



**Interactive dialogue**  
**Accelerating implementation of Agreed Conclusions commitments to**  
**gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls**  
**Tuesday, 14 March 2017, United Nations**

***Overview***

The objective of the interactive dialogue is to focus on the means implementation of Agreed Conclusions commitments to realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The mandate, role and responsibilities of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) in policy-making, and in the follow-up to, monitoring and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and of subsequent outcomes is of pivotal importance for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. This is further reinforced by the Commission's contribution to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Commission also plays a catalytic role in promoting gender mainstreaming in the United Nations system, including in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in cooperating with other intergovernmental processes and functional commissions<sup>1</sup>. In this regard, the Economic and Social Council<sup>2</sup> has encouraged the Commission to continue to hold interactive dialogues with functional commissions.

In its agreed conclusions on priority themes, the Commission addresses action-oriented recommendations to Governments and other stakeholders on steps and measures to close remaining gaps, meet challenges and accelerate implementation. It regularly evaluates progress in their implementation, through its review theme.

At a time when many countries already have, or are well advanced in setting in motion the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the responsibility of all stakeholders for ensuring implementation of commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls as a central component of national action has acquired new urgency. The Commission provided a roadmap – in its [agreed conclusions](#) adopted at the 60<sup>th</sup> session – for the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda, stressing that accelerated action was required on both recent and longstanding commitments to realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. Synergies between the follow-up to the Beijing Platform for Action and the gender-responsive follow-up to the 2030 Agenda are a key enabler for such implementation.

The Commission has regularly emphasized the primary responsibility of Governments, at all levels, for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. It has encouraged action by other stakeholders, including entities of the United Nations system,

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<sup>1</sup> E/RES/2015/6, Future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women.

<sup>2</sup> E/RES/2016/2, Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system.

international and regional organizations, national human rights institutions, women's and non-governmental organizations, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media; and it has welcomed the role of parliamentarians and invited the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to contribute to its work.

### ***Objectives***

The objective of the interactive dialogue is to focus on the means of implementation of Agreed Conclusions to realizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and the equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms. The dialogue will enable a range of stakeholders to demonstrate how they are contributing to the implementation of specific commitments and indicate additional actions they are taking, or planning to take.

The interactive dialogue will strengthen political commitment, and enhance awareness and visibility of the Commission as the leading global champion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. It will strengthen accountability for better implementation and follow-up.

### ***Suggested format***

The interactive dialogue will bring together a broad range of stakeholders. A moderator will direct the dialogue to ensure its interactive nature, around a set of guiding questions. Ministers will participate in the dialogue on a voluntary basis. No speakers' list will be kept. However, Ministers wishing to participate in the dialogue will be invited to communicate this intention in advance. Participants are expected to identify concrete actions that they will implement in specific areas of the Commission's work, the Beijing Platform for Action, and/or the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### ***Leading questions***

Participating stakeholders in the interactive dialogue are invited to address the following questions:

- How have [Government, other stakeholders] responded to global commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls? What are concrete examples of action taken to implement specific commitments, and what further steps will be taken, within particular timeframes?
- What role does leadership play in implementing recent and longstanding commitments to gender equality and empowerment of women and girls? What are concrete examples of such leadership that have made a difference in results for women and girls?
- What are examples of good practice of collaboration and partnerships between different stakeholders at national and local levels that have accelerated implementation of specific commitments?
- How have [Government, other stakeholders] created awareness of global commitments to gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the outcomes of the annual sessions of CSW? Going forward, what actions will [stakeholder] take to advocate for gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda and CSW Agreed Conclusions?

### ***Summary***

The dialogue will be reflected in a Chair's summary, which will highlight the role of the Commission in galvanizing implementation. It will also include concrete commitments and actions that participants will take to enhance implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, CSW Agreed Conclusions, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.