

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Second thematic discussions on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration:
“Advancing the Criminal Justice System”
Opening, 5 December 2022

H.E. Ambassador Mathu Joyini
Chair, Commission on the Status of Women

Distinguished Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I welcome the opportunity to participate in the opening of this thematic discussion in my capacity as Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women – CSW.

As the principal policy-making body of the United Nations for gender equality and the empowerment of women, CSW is responsible for follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action and the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all Goals and targets. It stresses that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in its implementation is critical.

In the 2021 Kyoto Declaration, Member States committed to develop and implement policies and plans to achieve gender equality and remove impediments to the advancement of women in law enforcement and other criminal justice institutions. They linked this to the full, effective, and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

Member States also committed to mainstream a gender perspective into criminal justice systems by promoting gender-responsive measures that address the gender-specific needs of both offenders and victims. These measures include the protection of women and girls from revictimization in criminal justice proceedings.

While CSW leads on gender issues, the entire UN system has to contribute to the achievement of results. All of us in the ECOSOC system are called upon to mainstream a gender perspective in our work. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice has clearly heeded this call in all its work – including by having “Mainstreaming a gender perspective into criminal justice systems” as one of the focus areas of this thematic discussion.

Ladies and gentlemen,

From a crime prevention and criminal justice perspective, violence against women and girls is a key issue. CSW has time and again condemned all forms of violence against women and girls, which is a major impediment to the achievement of gender equality and to women’s and girls’ full

enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. It has also recommended concrete actions to prevent, eliminate and respond to all forms of violence against women and girls.

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and CSW have a strong history of collaboration. Our two sister commissions have mutually strengthened and reinforced each other's work over the years.

CSW will convene its sixty-seventh session in March 2023 and will consider the priority theme "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls". I invite you all to engage with us and I look forward to continued collaboration of the two commissions.

In closing, I commend the Commission for ensuring that gender equality is mainstreamed in its work and in the follow up to the Kyoto commitments. I encourage you to share good practices and lessons learned.

I wish you all a successful session.

I thank you.