



## Interactive Roundtable

### 8) Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

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

“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 or 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

Convener	<b>Simone Overt</b> , UN Representative, Zonta International; Co-Chair, Geneva NGO CSW Forum Beijing+20
Moderator	<b>Erika Kvapilova</b> , Social Scientist, UN Women Representative, Georgia
Speakers	<b>Karen Jabre</b> , Head of partnership between men and women, Interparliamentary Union <b>Annette Lawson</b> , UN Representative, NAWO, UK <b>Jean Bolen</b> , UN Representative and 5WCW, Pathways to Peace, USA <b>Kathleen A. Lahey</b> , Faculty of Law, Queen’s University, Canada <b>Dilovar Kabulova</b> , Director, Civic Initiatives Support Center, Uzbekistan
Recommendations, Q&A Rapporteurs	From the floor <b>Sallie Chaballier</b> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, FAWCO <b>Megan Moleski</b> , WWSF intern; Boston University
Interpretation	Provided from and into English and French

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## Short Bios: Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women

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**Convener: Simone Ovar** was born in Belgium, and received her education at the International University of the Social Studies in Florence, Italy. She is an expert in International Economics and Entrepreneur, Mechanical Production of Systems for Automobile and Aeronautical Industries. After Beijing – 1995, she has dedicated herself to the human rights issues. She has created the Committee of UNIFEM in Italy and the Committee of UN Women Italy of which she is the President. She is the Main Representative of Zonta International at the United Nations, Geneva, the Co-Chair of the NGO Forum Beijing+20 and the Chair of the Fourth Task Forces.

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**Moderator: Erika Kvapilova**, a social scientist, worked for almost 20 years as a researcher focusing on welfare state policies and gender equality issues. She joined UNIFEM in 2005. Between 2009 and 2013 she served as the UN Women Regional Programme Director for South Eastern Europe, covering the Western Balkan countries and Turkey. Since 2013 she is based in Tbilisi as the UN Women Representative in Georgia.

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**Speaker: Kareen Jabre** is currently Director of the Division of Programs of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). For the past 13 years she managed the Gender Partnership Program of the organization, focusing on the implementation of programs to support women in accessing parliament, strengthen their input once elected and transform parliaments in strong institutions that deliver on women's rights and gender equality. She is also in charge at the IPU on work related to international humanitarian law and refugee protection. Previously to that, Kareen Jabre worked at UNESCO in women and gender equality coordinating unit. She holds a masters of political science (IEP Paris) and masters in English and American civilization (Sorbonne).

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**Speaker: Annette Lawson, OBE**, is a feminist activist. She chairs the National Alliance of Women's Organizations (NAWO) whose mission is to bring the international to the national and vice versa to achieve gender equality and women's access to their human rights. She has been Chair of Fawcett, a leading UK campaigning organization for gender equality; is a past Vice-President of the European Women's Lobby representing the UK on its Board; and was a Commissioner/Chair of the Women's National Commission (WNC). WNC was abolished by the UK Government in 2011. This left the UK without an independent, resourced and legitimated civil society mechanism for women's voices to Government. Annette is also deeply involved in working to influence the new global agenda to follow the Millennium Development Goals through NAWO's membership of the global Women's Major Group and the Post-2015 Women's Coalition.

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**Speaker: Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D.**, is a psychiatrist, Jungian analyst, and internationally recognized author and speaker. She is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a former clinical professor of psychiatry at the University of California San Francisco, and chair of the Council of National Affairs of the American Psychiatric Association. She is a Permanent Representative of Pathways to Peace to the UN, a convener of the Millionth Circle Initiative, which was inspired by the idea of reaching a tipping point through circles of women, and the leading advocate of a 5<sup>th</sup> UN World Conference on Women (5WCW).

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**Speaker: Kathleen A. Lahey**, Professor and Queen's National Scholar, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, Canada, specializes in tax law, fiscal policy, and human rights. Recent publications include 'Economic Crisis, Gender Equality, and Policy Responses in Spain and Canada' (2013); 'Gender Impact Analysis and International Taxation' (2010); Women and Fiscal Equality (2009), and she works closely with law reform, academic, government, and civil society groups on comparative fiscal gender issues.

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**Speaker: Dilovar Kabulova** is Director of the Civic Initiatives Support Center, Uzbekistan. Higher education in the social and humanitarian sphere, with over 35 years in the field of social protection. For the last 15 years, Mrs. Kabulova has been the leader of the women NGOs' movement in Uzbekistan. She is an expert and partner in implementation projects of all international organizations involved in the promotion of women's rights, which are represented in Uzbekistan. These organizations are: UN Women, UNFPA, OSCE, UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, World Bank, ADB and others. The main expert on gender issues, coordinating cooperation between government organizations, NGOs and international organizations in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration. More than that, she is the developer of the national system for monitoring women's rights.

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**Rapporteur: Sallie Chaballier** is 2nd Vice President of FAWCO, an ECOSOC-accredited NGO dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls worldwide. She graduated from Yale University with a BA in Russian and East European Studies, and holds an MA in Soviet Studies from Harvard University. For many years, Sallie worked as an analyst of Soviet politics in Munich, Paris, and Washington, DC. In recent years Sallie has held leadership positions in several non-profit organizations in Paris, specializing in education and women's issues. She has co-edited a guide to the French education system and contributed to Beyond the Bac - Higher Education in France and Abroad (Paris, 2011). Since 2007, Sallie has been active in FAWCO, serving as 3rd Vice President in 2010-2011.

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**Rapporteur: Megan Moleski** is a senior at Boston University studying International Relations with a focus on Europe and Regional Politics and Cultural Anthropology and an intern at the Women's World Summit Foundation.

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