Side event

Generation Equality Forum
Towards a Global Pact for Gender Equality

Wednesday, 30 October 2019
13:30 – 14:45
Room XXII, building E, Palais des Nations
About the event

This event is part of preparations for the Generation Equality Forum, a global gathering for gender equality convened by UN Women and co-chaired by France and Mexico, with the participation of civil society. This forum will follow on from the Beijing+25 national and regional reviews and the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). It will be launched in Mexico City on 7 and 8 May 2020 and conclude in Paris from 7 to 10 July.

Background

On the eve of the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Conference, which was a turning point for women’s rights worldwide, it is clear that no country has achieved full gender equality. At a time when women’s rights are being called into question in many places, the Forum will be an opportunity to take stock of progress and celebrate activists, feminist solidarity and young leadership, while generating renewed momentum for real change.

The forum will be a public conversation and a platform to launch “action coalitions”: innovative partnerships between governments, the private sector, civil society and all stakeholders committed to structural change for equality. In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, this agenda will set ambitious, measurable and time-limited objectives.

The organizers

France

Gender equality has been declared the great national cause of his term by the President of the French Republic. This involves the implementation of a feminist foreign policy, prioritizing the promotion of women’s rights on the global stage, gender mainstreaming in its external action, and an increase in its official development assistance in this sector. In 2019, this feminist foreign policy has led France to make gender equality one of the major priorities of its international Presidencies (G7, UN Security Council and General Assembly and Council of Europe), and Paris will be hosting the Generation Equality Forum in 2020, marking the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

UN Women

The United Nations agency for gender equality, UN Women, was created to speed up the achievement of equality worldwide. UN Women supports UN member States in defining universal standards on gender equality and cooperates with governments and civil society to draw up laws, public policies and essential services that guarantee that gender equality norms are genuinely implemented and benefit women and girls worldwide.

Programme

13:30
Presentation of the Generation Equality Forum
— Marlène Schiappa, French Minister of State for Gender Equality
— Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women

13:45
Towards a Global Pact for Equality
— Intervention of Mexico, co-chair of the Generation Equality Forum, by HE Socorro Flores Liera, Ambassador, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva
— Contributions by a representative of Sweden and civil society
— Contribution by Nicole Ameline, Vice Chair of CEDAW
— Contribution by the Council of Europe

14:00
Discussions with the audience
Statements by governments, civil society representatives and other stakeholders

14:30
Conclusion
Closing statement by Delphine O, Ambassador, Secretary General of the Generation Equality Forum