

DRAFT Programme
7th Annual Symposium
on the Role of Religion and Faith-based Organizations in International Affairs

26 January 2021

8:00 am - 12:30 pm EST

**2021: A Defining Year for Accelerating
Gender Equality, Equity and Justice**

Moderator for Symposium- Mr Peter Prove, World Council of Churches

Tuesday 26 January

8:00 Open

Housekeeping

Video – history of Symposium

Welcomes

8:15 High Level Opening Session: Multi-stakeholder collaboration to accelerate Gender Equality, Equity and Justice

Moderator – Dr Azza Karam, General Secretary, Religions for Peace

Conversation with:

Ms Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director, UN Women (tbc)

Dr Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UNFPA (tbc)

Mr Rudelmar Bueno de Faria, General Secretary, ACT Alliance

Mr Anwar Khan, CEO, Islamic Relief USA

Faith leader (tbc)

MS representative (tbc)

8:55 Session 2: An Epoch-Defining Urgency for Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Framing the Issue

Moderator – Dr Musimbi Kanyoro, title

Keynote speaker

Dr Ganoune Diop, Secretary General International Religious Liberty Association and Director Public Affairs for the General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists World Headquarters

Respondents

Shahin Ashraf, MBE, Head of Global Advocacy Islamic Relief Worldwide

Dr Alaa Murabit, UN Secretary-General's SDG Advocate

Prof Charlotte Bunch, Rutgers University

9:45 Break

10:00 Session 3: Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Women advancing peace and security

Moderator – Ms Ivy Koek, UN Representative, Soka Gakkai International

Panelists

Ms Nika Saeedi, Team Leader for Prevention of Violent Extremism in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions (CPPRI), and Religion and Development focal point, UNDP

Ms Samira Fatma Baručija, Co-founder of Youth for Peace United Religions Initiative Multiregional Coordinator and UNDP Global Youth Programme for Sustainable Development and Peace '16 x 16'

Mr Victor Ochen, Founder of African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET), Member of the Global Advisory Group to the UNHCR on Gender, Forced Displacement and Protection

Ms Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Global Fund for Women, Co-chair Board of Directors Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), Board Chair & GPPAC Pacific Regional Representative, YWCA of Fiji - Vice President, and Generation Equality Forum CSAG Member of the WPS and Humanitarian Action Compact Task Force (pre-recorded)

With featured grassroots activists (pre-recorded)

11:00 Session 4: Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Multilateralism, Human Rights and Intersectionalities

Moderator – Rev Dr Liberato Bautista, Asst. Gen. Secretary, UN and International Affairs, United Methodist Church-General Board of Church and Society & President, Conference of NGOs

Panelists

Dr. Junaid Ahmad, Director, Centre for Muslim World Studies and Professor of Religion and Global Politics (Islamabad, Pakistan)

Ms Njoki Kinyanjui, Senior Gender Adviser and Chief, Gender Unit, UN Department of Peace Operations (tbc)

Dr Lina Abirafeh, Executive Director, Arab Institute for Women, Lebanese American University (tbc)

12:00 Concluding remarks: Moving from the Symposium to CSW65 and beyond
Ms Lopa Banerjee, Director, Civil Society Division, UN Women and UNIATF
Ms Nafy Diop, Gender and Human Rights Branch Chief, UNFPA and UNIATF
Ms Alison Kelly, ACT Alliance and Chair, Symposium Planning Group

12:30 Close