



Organizers:



National care systems: main challenges to overcoming the structural reproduction of women's inequality

Side event organized by UN Women and the National Institute of Women of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay

Wednesday, 14 March 2018, 1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Room CR-11, UN HQ

In a context marked by global asymmetries, the economic slowdown at the regional level and the risks of suffering setbacks in the advancements achieved in terms of gender equality and women's rights, addressing the structural axes that reproduce women's inequality is key.

One of these key obstacles concerns to the persistent difficulties women face in this region to achieve their economic autonomy, to exercise their decision-making capacity in relation to time-use and to enjoy similar opportunities as men, promoting both their personal and social development, as well as to take on public responsibilities in political and economic areas.

Notwithstanding women's increased participation in the labor market, reaching more than 50% of the economically active population in the majority of the Latin America and the Caribbean countries, the traditional sexual division of labor whereby women are assigned reproductive work, has not been modified.

This unfair social organization of care, coupled with limited possibilities and opportunities for women as right-holders, has unsatisfactory consequences on the care management system, and therefore it also has negative effects on those who are cared for: girls and boys, people with disability, elderly people, etc.

In addition, it should be underlined women also carry out the majority of the tasks of paid care, as an undervalued and under-recognized work, and, as a result, they have low-paid positions with poor working conditions.

Many reports and recommendations have called on States to design and implement public policies concerning this issue. The event will present the good practices and experiences of countries in the LAC region, namely the National Integrated System of Uruguay and the experience of the Republic of Costa Rica. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and UN Women will participate to the event as regional and international organizations committed to this matter.

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 14 March 2018, 1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Room CR-11, UN HQ

Panelists:

- Mariella Mazzotti, Director of the National Institute of Women of Uruguay and President of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
 - Alejandra Mora Mora, Minister of the Status of Women of Costa Rica (to be confirmed)
 - Julio Bango, Director of the National Secretariat of the Integrated National Care System of Uruguay.
 - Lisa E. Williams, Team Lead, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate.
 - Luiza Carvalho, Regional Director, UN Women for the Americas and the Caribbean.
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- Q&A session with the attendants