

Interactive Expert Panel on the priority theme of CSW 57 (2013)

Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls

Wednesday, 29 February 2012, 1.15 - 2.45 p.m.

Panellists

Dr. Nduku Kilonzo is the Executive Director of Liverpool VCT, an indigenous Kenyan organization that provides HIV prevention and treatment services, including to women survivors of violence. The work of the organization and Dr. Kilonzo's research have informed policy reforms in these areas and contributed to strengthening service provision to women survivors. She has served as technical advisor to World Health Organization (WHO) committees examining HIV/AIDS and violence against women, and post-rape care and support to survivors. Dr. Kilonzo also contributes to several international fora that address gender-based violence, such as the Coordinating Group of the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI), and the Gender and Rights Advisory Panel of the WHO Department of Reproductive Health and Research. She holds a PhD from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

Ms. Marai Larasi is the Director of Imkaan, a UK-based charity that supports organizations dedicated to fighting violence against Black, Asian, minority ethnic and refugee women. She has wide experience in the field of gender-based violence, both at operational and strategic levels, and holds senior positions in national networks advocating for action to end violence against women. She is the co-chair of the UK-wide *End Violence against Women Coalition*, where she leads the Coalition's prevention network. She also contributes to a number of working groups at national, regional and international level, covering themes such as violence against women and girls, women's homelessness, and gender equality. Ms. Larasi was awarded the honour of the "Member of the Order of the British Empire" (MBE) by the Queen, for her work with Black and minority ethnic women.

Dr. Margarita Quintanilla is the Nicaragua country representative of the international organization PATH, which works, among others, to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls through community-based approaches and by strengthening the health services' responses to victims/survivors. She is also the coordinator of InterCambios Alliance, a regional network of organizations created to coordinate different efforts that address violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has extensive experience in the field of gender-based violence with both governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations. She is the author of numerous publications on gender-based violence and she carried out monitoring and evaluation of several interventions addressing violence against women in the region, which resulted in a compilation of good practices and lessons learnt.