



“Social Protection: Making it work for families to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”

Organized by the Governments of The Gambia, Pakistan, Qatar and Family Watch International

Monday, 11th March 2019, 11:30am - 12:45pm
Express Bar, GA Building

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction:

Achieving sustainable development requires the combined efforts of governments, civil society, the private sector, media, and families, taking people centered approaches relevant to community, national and global realities, while taking into consideration the wellbeing of future generations. Our Governments have demonstrated strong commitment towards these goals, having ratified and domesticated all the relevant international legal frameworks that promote social protection and access to public services. This has brought about challenges in sustaining infrastructure development and investment in policies and programmes that promote and sustain gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Gender equality and women’s empowerment are central to achieving the 2030 Agenda. However, various factors create challenges in the attainment of positive social protection outcomes for women and girls. Hosting this side event together with friendly states will provide an opportunity for the sponsoring governments The Governments of The Gambia, Pakistan, Qatar and Family Watch International have co-organized this side event to share

a cross-regional perspective on the achievements and challenges in implementing robust social protection interventions to enable families to address the needs of women and girls. The discussions will focus on:

- Access to basic public and social services and sustainable infrastructure
- Economic empowerment
- Elimination of gender inequalities, gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices such as child marriage.

Objective:

The overall objective of the side event is to bring together key government officials, civil society, and development partners to share best practices, showcase success stories and identify challenges and opportunities for the establishment of functional social protection systems, to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and their families. By hosting this side event together, the desired outcome is to harness a cross-regional perspective on the positive roles that families play in shaping social protection interventions to positively impact the lives of women and girls and

Participants:

This side event will bring together experts and practitioners from a variety of fields, including government officials, civil society, academia, development partners, technical experts from the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations.

Guest Speakers:

- **Hon Fatou Kinteh** - Minister of Women's Affairs, Children and Social Welfare of The Gambia;
- **Ms. Rabia Javeri** - Secretary, Ministry of Human Rights of Pakistan;
- **Ms. Amal Al Mannai** - CEO, Qatar Foundation for Social Work;
- **Mrs. Sharon Slater** - President, Family Watch International.