



**BEIJING +15**  
**THE REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN:**  
**A FIFTEEN year Retrospect**  
**and Hopes for the Future**

---

**Wednesday, 3 March 2010**  
**1:15 - 2:30 pm**  
**Conference Room 1**

---

Short Biographies of Panelists  
*(alphabetical order)*

**Bani Dugal**  
**Principal Representative to the United Nations, Baha'i International Community**  
**United Nations Office**  
**Email: [bani.dugal@globalexperfinder.org](mailto:bani.dugal@globalexperfinder.org)**  
**<http://www.bic.org>**

---

Ms. Bani Dugal is the Principal Representative of the Bahá'í International Community to the United Nations. She is a human rights expert, and has devoted her career towards advancing the rights of women and children, and promoting freedom of worship around the world.

As part of the community of international NGOs at the United Nations, she currently serves on the Executive Committees of the NGO Committee on Human Rights and is the President of the NGO Committee on Freedom of Religion or Belief, as well as a past Chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women. She has also served as Chair of the Global Forum of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, member of the Steering Committee of the NGO Committee on UNICEF's Working Group on Girls, Convener of the NGO Committee on UNIFEM, and Convener of the Advocates for African Food Security.

Prior to being appointed Principal Representative, Ms. Dugal served as Director, Office for the Advancement of Women at the Bahá'í International Community.

Notable amongst the many high level events in which she has been invited to speak include: the October 2006 Conference commemorating the 1981 UN Declaration on Religious Tolerance and Non-Discrimination: Implementing Its Principles after Twenty-five Years; the July 2005 Conference on Interfaith Cooperation for Peace, which was hosted by the Tripartite Forum, a convening group comprised of representatives from 17 member states, the World Bank, UNESCO, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) and the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations; at the Thirty-Year UN Observance Promoting Gender Equality on International Women's Day, Ms. Dugal was invited to speak at a panel with senior UN officials and women Nobel Peace Prize Laureates; at the International Conference on Gender Mainstreaming and Millennium Development Goals in Pakistan in March 2005, she made a presentation on the women's role in conflict prevention, resolution and peace-building. That same year, Ms. Dugal represented the Bahá'í International Community at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland where she was invited to participate as a religious leader and women's leader and spoke at three events.

Ms. Dugal has worked at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and holds a Masters degree (LL.M) in Environmental Law from Pace University School of Law, New York and a law degree (LL.B) from the University of Delhi, India. Prior to relocating to the U.S. in 1988, she practiced law before the Supreme Court of India.

**Aparna Mehrotra**  
**Focal Point for Women**  
**United Nations**  
**Email: mehrotra@un.org**  
**<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/osagi/fp.htm>**

---

Ms. Mehrotra has been working with the United Nations for over 20 years in several capacities. Currently she is the Focal Point for Women at the United Nations.

Ms. Mehrotra began her career in 1983 as an intern working on gender issues for UNIFEM, the women's advocacy agency of the United Nations. After this, she served in the United Nations Development Programme in Argentina, Angola and Indonesia, and with the United Nations Capital Development Fund overseeing the development programme on least developed countries including Bolivia, Nicaragua and Bangladesh. As Deputy Chief of the Regional Programme Division in the Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean she also served as the focal point for gender, undertook peace-keeping assignments in Nicaragua and Mexico and chaired the UNDP/UNFPA/OPS Disciplinary Committee for five years.

Among her other portfolios, in 1997 she co-founded the Women's Human Rights Campaign in Latin America. Prior to her current assignment, she worked as the Trust Fund Manager of the UNDP Trust Fund for International Partnerships and with the Special Adviser of the Secretary General for Iraq.

In addition to a law degree, Ms. Mehrotra has graduate and undergraduate degrees from Stanford University, knows six languages and is the mother of one son.

**Emma Sabin**  
**Vice-President, Advisory Services, Partnerships, Catalyst**  
**Email: esabin@catalyst.org**  
**<http://www.catalyst.org>**

---

Ms. Emma Sabin works with member companies and firms to create business-driven diversity and inclusion initiatives. She has led national and global workplace and talent management assessments, built the internal capability of clients to undertake their own ongoing diagnostics, facilitated stakeholder strategy-development sessions, and guided the design and implementation of initiatives, leading to the successful development of a diverse leadership pipeline. To assist the Catalyst mission and extend its reach, Ms. Sabin manages Advisory Services partnerships with change agents who share the Catalyst vision.

Ms. Sabin has served in a wide range of professions and industries and was a lead researcher and co-author for the Women in Engineering: An Untapped Resource and Knowing the Territory: Women in Sales Catalyst studies. She is an ongoing contributor to Catalyst's knowledge products, including the Making Change series. She also is an expert adviser for, and has been the Chair of, the Catalyst Award Evaluation Committee. Her areas of expertise include inclusive talent management practices, culture change processes, and measurement and accountability mechanisms.

Ms. Sabin gained marketing and brand management experience as a brand manager while at J. Walter Thompson and as a brand tracking analyst at Nickelodeon. While at Portico Research, a market research firm, she conducted video ethnographies on consumer lifestyles. Ms. Sabin holds an M.S. in Social Research from Hunter College with a co-focus on Marketing and Public Policy Research and a B.A. in Economics from the State University of New York at Purchase.

**Ms. Heisoo Shin**

**Former member, Convention of Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

**Email: heisoo@gmail.com**

---

Dr. Heisoo Shin from the Republic of Korea is a trained sociologist who has been working over thirty years to protect the human rights of women particularly in the area of violence against women. She was a former member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) from 2001 to 2008, and served as the Committee's Vice-Chairperson from 2003 to 2004. Dr. Shin has been a member of the International Advisory Committee for the UN Secretary-General's In-Depth Study on All Forms of Violence against Women, (2005-2006). She is also an expert and a distinguished resource person on gender equality.

She has been an outstanding female leader in her country where she has successfully led the movement for legislation on violence against women, resulting in new laws on sexual violence, domestic violence, trafficking and prostitution. Dr. Shin also extensively developed the work of the Korean Council for the Women Drafted for Military Sexual Slavery by Japan, an organization working for the "comfort women" victims of war into the other Asian countries and into the international arena, including the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

Dr. Shin has written various publications related to human rights for women, one of which is "CEDAW and Violence against Women: Providing the 'Missing Link' in *The Circle of Empowerment*". She is currently the Adjunct Professor, Graduate School of International Studies, Ewha Womans University in South Korea, Representative, National Movement for Eradication of Sex Trafficking, Republic of Korea, and Co-Representative, Foundation Committee for War and Women's Human Rights Museum. She obtained her Ph.D. in Sociology from The Graduate School, Rutgers- the State University of New Jersey in the United States.