



Interactive Roundtable

9) Human Rights of Women

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

In 1993 the United Nations Conference on Human Rights in Vienna affirmed that Women's Rights are Human Rights. Two years later, at the occasion of the UN Conference on Women in Beijing, the Human Rights context was identified as one of the 12 critical areas of concern of the "Beijing Platform."

Three strategic objectives relating to Human Rights of Women were identified, namely:

- Promote and protect the Human Rights of Women through the full implementation of all Human Rights instruments, in particular through the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Ensure gender equality and non-discrimination by the law and in real life by implementing and monitoring legislation
- Achieve legal literacy

Session Objective:

1. Provide an overview of the evolved normative framework on women's human rights making the linkages between CEDAW, BPF and S.C.R.1325, in order to develop a stronger and more coherent framework for the achievement of women's human rights
2. Share experiences on progress, achievements and barriers towards reaching these strategic objectives on women's human rights within the UNECE, drawing on specific issues.
3. Develop & identify concrete recommendations to be included into the Beijing Plus 20 review & post-2015 agenda.

Convener	Rita Muyambo , Head of Programs, YWCA
Moderator	Ilona Graenitz , Austrian Board Member, European Women's Lobby; President, NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Vienna
Speakers	Veronica Birga , Chief, Women's Human Rights and Gender Section, OHCHR Ana Paradowska , Young women Gender Advocate, Poland Helga Konrad , International Consultant and Coordinator of the 'Regional Implementation Initiative on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking' Donika Godaj , Executive Director of YWCA, Albania
Recommendations, Q & A	From the floor
Rapporteurs	Marcia Banasko and Gladys Yegon , YWCA
Interpretation	Provided from and into English, French and Russian

B+20 Review Forum Organizer: NGO-CSW-Geneva: www.beijing20.ngocsw-geneva.ch

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Short Bios: Human Rights of Women

Convener: Rita Muyambo is a psychologist and international women's health and development expert. She is currently the Head of Programme for the World YWCA in Geneva.

Moderator: Ilona Graenitz was a Member of the Austrian and the European Parliament. She is currently the President of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Status of Women.

Speaker: Veronica Birga works as Chief of the Women's Human Rights and Gender Section in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). She has served both in Geneva and in the field and has worked on a variety of human rights issues, including the human rights of migrants, trafficking and violence against children.

Speaker: Ana Paradowska is a young woman and gender advocate focusing on advancing young women's rights in leadership, peace and justice.

Speaker: Helga Konrad has been working on the issue of human trafficking for almost 30 years at local, national, regional and international levels in various functions – as senior advisor, manager, coordinator, and parliamentarian and government minister.

Speaker: Donika Godaj is the Executive Director of the YWCA of Albania. She has an intensive experience in working on human rights, health and professional development with vulnerable women and young girls in Albania.

Rapporteur: Marcia Banasko is from the United Kingdom and has been involved with the World YWCA for the past 5 years, working as a Project Worker for the YWCA of England and Wales.

Rapporteur: Gladys Yegon is a human rights lawyer based in Geneva. She is presently a consultant at the World YWCA.
