Presenting challenges and considering solutions to combat sex trafficking and other forms of commercial sexual exploitation of women and girls

Friday 16 March, 3:00pm
Conference room 11
United Nations Headquarters

David Stanton, Minister of State for Equality and Integration (Ireland)
Sarah Benson, CEO of Ruhama (Ireland), Chair CAP Intl
Tackling sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation in the Irish context: positive initiatives between civil society and state actors to enhance victim support and target demand.

Rita Hernandez, Executive Director Comision Unidos vs Trata (Mexico), Vice Chair CAP Intl
Highlighting the vulnerabilities to trafficking and prostitution of rural women and girls within, and migrating through, Mexico.

Ghada Jabbour, Co-founder of KAFA, Board member of CAP Intl (Lebanon)
The realities of Syrian girls and women refugees in Lebanon and their vulnerabilities to sexual exploitation.

Cherie Jimenez, Founder and Director of EVA Center (USA), member of CAP Intl and SPACE Intl
Perspectives on the profile, experiences and needs of victims of commercial sexual exploitation in the US context. Presenting a range of initiatives by the EVA project and partners to support better prevention and support outcomes.

Siobhán Mullally, President of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), and Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway.

The global prevalence, and highly gendered nature, of sex trafficking and related forms of sexual exploitation of women and girls, poses serious challenges which the international community must meet. These challenges, and a range of potential solutions are considered by a high level International panel of both State and Civil Society actors from a range of jurisdictions. Representatives from the Ireland, the Council of Europe, Mexico, Lebanon and the USA reflect on current risk factors including: precarious migration, rural poverty, and systemic gender inequalities, and present a range of service, policy and legislative approaches designed to combat these terrible human rights violations of women and girls.