



Exchange on the Impact of COVID-19 on Violence Against Women (VAW) and the Civil Society Organisations on the frontlines of response – One Year On

AGENDA

PART A: High-level session (8:00-9:10am EST)

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Speakers include:

- H.E. The Hon. Karina Gould, Minister for International Development, Global Affairs Canada
- H.E. Mr Per Olsson Fridh Minister for Development Cooperation, Government of Sweden
- Mr. Martin Seychell, Deputy Director-General, European Commission DG INTPA
- Ms. Alicia Herbert OBE, UK Special Envoy for Gender Equality, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom
- Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, Ms. Åsa Regnér
- Ms. Rashmi Singh, Programme Director of the International Foundation for Crime Prevention and Victim Care (PCVC) India;
- Ms. Meliha Sendic, President of the Center of Women's Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Ms. Gaudence Mushimiyimana, co-founder and Executive Director of the Rwandan Organization of Women with Disability (UNABU)
- Ms. Aldijana Sisic, Chief, UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women

PART B: KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE SESSION AT THE CSW EVENT 2021 (9:10-10:30am EST)

Key participating speakers: technical experts from Sida, Global Affairs Canada, United Kingdom Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office, and UN Trust Fund civil society grantees

Format:

- *Rapid knowledge exchange via panel discussion with moderated feedback from the audience.*
- *Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in three languages.*

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

(1) ***How are CSOs/WROs responding*** institutionally and programmatically to the impact of COVID-19 on VAW/G?

(2) ***Are CSOs/WROs and women being enabled to fully participate and lead*** in national response and recovery efforts; and

(3) Recommendations for on 'how' and 'what' is needed ***to enable women's rights organizations to exercise their expertise and role as first responders to women and girls*** - insights from different perspectives: the UN member states and civil society partners. These recommendations will be shared with the Action Coalition on Gender Based Violence to inform further discussion on targets and commitments to be agreed at the Generation Equality Forum taking place in Mexico City (29th-31st March 2021).