



SIDE EVENT

63rd SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Women's Rights and the 2030 Agenda:

“40 Years of Empowering Women with a View of Sustainable Development”

Date & venue: 18 March 2019, 10:00-11:15 a.m., Conference Room D, Conference Building, New York

Background: The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (Convention) pursues the twin objective of eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and ensuring women's empowerment. In 40 years since its adoption in 1979, the Convention, which has been ratified by 189 States, is a leading force for transformative change for women's equality and empowerment. It is widely recognised that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires transformative shifts, integrated approaches and new solutions, particularly when it comes to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment. The Convention is, therefore, a critical instrument for accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and responding to related challenges in the pursuit of the goal of “ensuring that no one is left behind”. As such, a regular assessment of the implementation of the Convention is an essential means of gauging progress in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly to end all forms of discrimination against women and girls (Goal 5, Target 5.1 and indicator 5.1.1) and to ensure peaceful and inclusive societies, and justice (Goal 16). The full implementation of the Convention is critical to the evaluation and attainment of all the SDGs, particularly to end all forms of discrimination (Goal 5).

Objectives: This high-level panel discussion, which is also being held as part of the series of events to celebrate the 40th anniversary since the adoption of the Convention, and 10 years since the creation of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, will address the nexus between the CEDAW Convention and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Goals 5 and 16) at international, regional and national levels. The **objectives of the panel discussion** are to:

- **Highlight the necessity** of ensuring a convergence between the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and national strategies of the CEDAW Convention;
- **Highlight the collaboration** between the CEDAW Committee and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict through the signature of a Framework of Cooperation, including in the context of the implementation of Goals 5 and 16;
- **Examine international and regional intergovernmental efforts** to integrate women's rights within the broader architecture of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in national implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including on women, peace and security;
- **Review information on national strategies** of the CEDAW Convention and draw lessons learned on ensuring the interrelated links between women's rights and sustainable development;
- **Explore the contribution** of civil society organizations and the private sector in supporting national implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 5;
- **Define ways of cooperating with the private sector** to ensure sustainable economic growth that integrates women's human rights;
- **Ensure the integration of a gender perspective** in development assistance, peace and security.

Moderator: • **Mr. Craig Mokhiber**, Director to OHCHR New York

Panellists: • **Ms. Nicole Ameline**, CEDAW Member (Opening Remarks)
• **Ms. Ása Regnér**, Deputy Executive Director, UN Women (Opening Remarks) (tbc)
• **Ms. Anne Gueguen**, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of France

- **Ms. Pramila Patten**, Special Representative of the Secretary General on sexual violence in conflict
- **Ms. Anne-Claire Berg**, Danone Group
- **Ms. Cristina Lunghi**, NGO Arborus

Outcome: The panel discussion aims to generate recommendations on ensuring a convergence between the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and national strategies of the CEDAW Convention, based on good practices and current opportunities. A summary report may inform additional work in this area including CEDAW's submissions to the High-Level Political Forum. The panel will also provide an opportunity to begin celebrations for the 40th anniversary of the Convention and 10 years since the creation of the mandate of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.

Format: The opening statement and presentations by panellists will be followed by an interactive discussion. To make the panel discussion interactive, speakers from the audience should focus their interventions on the themes assigned to the panellists either by asking the panellists questions or sharing relevant national experience. The panel discussion shall be in English.

Useful links:

- [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](#)
- [Contributions of the Committee to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#)
- [Framework of Cooperation between the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the CEDAW Committee](#)