The Foreign Ministers of Iceland and Liechtenstein invite you to a

Ministerial Panel:

*Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity:*

**Using Women’s economic potential - a key element for sustainable development**

Saturday, 27 September 2014, 11:00am – 13:00pm
Conference Room 5, GA Building

Opening remarks and moderation:

H.E. Mr. Gunnar Bragi Sveinsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Iceland

Panel:

Ms. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director of UN Women, TBC

High-level Representative TBA, UNDP

Concluding remarks:

H.E. Ms. Aurelia Frick, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Principality of Liechtenstein
**Background:**

Investing in women and strengthening their economic potential has shown to be a multiplier of sustainable development. Although there is growing awareness of women’s numerous contributions in this regard, the Open Working Group’s draft of the SDG framework does not put adequate emphasis on the issue. It is crucial that the sustainable development agenda acknowledges the important role women can play in the economy and the need to give them the equal right to access, ownership and control over productive resources.

The panel will explain why investing in women’s economic empowerment is crucial to fostering sustainable growth and give Member States an opportunity to express themselves on the issue. What are best practices? Where do challenges lie? How can Member States and the private sector promote women’s economic empowerment?

The panel will be a side event on ministerial level during the high-level week of the UNGA in September. It is co-organized and moderated by the Foreign Ministers of Iceland and Liechtenstein. It falls in the framework of UN Women’s Beijing+20 campaign which dedicates the month of September to “Women and the Economy”.

**Structure:**

The meeting is open to all delegations without prior registration. After interventions from the podium, the floor will be opened for questions and comments.

For any further questions, please contact: Ms. Antonia Strachwitz, (t) +1 212 599 0220 ext. 226, as@nyc.llv.li