



***"Violence against women: Good practices in
combating and eliminating violence against women"***

Expert Group Meeting

Organized by: UN Division for the Advancement of Women
in collaboration with:
UN Office on Drugs and Crime
17 to 20 May 2005
Vienna, Austria

Programme of Work

Tuesday 17 May

8:30 AM Registration

10:00 – 10:30 AM Welcome and introductions by DAW and UNODC

Plenary Sessions

Objectives: To identify good practice examples in the implementation of the international legal and policy framework and highlight national initiatives to combat all forms of violence against women; to examine methods of assessing effectiveness of various initiatives/interventions to combat violence against women.

Key Questions: What are the barriers to the effective implementation of the international legal and policy framework for addressing violence against women and how can these barriers be overcome through good practices? Are there model good practices at the State and community level that can be replicated in multiple settings? What are the successes and challenges in State - civil society interaction on combating violence against women? How is the success or effectiveness of various initiatives to combat violence against women evaluated? What are the challenges in such evaluation?

Note to presenters: It is anticipated that all papers to be presented in plenary session will be circulated to participants approximately one week before the meeting. Please note that presentations in plenary should be strictly limited to **ten (10) minutes** and should focus on examples that have been effective in combating violence against women, and methods for assessing such effectiveness.

10:30 – 1:00 PM

Panel 1: Good practices – general and institutional aspects

Presentations:

- Sally Goldfarb, USA: “Good practices in the legal domain – responses of the justice sector to violence against women”
- Lori Michau, Uganda: “Good practices in designing a community based approach to combat violence against women”
- Lisa Vetten, South Africa: “Success and challenges of state-civil society interaction on violence against women and evaluation of strategies”
- Sheilah Kayangarara, Zimbabwe: “Message targeting and differentiation as good practice examples”
- Hilary Fisher, Amnesty International “Stop violence campaign: research, activism, advocacy, education, capacity building”

(Presentations will be followed by questions for clarification only)

Synthesis/Discussant: Charlotte Bunch

1:00 – 2:30 PM

Lunch

2:30 – 6:00 PM

Panel 2: Good practice interventions in responding to violence against women in the home

Presentations:

- Rosa Logar, Austria: “The Austrian model of intervention in cases of domestic violence”
- Claudia Herrmannsdorfer, Honduras: “Institutional strategies and multi-sectoral approaches in monitoring the application of the domestic violence law in Honduras and developing best practices”
- Ana Carcedo Cabanas, Costa Rica: “The impact studies pertaining to the “Women You Are Not Alone Programme”
- Fatma Khafagy, Egypt: “Good practices in combating honor crimes”
- Madhu Kishwar, India: “Dowry-related violence: Legislation, civil society response and their impact”

(Presentations will be followed by questions for clarification only)

Coffee break

Synthesis/Discussant: Charlotte Bunch

Discussion

Wednesday 18 May

10:00 – 12:30 PM **Morning session**

Panel 3: Good practice interventions in responding to violence against women in the community

- Liz Kelly, U.K. “Good practices in responding to sexual violence”
- Zarizana Abdul Aziz, Malaysia: “The successes and challenges of the Joint Action Group Against Violence Against Women”
- Sapana Pradhan-Malla, Nepal: “Good practices in combating sexual harassment in South Asian countries”
- Lepa Mladjenovic, Serbia, "Counseling victims of violence as a good practice example"
- Suneeta Dhar, UNIFEM “Best practices in combating violence against women in the UNIFEM experience”

(Presentations will be followed by questions for clarification only)

Synthesis/Discussant: Leena Ruusuvuori, Finland

Discussion

1:00 – 2:30 PM **Lunch**

2:30 – 6:00 PM **Afternoon session**

Discussion continued

Formation of working groups -- Explanation of objectives and expected outcomes

Commencement of working groups

Working Groups (proposed)

- a. The role of the justice sector in responding to all forms of violence against women

Expected outcome: Guidelines for enhancing the response of the justice sector to all forms of violence against women

Key questions for consideration: *What elements should ideally be included in legislation to address violence against women? What is needed for effective implementation and enforcement of legislation addressing violence against women? What barriers do women face in accessing and engaging the legal and judicial system and how can they be overcome?*

How should the effectiveness of the response of the justice sector to violence against women be evaluated? Who are the key players and how can they be effectively engaged?

- b. Programmes and policies for the prevention of all forms of violence against women

Expected outcome: Guidelines for effective strategies to prevent all forms of violence against women

Key questions for consideration: *What root causes of violence against women can be targeted through what kinds of violence prevention initiatives? What factors need to be considered in developing strategies for the prevention of violence against women? What types of programmes and strategies have been successful in preventing violence against women? Can the effectiveness of various prevention initiatives be evaluated?*

- c. Programmes and policies for the rehabilitation of victims of all forms of violence against women

Expected outcome: Guidelines for effective programmes, policies and services for the rehabilitation of victims

Key questions for consideration: *What types of programmes and services are needed for the meaningful rehabilitation of victims of violence? What factors need to be considered in designing effective programmes, services and policies for the rehabilitation of victims of violence? (Participants may want to consider, among others, health policies, economic policies and social services related to the identification, treatment and rehabilitation of victims of violence). Can the effectiveness of these programmes, services and policies be evaluated?*

- d. Creating successful multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approaches in addressing all forms of violence against women

Expected outcome: Guidelines for effective collaboration among the legal, health, education and social work sectors and the creation of effective institutional responses to combat all forms of violence against women

Key questions to for consideration: *What are the barriers to effective collaboration among the legal, health, education and social work fields in addressing violence against women? What factors need to be considered in developing a multi-sectoral plan? (Participants may want to consider for example lines of responsibility, time schedules, adequacy of resources and the need to work in conjunction with local and community level initiatives.) Who are the key players and how can they be effectively engaged? How can success of collaboration between sectors and key stakeholders be evaluated?*

Thursday 19 May

- 10:00 – 3:00 PM** Working groups continue
- 3.00 – 6.00 PM** Presentations of conclusions and recommendations from the working groups, and discussion
- 6.00 PM** Meeting of the drafting committee

Friday 20 May

Plenary Session 3

- 10:00 – 12.30 PM** Preliminary presentation of meeting report and discussion
- 12.30 – 2:00 PM** Lunch
- 2:00 – 6:00 PM** Drafting, presentation and adoption of the report of the expert group meeting