



ADVANCING GENDER EQUALITY IN NATIONALITY LAWS

High Level Side Event at the 62nd Commission on the Status of Women

6:30-7:45 PM, Wednesday, 14 March the 2018

Express Bar, United Nations General Assembly Building

RSVPs required for those without a UN badge. [Click here to RSVP.](#)



Over 50 countries maintain nationality laws that discriminate on the basis of gender, denying women the right to confer nationality on their children and spouses on an equal basis with men. These sex discriminatory laws result in wide-ranging [human rights violations](#). However, momentum to reform nationality laws is increasing around the world.

On March 14, 2018, the **Permanent Missions of Australia, Madagascar, Morocco, and Sierra Leone, the Office of the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Women, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights** will hold a High Level Side Event to share lessons learned from recent nationality law reforms processes and the benefits of gender-equal nationality laws.

Panelists:

- **Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General and UN Women Executive Director (invited)**
- **The Honorable Ms. Isata Kabia, Minister of Social Welfare, Gender and Children's Affairs of the Republic of Sierra Leone**
- **The Honorable Ms. Bassima Hakkaoui, Minister of Family, Solidarity, Equality and Social Development of the Kingdom of Morocco**
- **Ambassador Inas Mekkawy, Director of the Women, Family and Childhood Department at the League of Arab States**
- **Ms. Habiba Ali Rashid Al Hinai, an affected person**
- **Ms. Catherine Harrington, Campaign Manager, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights**

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*Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights Steering Committee Members include: Equality Now, Equal Rights Trust, Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion, UNHCR, Women’s Learning Partnership, and Women’s Refugee Commission