High Level Side Event
on the occasion of the CSW60

“Financing gender equality and women’s empowerment: How to make a difference after the commitments taken in Addis Ababa“

organized by the Governments of Australia, Mexico, The Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and United Kingdom
in collaboration with UN Women and the Financing for Development Office

on Tuesday, 15 March 2016, 4:45 – 6:00 pm
in Conference Room 11, UN Headquarters

Programme:

Introduction by Benno Bättig, Secretary-General, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland

Panel Discussion among the following panelists
H.E. Ms. Susan Shabangu, Minister in the Presidency responsible for Women, Republic of South Africa
H.E. Mr. WU Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
Ms. Inez Murray, CEO of the Global Banking Alliance for Women
Moderator: Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director UN Women (tbc)

Moderated Discussion with the audience

Closing remarks by H.E. Mrs. Samira Merai Friaa, Tunisian Minister of Women, Family and Children

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda reaffirms that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development. Seizing the momentum of the CSW is critical to discuss how gender equality and women’s empowerment, as cross-cutting issues, can have an established space in the newly established financing for development forum. Also, in the frame of the Conference in Addis in July 2015, the attached Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment was launched. The Action Plan identifies priorities and policy actions required to enforce commitments on gender equality in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA).

The side event builds on the successes achieved in Addis Ababa and aims at providing a space to discuss innovative approaches to financing women's empowerment and gender equality, to mobilize political commitment to ensure that gender equality financing as a cross-cutting issue is part of the follow-up and review to the AAAA, and to expand the partnership and build greater support for the Action Plan on Transformative Financing for Gender Equality.

Please RSVP to natalie.ulrich@eda.admin.ch