

Ensuring access to Justice

in response to violence against women and children

under the **COVID-19**

SIDE EVENT

TUESDAY, 18 MAY

8.00 - 8.50 A.M. (VIENNA TIME)



Speakers:

Ms. Cheryl Thomas, an international expert on EAW, founder and CEO of Global Rights for Women

Mr. Derek Johnstone, UK Vice-Consul in Thailand

Asst. Professor. Dr. Lasse Schuldt, Faculty of Law, Thammasat University

Ms. Santanee Ditsayabut, Expert Public Prosecutor, Director of the Secretariat office of Nitivajra Institute, Office of the Attorney General of Thailand

Moderator:

Ms. Kohnwilai Teppunkoonngam, EAW Programme Analyst, Safe and Fair Programme, UN Women Thailand

Evidence across the countries suggests that the risk of domestic violence increases during the COVID-19, which affects many women and children. While quarantining and physical distancing measures effectively control pandemic's spreading, they pose challenges to access essential services, including criminal justice response for survivors.

No country is immune from both COVID-19 and the shadow pandemic of VAW and VAC. Learning and sharing experiences among countries to ensure access to justice in response to VAW and VAC in this time of crisis are necessary. These experiences can lead to effective measures for the survivors of violence to access justice, preventing and reducing VAW and VAC, including domestic violence during the pandemic.

