Introduction
Twenty-five years after its adoption, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action remains the most comprehensive blueprint for action, guiding the global struggle for the empowerment of women and girls. The critical areas of concern identified by the Platform for Action are universal and continue to inspire generations of political and social actors around the world. It is complemented by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Since 1995, the international community has worked to protect and reinforce its legacy and to achieve gender equality in private and public life. Progress was made in many areas but the challenges identified by the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action are still relevant today and new challenges are emerging. Yet the objectives set for gender equality have not been fully achieved, as stated in the report on Beijing+25 by the United Nations Secretary General. Regional review meetings were organised in the different regions of the world in order to assess progress and identify key issues to focus on. These meetings underlined the added value of regional approaches to tackle challenges and speed up progress towards the full realisation of gender equality.

Regional Gender Equality Strategies
Regional gender equality strategies complement and inspire national gender equality strategies, gender equality legislation, gender-sensitive policies and gender transformative institutions. The side event will highlight the potential and contributions of Regional Gender Equality Strategies for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Key stakeholders from regional entities from different parts of the world, regional institutions, multi-stakeholder initiatives and civil society organisations will highlight their own approach and specificities.

Objectives
The aim of the event is to present approaches in pushing forward the gender dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the Beijing commitments. The side event will provide an opportunity to highlight the recently adopted European and African Gender Equality Strategies as well as approaches from other regions and innovative multi-stakeholder initiatives.

Format

Introduction by
- H.E. Ms Helena Dalli, European Commissioner for Gender Equality

Moderated discussion with
- Representative from the African Union (TBC)
- Mr Luis Leonardo Almagro Lemes, Secretary General, Organisation of American States (TBC)
- Ms Marceline Naudi, President of GREVIO, Council of Europe
- Ms Delphine O, Secretary General, Generation Equality Forum
• Ms Joanna Maycock, Secretary General, European Women’s Lobby
• Mr Gary Barker, CEO, Pro Mundo (TBC)

Closing remarks:
• Ms Åsa Regner, Deputy Executive Director UN Women (TBC)