

22 October 2020

Excellency,

Further to my announcement of the creation of the Gender Advisory Group to support and bolster my work on gender issues throughout the session, I have the pleasure to share further information on this initiative.

The Group has been constituted and is comprised of six individuals with long-standing experience and expertise on issues concerning gender equality and women's empowerment in the multilateral system. The members of the Group are as follows:

- President of the Bureau of the UN Women Executive Board, Ambassador Jukka Salovaara
- Senior Gender Adviser of the Secretary-General, Ms. Nahla Valji
- CEO and Executive Director, UN Global Compact, Ms. Sanda Ojiambo
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences, Dr. Dubravka Simonovic
- NGO CSW Principal Investigator, Dr. Soon Young-Yoon
- Permanent Observer of the Inter-parliamentary Union –IPU, Hon. Patricia A. Torsney

I will convene the inaugural meeting of the Gender Advisory Group on 10 November 2020. This Group, with both normative and operational expertise, will bring to bear critical thought, analysis and advice to inform and support my work in mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment throughout the United Nations General Assembly, with the aim of accelerating and making tangible gains on the agenda and improving the lives of women and girls around the globe.

As I go to work to deliver for women and girls, I count on your valuable support in advancing this agenda and making measurable progress.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my consideration.

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All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York