

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2024: Side Event Concept Note

Forging synergies for sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions:

The Vienna-based Commissions cooperating with others to advance SDGs 3, 16 and the 2030 Agenda

11 July 2024 1:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m. NY Time

H.E. Ambassador Abdulaziz M. Alwasil
Chair, Commission on the Status of Women

Distinguished Chair,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I welcome the opportunity to participate in this side event in my capacity as Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women alongside the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and other ECOSOC Subsidiary Bodies.

And let me start by commending CCPCJ for convening this side event and paying particular attention to the rights and needs of women and girls and ensuring that a gender perspective is integrated in their work.

CSW and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice have a long history of working together to promote gender equality the rights and empowerment of women and girls. There are great synergies in our work, which we should continue to explore and create innovative solutions to advance the gender equality agenda.

As the principal policy-making body of the United Nations for gender equality, rights 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.

However, we can't do it alone as gender equality is the responsibility of us all. If we want to obtain concrete and forward-looking results, women and girls must be put at the center and gender equality must be effectively mainstreaming throughout our policies and actions at the national level, but also within the entire UN system. The CCPCJ addresses issues of crime prevention and criminal justice, including combating gender-based violence, trafficking, and the exploitation of women, which is critical to these violations of women and girls' rights, which are universal. Together, our commissions must commitment towards creating safer environments for all women and girls by advocating for policies and measures that prevent and combat gender-based violence and support survivors.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The core of SDG 3 is to ensure good health and well-being, something both our Commissions are very committed to achieve. As agreed in several CSW agreed conclusions, women and girls' right to health, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as well

as access to comprehensive healthcare services are fundamental for their lives and wellbeing, including to the survivors of gender-based violence. These commitments together with those agreed at CCPCJ on the impact of crime on mental and physical health, particularly for victims of gender-based violence, are fundamental to improve healthcare services for women affected by crime, and ensuring they receive the medical and psychological support they need.

SDG 16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions, is another critical area of alignment. Women's participation in decision-making and leadership roles, fostering inclusive and accountable institutions, fair and effective criminal justice systems as well as promoting the WPS agenda towards peaceful societies are fundamental principles that both Commissions uphold, while safeguarding the human rights of all women and girls everywhere.

By aligning our work and leveraging our respective strengths, the CSW and CCPCJ contribute significantly to achieving SDGs 3 and 16 and the broader 2030 Agenda, fostering a world that is healthier, more just, and equitable for all.

CSW will convene its sixty-ninth session in March 2025, whose main focus is the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. I invite you all to engage with us and I look forward to continued collaboration of the two commissions, as well as with other ECOSOC Subsidiary Bodies.

Let us all continue working together to promote access to justice for all, and to ensure that no woman or girl is left behind.

I thank you.