DRAFT Concept Note

In honor of the 60th Commission on the Status of Women

Women’s empowerment and its link to sustainable development

The elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls

Eliminating FGM: a Key Step in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

A Global response to Female Genital Mutilation

High Level Panel discussion

March 16, 8:30 am to 9:45 am at the ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations

BACKGROUND

In 2016 we are celebrating that for the first time FGM is included in the global goals under Sustainable Development Goal 5 for Gender Equality, Target 5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. More than 200 million girls and women throughout the world have undergone FGM in Africa, Middle East, Asia, Latin America, Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

Eliminating FGM is a crucial step in achieving many of the other Sustainable Development Goals including targets on health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, decent work and economic growth. As the practice of FGM continues, the health and well-being of girls and women is threatened and they are denied opportunities for decent work and quality education. For the millions of girls currently at risk of FGM this new global goal brings the promise of a better future.

This event at the CSW will serve as an opportunity to galvanize political will by engaging a discussion on successful strategies in eliminating the harmful practice of FGM. The event will take advantage of the presence of many political dignitaries and will provide a
key opportunity to expand the awareness of the key linkages between eliminating FGM, women’s empowerment and the entire SDG agenda. Finally, this event will provide a platform to increase the visibility of member states committed to ending FGM.

**MAIN OBJECTIVES**
- Illustrate connections between eliminating FGM and reaching the other SDGs including education, health, employment, economic growth and inequality
- Mobilize stakeholders towards the achievement of target 5.3, the elimination of FGM.
- Exchange of experiences among countries that have recently made some progresses in law or in practice

**VENUE:** ECOSOC Chamber

**PARTICIPANTS**
- Ministers of Foreign, Social Affairs and Gender Issues and staff
- Key staff of Permanent Missions
- UNFPA, UNICEF Senior managers
- NGOs, Chair NGO CSW, FBOs

**PROGRAM**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Speakers/Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 min</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>First Lady of Burkina Faso, Ms Sika Bella Kaboré (5mn)</td>
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<td>Special Envoy to CSW60, former Minister of Foreign Affairs Italy Ms Emma Bonino (3mn)</td>
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<td>Minister for Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Tanzania Ms. Ummy Mwalimu (3mn)</td>
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<td>15 min</td>
<td>Key Address</td>
<td>FGM Victims and activists and short video</td>
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<td>10 min</td>
<td>The Voice of Young People</td>
<td>Minister of Women, National Solidarity and Family Burkina Faso Ms Laure ZONGO/HIEN (7 mn)</td>
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<td>Ms Lina Kilimo Chair of the Anti-FGM board Kenya (7 mn)</td>
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<td>Faith Mwangui-Powell, Director of the Girl Generation (7mn),</td>
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<td>20 min</td>
<td>Panelists</td>
<td>Member States Chair NGO CSW (tbc) CSOs</td>
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<td>20 min</td>
<td>Contributions from the floor</td>
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Speakers and panelists

- First Lady of Burkina Faso, Ms. Sika Bella Kaboré
- Ms. Emma Bonino, Special Envoy to CSW60, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- Ms. Laure ZONGO/HIEN, Minister of Women, National Solidarity and Family Burkina Faso
- Ms. Ummy Mwalimu, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Tanzania
- Hon Linah Kilimo, Chair Anti-FGM board Kenya
- Faith Mwanli-Powell, Director The Girl Generation
- Maryam Saifee FGM survivor (title and bio to come)
- Young Victim of FGM from Guinea

MODERATOR and Concluding Remarks

- UNFPA and UNICEF Representatives

Translation in French and Spanish

Tickets for Non UN Badge holders will be available.

To RSVP please click HERE