

Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-seventh session
4-15 March 2013

Preparatory panel for 2014

**Challenges and achievements in the implementation
of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls**

Wednesday, 6 March 2013, 1-3 p.m.

Panellists

Ms. Naila Kabeer is Professor of Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at London University. Prior to that, she was Professorial Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex. She has also worked as a Senior Research Fellow at the Department for International Development, UK; Kerstin Hesselgren Professor at the University of Goteberg, Sweden; and Senior Sabaticant with IDRC Regional Office in South Asia. Her research interests include gender, poverty, social exclusion, labour markets and livelihoods, social protection and citizenship and much of her research has focused on South Asia. She has also carried out extensive training and advisory work with national and international NGOs (including Oxfam, ActionAid, Women for Women International, BRAC, PRADAN and Nijera Kori) as well as for a number of international development agencies.

Dr. Carole Presern is Executive Director of The Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH). Dr Presern is a midwife and an anthropologist who also has a doctorate in public health policy and qualifications in health systems management. She has worked for many years in health and development including in Nepal, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, and Geneva. Dr. Presern comes to The Partnership from the Global Alliance for Vaccine Initiative (GAVI), where she worked most recently as Managing Director, and previously as Director of Change Management and in External Relations. While in Geneva, Dr. Presern also worked as Counsellor at the UK Mission, covering specialized agencies, health and humanitarian affairs. She also worked many years for DfID/UK as senior health/AIDS adviser for Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique. Previous assignments include: Director of VSO Nepal, consultancies for multilateral organisations, and work as a midwife on the Thai/Cambodian border.

Ms. Lyla Mehta is a Research Fellow at the Institute of Development Studies, UK and a Visiting Professor at Noragric, Norwegian University of Life Sciences. Her work focuses on water and sanitation, gender, forced displacement and resistance, scarcity, rights and access and the politics of environment/development and sustainability. Ms. Mehta is the water and sanitation domain convenor of the STEPS centre (Social, Technological and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability) and has engaged in advisory work with various UN agencies. Her publications include *The Politics and Poetics of Water: Naturalising Scarcity in western India (2005)*, *The Limits to Scarcity: Contesting the Politics of Allocation (2010)* and *Shit Matters: The Potential of Community-led Total Sanitation (2011)*. She trained as a sociologist at the University of Vienna and has a Ph.D. in Development Studies from the University of Sussex.