



Republic Of Tunisia  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Global  
Campaign  
for **Equal  
Nationality  
Rights**



**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

## **Realizing Gender-Equal Nationality Rights: Regional Developments and Good Practices High-Level Side Event at the High-Level Political Forum 2018**

**13:15 -14:30, Tuesday, July 17, 2018**

**Conference Room A, United Nations Conference Building**



Worldwide, 25 countries discriminate against women in their ability to confer their nationality on their children on an equal basis as men. In addition, an estimated 50 countries deny women equal rights with men to acquire, change or retain their nationality, including the ability of women to confer nationality on their non-national spouses. A leading cause of statelessness, such laws contravene international human rights conventions, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights among others, resulting in wide-ranging impacts on families.

On July 17, 2018, the **Permanent Mission of Tunisia**, the **Office of the Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations**, the **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)**, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, the **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** and the **Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights** will hold a High-Level Side Event to discuss the links between achieving gender-equal nationality laws and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Side Event builds on the momentum for reform in Africa and the Middle East through the draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa and the groundbreaking Arab Declaration on Belonging and Identity.

### **Panelists:**

- **Mr. Moez Laouani, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations**
- **Representative- League of Arab States**
- **Ms. Maria-Noel Vaeza-Ogilvie, Director of Programme Support Division, UN Women**
- **Mr. Ted Chaiban, Director of Programmes, UNICEF**
- **Ms. Ninette Kelley, Director of the New York Office, UNHCR**
- **Ms. Catherine Harrington, Campaign Manager, Global Campaign for Equal Nationality Rights**

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