



## Programme

### **Women in mediation: promoting participation**

**Monday 4 – Wednesday 6 December 2017 | WP1570**

“In failing to include women and girls in peacemaking and peacebuilding processes, we are not only failing women and girls. We are failing the world” (Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, October 2016). In spite of the proven contribution of women in peacebuilding processes, there is still significant underrepresentation.

The UK Government’s campaign on women in mediation, building on the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, will include the creation of a Commonwealth network of female mediators. In the run up to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (The Commonwealth Summit) 2018, the campaign, which will complement existing networks, is underpinned by a programme of capacity building to develop a talent pipeline of qualified women across the Commonwealth working in government, business and civil society.

This off the record meeting, taking place during the 16 Days of Activism, will bring together up to 60 key stakeholders including senior level practitioners, policy makers and civil society actors from selected Commonwealth countries; key multilateral and regional bodies; experts from some non-Commonwealth countries; and key players from sister networks that support mediation, peacemaking and peacebuilding initiatives.

The meeting aims to:

- identify current obstacles to women participating in mediation processes and how to tackle them
- explore skills for successful mediation drawing on lessons learned
- foster a new network enabling further collaboration, particularly in the context of the Commonwealth
- identify tangible steps towards future initiatives

**In association with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and with support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Government of Canada**

**With support from:**



Norwegian Ministry  
of Foreign Affairs



**Government  
of Canada** **Gouvernement  
du Canada**

## Monday 4 December

1300-1430

Participants arrive and buffet lunch available

1500-1515

### Welcome and introduction

**Julia Purcell**

Programme Director, Wilton Park

1515-1630

### 1. Women's inclusion in mediation: challenges and opportunities

What is mediation? In what ways does the involvement of women in peace processes increase the probability of lasting resolution? What are the success stories and how can they inform future practice? What obstacles were encountered and how were they overcome? How to build on existing initiatives in order to identify positive ways forward?

**Betty Bigombe**

Consultant to Ugandan Government on South Sudan Peace Process, Kampala

**Lisa Buttenheim**

Assistant Secretary-General for Field Support, Department of Field Support, United Nations

1630-1715

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1715-1830

### 2. Learning from experience: country case studies

This session will examine the role of women in mediation peace processes in different contexts, drawing out what can be learnt for future practice. What successes, what obstacles encountered and how they were overcome? What are the commonalities and what are the differences?

**Miriam Coronel Ferrer**

Former Chairperson, Philippine Government Peace Panel in the Negotiations with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, Manila; Professor, Department of Political Science, University of the Philippines-Diliman, Quezon City

**Alice Wairimu Nderitu**

Armed Conflict Mediator, Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue, Nairobi

**Anne Heidi Kvalsøren**

Special Representative for the Peace Process in Colombia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Oslo

1830-1900

### 3. Women and mediation: proposals for change

Ice-breaker exercise, introduced by:

**Thania Paffenholz**

Director, Inclusive Peace and Transition Initiative, Graduate Institute, Geneva

1900

Reception followed by dinner, hosted by

**Sharmila Nebhrajani**

Chief Executive, Wilton Park

**Speaker**

**Lord (Tariq) Ahmad of Wimbledon**

Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict; Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

## Tuesday 5 December

0800-0900

Breakfast

0915-1045

#### 4. Responding to volatile environments

Are different skills needed for different environments? How to respond to volatile and insecure situations? And what opportunities are there to tackle specific threats and disparate groups through mediation? How should this be reflected in training and capacity building?

**Mossarat Qadeem**

Executive Director, PAIMAN Trust, Islamabad

**Sanam Anderlini**

Co-Founder and Executive Director, International Civil Society Action Network (ICAN), Washington DC

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

#### 5. Enabling environments and how to create them

How to develop good practice for different contexts? How do business, trade unions and civil society create enabling environments, and use mediation? What are the lessons to draw on for women in mediation in peacemaking and peacebuilding? What processes should be challenged and influenced to enable more effective participation?

**Helen Alderson**

Head of Mission to the UK and Ireland, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) London

**Visaka Dharmadasa**

Chairperson, Association of War Affected Women, Kandy

**Sarah Podro**

Senior Adviser and Collective Conciliator, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (ACAS), London

1300-1445

Lunch

1400-1430

Briefing session for facilitators

1445-1615

#### 6. Making the connections

How can networks work together and make connections? And why is this important? What challenges have existing mediation networks faced and how have they tackled them? What are their key messages and recommendations for future joint working?

**Chukwuemeka Eze**

Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Accra

**Sirpa Mäenpää**

Ambassador, Peace Mediation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Helsinki

**Irene Fellin**

President, Women in International Security – Italy (WIIS), Rome

1615-1645

Tea/coffee

1645-1730

#### 7. Capacity building: creating a talent pipeline

Training opportunities, building and developing skills. How to build capacity? How can Commonwealth countries support by providing opportunities for training, shadowing and mentoring?

Plenary session introduction from speakers followed by Q and A

**Catherine Turner**

Associate Professor of International Law, Durham University

**Nahla Valji**

Senior Gender Adviser, Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General, United Nations Women, New York

**Fleur Heyworth**

Cluster Responsible, Gender and Inclusive Security, Geneva Centre for Security Policy (GCSP), Geneva

**Break into smaller groups to continue discussion**

1730-1845

**8. Capacity building: creating a talent pipeline**

4 parallel break out groups to continue discussion, identifying practical steps to develop capacity and specific proposals to take the work forward.

Facilitators:

**Sophia Close**

Senior Adviser, Gender and Peacebuilding, Conciliation Resources, London

**Elisabeth Decrey Warner**

Executive President, Geneva Call, Geneva

**Elizabeth Hill-Smith**

Learning Delivery Partner, KPMG Civil Service Learning, London

**Fiona Hodgson of Abinger**

Chair, Advisory Board, Gender Action for Peace and Security (GAPS); Working Peer, House of Lords

**Sally Jobbins**

Senior Policy Adviser, United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations, New York

**Johanna Poutanen**

Senior Manager, Crisis Management Initiative (CMI), Helsinki

**Gabriella Seymour**

Chief, Senior Leadership Appointments Section, United Nations, New York

**Christopher Trott**

UK Special Representative for Sudan and South Sudan; Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1900

Reception followed by Conference dinner.

**Wednesday 6 December**

0800-0900

Breakfast and checkout

0915-0945

**9. Report back from break out groups**

0945-1100

**10. Next steps: maintaining momentum**

Who needs to do what? Practical ways forward.

Panel discussion to include:

**Madeleine Rees**

Secretary General, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)

1100-1130

Tea/coffee

1130-1145

## 11. Evaluation: online survey

Completion of online survey

1145-1245

## 12. Concluding remarks

### **Rosy Cave**

Head, Gender Equality Unit; Head, Office of the Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London

1300

Lunch

1400

Participants depart