



Side Event Draft Programme

TITLE: “AFRICA WOMEN’S FORUM”

“Accelerating Implementation of Commitments to Gender Equality & Women Human Rights”

Time: 3:00 – 6:00 PM
Venue: Conference Room 3

The objective of the Africa Women’s Forum is three-fold:

- To take stock of achievements in the implementation of international, regional and national commitments to gender equality and women’s human rights.
- To identify the challenges faced by Member States in implementing these commitments
- To make concrete, actionable recommendations to accelerate progress for the achievement of gender equality and women’s human rights.

3:00 – 3:10 PM **Welcome & Introduction**

Co-Chairs: UNIFEM/UNFPA (to be determined)

3:10 – 3:20 PM **Opening Remarks and Introduction to Issues and Speakers**

Moderator: (to be confirmed)

3:20 – 4:10 PM

Panel Presentations

H.E. Ms. Vabah Gayflor, Minister of Gender of Liberia

“Women’s transformative leadership: Successes and Challenges

H.E. Ms. Rosemary Museminali, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Rwanda

Mainstreaming Gender: Successes and Challenges

H.E. Ms. Ingibjörg Sólrún Gísladóttir, Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Iceland

Donor Country Perspective

H.E. Ms. Nilcea Freire, Secretaria Especial de Políticas para as Mulheres da Presidencia da Republica Federativa do Brasil

South-South Cooperation

Ms. Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Commissioner for External Relations, European Community:

EC-UN Partnership: Accelerating implementation of commitments to gender equality.

4:10 – 4:25pm

Brief Summary by Moderator, with opportunity for Q&A before resuming panel presentations

4:30 – 5:00pm

Continuation of Panel Presentations

Ms. Bience Gawanas, Commissioner for Social Affairs, African Union (*to be confirmed*)

Implementation of the Africa Heads of States’ Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa

Mrs. Zanele Mbeki, First Lady of South Africa (*to be confirmed*)

Role of NGO/CSO Sector for accelerating implementation of gender equality/women's human rights commitments and holding governments accountable

Ms. Carin Taylor, Senior Manager Organizational Effectiveness, CISCO Systems

Role of private sector for accelerating economic security and rights for women.

5:30 – 5:40p.m.

Responses from Civil Society

Joint Statement by FEMNET, Femme Afrique Solidarite, Forum for African Women Educationalists, Global Summit

5:40 – 6:00p.m.

Discussion, Summary and Closing by Moderator