

Annex I

Open briefing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee on “The Role of Women in Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism”

*Conference Room 4, United Nations Headquarters, New York
9 September 2015*

draft agenda

15.00-15.10 Opening session

Opening statements:

- Ms. Raimonda Murmokaitė, Chair, Counter-Terrorism Committee
- Mr. Yannick Glemarec, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy and Programme, UN Women
- Mr. Jean Paul Laborde, Executive Director, CTED

15.10-16.40 Overview and regional perspectives

Panellists:

- Moderator: Ms. Jayne Huckerby (Professor, Duke University/Researcher)
- Ms. Sureya Roble Hersi (Republic of Kenya)
- Pastor Esther Ibanga (Republic of Nigeria)
- Ms. Hanaa Edwar (Republic of Iraq)

Topics to be addressed:

- Mapping of academic knowledge on the roles of women in terrorism and violent extremism and in countering terrorism and violent extremism
- Role/experiences of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism in the Republic of Kenya and the Horn of Africa.
- Role/experiences of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism in the Republic of Nigeria.
- Role/experiences of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism in the Middle East.

16.40-17.15 Session II

- Open discussion

17.15-17.30 Closing session

- Closing statement: Ms. Raimonda Murmokaitė, Chair, Counter-Terrorism Committee

Annex II

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Panellists’ biographies

Ms. Hanaa Edwar (Republic of Iraq)

Ms. Edwar, an active advocate for women’s rights and equality and for peace and democracy in Iraq, is the General Secretary of the Iraqi Al-Amal Association (IAA), an NGO established in 1992 to improve the socio-economic conditions of the Iraqi people, and founder of the Iraqi Women’s Network (IWN), which represents over 80 Iraqi women’s groups. Ms. Edwar was a member of Board of the Iraqi Council for Peace and Solidarity from 2003 to 2005. In 2015, Ms. Edwar requested the United Nations Human Rights Council and the wider international community to take prompt measures to ensure condemnation of the barbaric practices of ISIL by:

- Establishing an international fact-finding committee to investigate the "state of Iraqi women under the terrorism of ISIS"
- Taking action to liberate women and children held hostage by ISIL
- Protecting displaced women and their families and providing a safe environment close to their homes, under international protection
- Providing urgent humanitarian relief services and medical, psychological and social care for displaced women and their families
- Protecting women and girls who are victims of ISIL oppression by providing shelter and medical treatment, and ensuring the protection of witnesses.

Ms. Sureya Roble Hersi (Republic of Kenya)

Ms. Roble-Hersi is a women’s rights activist and national vice chairperson of the Mombasa-based Maendeleo ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO), a non-profit voluntary women’s organization established to improve the quality of life of rural Kenyan communities, especially women and youth. The organization’s projects address, inter alia, peacebuilding and conflict management, and gender and governance. Since 2013, the organization’s work has focused on countering violent extremism with the aim of empowering women to identify signs of violent extremism and engage with young people to discuss ways to build a cohesive community.

Ms. Jayne Huckerby (Australia)

Ms. Huckerby joined the Duke Law faculty in 2013 as Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Inaugural Director of the Duke International Human Rights Clinic. Prior to joining Duke, Ms. Huckerby most recently served as a human rights adviser to UN Women (the United Nations

Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women) on women and conflict prevention, conflict, and post-conflict; gender equality and constitutional reform in post-Arab Spring countries; and the use of gender and human rights indicators in national security policy frameworks. Ms. Huckerby has engaged in human rights research and advocacy in the areas of gender and human rights, constitution-making, national security, human trafficking, transitional justice, and human rights in United States foreign policy, and has also led multiple fieldwork investigations, provided capacity-building to civil society and Governments and frequently serving as an expert in human rights law international governmental organizations and NGOs, including the International Center for Transitional Justice and the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women.

Pastor Esther Ibanga (Republic of Nigeria)

Ms Ibanga is a Christian pastor and interfaith peace activist who works in Plateau State, a highly volatile region of central Nigeria. In response to the ethno-religious conflicts that have afflicted the region since 1994, Pastor Ibanga has become a leader of a strong coalition of diverse women's groups united in their desire for peace. Following the "100,000 Women March" of Christian women, which Pastor Ibanga organized to protest the 2010 massacre of 530 women and children in a village three miles from her home, local Muslim women organized a similar demonstration, yet the killing continued. Pastor Ibanga decided to reach out to a female Muslim leader. Looking back, she notes, "Society has always placed boundaries on us. But, you know, these boundaries are man-made. Cross the line; you just might be surprised". Her Muslim colleague joined in her creative approach to conflict resolution, which is now known as "Women without Walls", the first state organization to include leaders from all tribes and religions, who act as entry points for advocacy and bridge-building, particularly among religious, youth, and community leaders. Having identified poverty and marginalization as frequent sources of conflict, Women without Walls works to address the material needs of both Christian and Muslim communities and offers women skills training in peace mediation and negotiation, preventing extremist violence, and community policing.