



## Interactive Roundtable

### 3) Women and Health

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

**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 well-being and to their ability to participate in all areas of public and private life. **Objectives:** A variety of forward looking health strategies to promote women's physical and mental health as well as equal access to health care throughout the life course will be presented. Future policy and practices must embrace access to health care and include gender specific medical practices.

Co-conveners	<b>Manjit Dosanjh</b> , UN Representative, IFUW <b>Afton Beutler</b> , UN Representative, MLP
Moderator	<b>Alanna Armitage</b> , Director, UNFPA
Speakers	<b>Elizabeth Carll</b> , Coordinator, United Nations NGO Committee on Mental Health Global Mental Health Action Plan & NCDs Initiatives, New York, USA <b>Iliana Balabanova-Stoycheva</b> , Coordinator of the Bulgarian Women's Lobby and member of Gender Research Foundation, Bulgaria <b>Katja Iversen</b> , CEO, Women Deliver, USA <b>Nancy B. Finn</b> , Healthcare Journalist, Global Alliance for Women's Health
Recommendations, Q&A	From the floor
Rapporteur	<b>Mutua Kobia</b> , Asst. Program Director, Global Education Opportunity, Global Education Motivators
Interpretation	Provided from and into English, French and Russian

B+20 Review Forum Organizer: NGO-CSW-Geneva: [www.beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch](http://www.beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch)  
E-mail: [beijing20forum@ngocsw-geneva.ch](mailto:beijing20forum@ngocsw-geneva.ch)



## Short Bios: Women and Health

---

**Co-convenor: Manjit Dosanjh** is a CERN senior staff member and holds a PhD in Biochemical Engineering and after her post-doctoral experience at MIT she has held various academic positions in the USA and in Europe. She is actively involved in applying particle physics technologies to the health field. She is the co-ordinator of the European Network for Light ion Hadron Therapy (ENLIGHT) [www.cern.ch/enlight](http://www.cern.ch/enlight). Manjit also contributes to a series of non-profit, non-governmental programmes for education, science and health. She is a member of IFUW (<http://www.ifuw.org>) and volunteers as a UN Representative for IFUW in Geneva and for the NGO-CSW Geneva.

---

**Co-convenor: Afton Beutler** is the Director of the Global Education Opportunity program which brings University students to Geneva to attend UN Conferences and participate in grassroots projects. Currently she represents the Mothers Legacy Project at the UN in Geneva working on maternal health which supports maternal health projects globally. She is a steering committee member of the NGO Forum for Health as well as works with the Global Education Motivators (GEM). Afton has led many community campaigns globally with an emphasis on education, women and children's health and poverty alleviation. She has been instrumental in organizing panels and workshops in the UN in Geneva and New York.

---

**Moderator: Alanna Armitage**, Director of the UNFPA Office in Geneva since July 2009, has worked to promote health, development and human rights for the past 25 years. She joined UNFPA in 1992, and has worked in Africa, the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and most recently in Latin America where she served as UNFPA Representative in Honduras and El Salvador from 2002-2006 and UNFPA Representative for Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay from 2006-2009. She has worked closely with Government policy makers, parliamentarians, non-governmental organizations and leaders from all sectors, to champion women's health and gender equality. Prior to UNFPA, she was Gender and Development Advisor for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Programme Officer with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Mauritania. She started her career in the NGO world with community based organizations promoting women's health and rights

---

**Speaker: Elizabeth Carll** is the President of the Communications Coordination Committee for the United Nations (CCCUN) and is a member of the Executive Committee and Immediate Past Chair of the United Nations NGO Committee on Mental Health in New York. She is also the Coordinator for the Committee on Mental Health's work with the WHO Mental Health Action Plan and Non Communicable Diseases (NCD)s. She is a U.N. Representative for the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies and also a Past President of the Media Psychology and Technology Division of the American Psychological Association. She is a psychologist in private practice in New York and author of a variety of publications, including the two volume book set, *Trauma Psychology: Issues in Violence Disaster, Health, and Illness*.

---

**Speaker: Iliana Balabanova - Stoycheva** is active in field of Human Rights and Women's Human Rights since 1996. She is one of the founders and coordinator of Bulgarian Women's Lobby and member of group of Bulgarian NGOs lobbying for passing new legislation against Domestic Violence and for ensuring equality between women and men. Ms Stoycheva is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation, one of the leading Bulgarian NGOs working against Violence against Women since 1998.

---

**Speaker: Katja Iversen** is the CEO of Women Deliver – a leading global advocate for investment in the health, rights and wellbeing of girls and women, with a specific focus on maternal, sexual and reproductive health and rights. Iversen, an internationally recognized expert on development, advocacy and communications, has more than 20 years of experience working in NGOs, corporates and United Nation agencies. Previously, she held the position as Chief of Strategic Communication and Public Advocacy with UNICEF, a position she came to after almost six years of leading the team responsible for advocacy and communication on reproductive health and MDG 5 at UNFPA. She holds a masters in communications, bachelor's degree in public administration and certificates in management, conflict resolution and international development. She has counseled and trained multiple Fortune 500 executives on cross cultural management and cross cultural communication.

---

**Speaker: Nancy B. Finn** is a health care journalist, thought leader and patient advocate focusing on patient empowerment and engagement with the deployment of digital communication technology. She is the author of *e-Patients Live Longer, the Complete Guide to Managing Health Care Using Technology*, published by iUniverse, and *Digital Communication in Medical Practice*, published by Springer Verlag, London, 2009.

---

**Rapporteur: Mutua Kobia** is a graduate of Hope College (Class of '07), Holland, Michigan with a Bachelor degree in Philosophy with an emphasis in Biology and Political Science and most recently a Masters in International Relations from the Geneva School of Diplomacy (Class of '13) in Geneva, Switzerland. He has assisted with the Global Education Opportunity Program in the recent past years, which included participation at the Human Rights Council (HRC), World Health Assembly (WHA) concentrating on gender issues and has been coordinator for GEO grassroots projects.

---