



SIDE EVENT

62nd CEDAW Session – 19th November 2015

Connecting CEDAW and the Women Peace and Security Agenda

Opening remarks by

Ms. Flavia Pansieri, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
Ambassador Alexandre Fasel, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations
Office and to the other international organizations in Geneva

Followed by a
Panel discussion among

Pramila Patten

Member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)
and
Member of the High-level Advisory Group for Global Study on UNSCR 1325 (2000)

Zainab Hawa Bangura

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Dr. Chaloka Beyani

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons

Sarah Abu Assali

Member of the Syrian Women League (SWL)

moderated by

Veronica Birga, Chief Women's Human Rights and Gender Section OHCHR

Date: Thursday, 19th November 2015
Time: 13h00 to 15h00
Place: Palais des Nations, Room XVI, Building A, Geneva
Language: English
Registration: by 17 November 2015 to amwenifumbo@ohchr.org

Catering will be provided

Content

The year 2015 marks the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of UNSC resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, the elaboration of a Global Study on the implementation of resolution 1325 and the High Level Review (HLR), which will be held on 22 October 2015.

The empowerment of women and girls and the achievement of gender equality are critical for maintaining international peace and security. The political framework of UNSCR 1325 and follow-up resolutions on Women, Peace and Security and CEDAW share a common gender equality agenda. There is a synergy between these two sets of standards that should be used to enhance their impact and implementation. In this context, General Recommendation (GR) No. 30 on Women in Conflict Prevention, Conflict and Post-Conflict Situations, which aims to provide guidance to CEDAW State parties, is therefore a unique and strategic tool for moving gender equality and the human rights framework forward in conflict, peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction.

The panellists will discuss the added-value of integrating a human rights element in the WPS agenda and the monitoring role that CEDAW can play for an increased and more effective implementation of the Agenda.

Agenda of the event

The event, which will be opened by Ms. Flavia Pansieri, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, will start with welcoming remarks by Ms. Yoko Hayashi, Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and Ambassador Alexandre Fasel, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations Office and to the other international organizations in Geneva. It will proceed with a panel discussion.

After the panel discussion, concluding remarks will be delivered by Mr. Felix Kirchmeier, Manager of Policy Studies of the Geneva Academy of international Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

Organisers

OHCHR in collaboration with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Treaty Body Platform of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

Information on the event

This side event to the 62nd Session of Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is also part of an EVENT SERIES on “Women and Girls in Conflict, Crisis and Disaster” launched in 2014 by the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) for a wider dialogue on gender issues in conflict, crisis and disaster with a view to inform, sensitize and raise awareness on the priorities and work of FDFA in this area. It targets a broad audience including Swiss civil servants, politicians and parliamentarians, civil society, embassy representatives, academia and students.

The collaboration with the Human Rights Treaty Bodies Platform of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights enables to contribute to strengthening the role of treaty bodies as accountability mechanisms, in line with Switzerland’s contribution to the implementation of Resolution A/RES/68/268 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system.
