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**FROM THE STOCKHOLM FORUM ON GENDER EQUALITY 2018 TO THE  
TUNIS FORUM ON GENDER EQUALITY 2019 TO BEIJING+25 2020:  
MOBILIZING FOR GENDER EQUALITY**

**CSW-63 SIDE EVENT**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, 14 MARCH 2018 13.15-14.30,  
CONFERENCE ROOM 12**

**CONCEPT NOTE**

**Organizers and Partners:** The Governments of Sweden, Tunisia, UN Women and UNDP.

**Target audience:** Member States, UN entities, Civil Society including Youth organizations and stakeholders.

**Theme:** Mobilizing for gender equality from the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality to the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality to Beijing+25 commemoration in 2020.

**Context:** The Tunis Forum on Gender Equality, will take place in Tunis, from 24 to 26 April 2019, following through the discussions that took place during the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality in April 2018. Building on that momentum, the Governments of Tunisia and Sweden, in partnership with UNDP and UN Women will host a second forum in 2019.

This second forum will take place one year before the celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA), as well as one year before the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and one year before the 5-year celebration of the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. The forum will also take place before the first Global Sustainable Development Report to inform the High-Level Political Forum convened under the auspices of the General Assembly in 2019.

The Forum will inform these processes and highlight the important role that civil society and women's groups play in the achievement of Sustainable Development, peace and security and a prosperous future for all. It will present a golden opportunity to mobilize towards Beijing+25 and focus on critical issues that need to be addressed to make gender equality a reality by 2030 as well as to generate key recommendations for integrated future actions.

The Tunis Forum will mobilize gender equality activists from all sectors and in particular youth activists, civil society leaders, women leaders from Parliament, Government and Regional and Local Governments and reinforce their voice, networking and advocacy in order to make international commitments a reality on the ground (from global to local). The forum will be a platform for discussion, interactions with key actors from government, public administration, civil society, private sector and the media to share and multiply breakthroughs.

Beijing+25 is the time for political mobilization specially of the young generation of gender equality advocates, listen to their priorities and bring into the conversation those that remain on the sidelines.

From the Stockholm Forum on Gender Equality in 2018, to the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality in 2019, to Beijing+25 commemoration in 2020, the international community has a unique opportunity to foster and support a strengthened gender equality movement across regions, to ensure sustained attention and bold action towards the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by 2030.

### **Objectives:**

The side event on the occasion of the 63rd session of the Commission on the Status of Women, is being organized as part of the preparatory process towards the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality. It will provide the opportunity to advocate for the full recognition of women's contributions and in particular young women, to the Development and Peace and Security Agendas, while promoting that gender equality, women's empowerment, and ending violence and discrimination against women and girls are placed front and center in the local, national and international efforts towards the full implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this regard, the side event will aim to:

- Discuss critical priorities and key actions to achieve irreversible and sustainable gender equality by 2030 – where should the focus lie? What should the actions be?
- Identify the factors that can help to ensure positive inter-linkages between advancing gender equality, women's and girls' rights and women's empowerment in the changing dynamics of local participation.
- Identify opportunities and lessons learnt to enhance gender equality in post conflict reconstruction which will inform local efforts in the Middle East and Africa.
- Provide critical advice on how can we make the Tunis Forum an intergenerational, intersectional, multistakeholder mobilization for gender equality?

**Intended output:** A brief Side Event report, to be drafted by the organizers, will reflect the discussion, including key messages and will be used in preparation toward the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality.

**Format:** The side event will be organized as an interactive dialogue.