Presentation of the thematic report on prostitution and violence against women and girls to the Human Rights Council
- Report of the visit to Poland will also be presented in June 2024 to the Human Rights Council
- October 2024: Presentation of the thematic report on violence against women and girls in sports to the General Assembly of the United Nations
- Country visit to the UK took place in February/March 2024 and another one is scheduled to Kuwait in November 2024. The one to Kuwait is pending relief in the financial crisis of the UN.

WGDAWG: Working Group on discrimination against women and girls.

- 30 April to 3 May 2024: 40th session of the Working Group in New York
- 27 June: presentation of the Working Group's 2024 thematic report to the Human Rights Council, 'Escalating backlash against gender equality and urgency of reaffirming substantive equality and the human rights of women and girls'
- 22-31 July 2024 – Country visit to the Dominican Republic
- First half of October 2024 (exact date tbd): Working Group reporting to the UN General Assembly in NY
- 14-18 October 2024 – Regional convening in South Africa
- 2-11 December 2024 – Country visit to Thailand (TBC, depending on liquidity crisis)
- 13-17 January 2025 – 41st session of the Working Group in Geneva
- March 2025 -Working Group participation in opening segment of CSW and possible side-event(s)
- May 2025 (dates TBC) – 42nd session of the Working Group in New York
- 6-10 October 2025 – 43rd session of the Working Group