



ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATORY LAWS: ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY ON PAPER AND IN PRACTICE DURING CHALLENGING TIMES

Side Event organized by the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), the World Bank Group, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations on the occasion of the 65th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

Wednesday, 24 March 2021, 14:00 – 15:30 Rome/ 9:00 – 10:30 New York

[Zoom Webinar](#)

Short Bios

Ms. Jan Beagle is the Director-General of the International Development Law Organization (IDLO). She was elected by Member Parties on November 13, 2019 and took up her position formally on January 1, 2020. Ms. Beagle is a diplomat from New Zealand and a senior international civil servant. She brings some forty years of experience of multilateral diplomacy, working on peace and security, development, human rights, management, gender and organizational reform. Ms. Beagle has served as Special Adviser to the United Nations Secretary-General on System-wide Implementation of Chief Executives Board (CEB) decisions; United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance; Deputy Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva; and Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management. She has held senior positions in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Office of the Administrator of UNDP, and the Department of Political and Security Council Affairs. Throughout her career, Ms. Beagle has played a leadership role in the interagency bodies of the UN system, including as Chair of the High-Level Committee on Management of the CEB, and Chair of the CEB Task Force to address sexual harassment in UN organizations. She was formerly the Chair of the Assistant Secretary-General Advisory Group of the UN Development Group and a member of the Board of the UN System Staff College. Ms. Beagle is a committed advocate for gender equality and an active member of the International Gender Champions, a leadership network that brings together senior female and male decision makers to break down gender barriers. She has spearheaded the development and implementation of programs and approaches to improve and accelerate diversity and inclusion, women's empowerment and rights-based approaches. Ms. Beagle began her career in the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including as a delegate to the United Nations in New York. She holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in History and International Relations from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. She is married with three daughters.

H.E Hosna Jalil, born on 27th March 1992 in Kabul and grown up in Ghazni, is the Deputy Minister of Policy and Plan at the Ministry of Women Affairs of I.R. Afghanistan. She is mainly focused on ensuring women's equal access to services & resources (incl. education, health, food safety, shelter, employment, justice, security) across the country; empowering & integrating women across all sectors

and providing them safe and healthy environment; strengthening women's role in peace & security; and strengthening Ministry of Women Affairs as the umbrella for all women related initiatives, engagements and resource management. She aims to work with and for women from villages to districts and major cities. She has previously served Afghanistan's National Defense and Security Forces in the capacity of Deputy Minister of Policy and Strategy at the Ministry of Interior Affairs of I.R. Afghanistan where her portfolio priorities included force development (Afghan National Police: From battlefields to guardianship); institutional development (provision of on-time & quality services to the forces); diversification and de-politicization of the forces, and promoting human rights values; women empowerment in the forces. Ms. Jalil has proven executive management as well as policy development track record with 8 years of professional experience in a wide range of industries. Over the course of her career, Ms. Jalil served as analyst, consultant for small startups, chief executive officer, senior representative, brand ambassador, member of the management board and member of BoD for different local and international organizations, from startups to well established private, government and non-profit organizations. Before joining Ministry of Interior, she has served at the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum of I.R. Afghanistan as head of policy and research Directorate. Ms. Jalil holds her BSc in physics and has received her master's degree in business administration, majored in management from the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF). She is a dreamer and creator, independent, feminine, value-oriented and enjoys diversity. She signs-up for a mission only if it speaks her values and inspires her passion.

Ms. Tea Trumbic is a Program Manager of the Women, Business and the Law project at the World Bank. Since joining the World Bank in 2006, she has worked on producing data and research on the regulatory business environment, including most recently related to women's economic opportunities. Prior to joining the World Bank Group, Tea worked at the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia and the International Monetary Fund. She holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Stanford University and a master's degree in economics from the London School of Economics.

Ms. Anita E Baleda is currently the Chief of the Policy Development Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division (PDPMED) of the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW). Her office leads the development and review of Gender and Development (GAD)-related policies including proposed legislative measures on women's empowerment and gender equality. With her 30 years work experience with the PCW, she has gained vast experience in GAD work. She has been involved in various projects in collaboration with various government agencies, non-government organizations, and international development institutions. She has served as resource person on topics related to gender mainstreaming, Gender and Development planning and budgeting, GAD-related policies and laws on women, and on various activities/events initiated by the PCW. Ms. Baleda earned her Master's Degree in Applied Anthropology and Participatory Development (Specialising in Gender and Development), with distinction, at the Australian National University. She is a graduate of the University of the Philippines (Cebu) with a Bachelor's Degree in Mathematics, and is also a licensed teacher.

Ms. Katherine Meighan is the General Counsel of IFAD and a member of the Executive Management Committee (EMC). She also oversees the management of a team of lawyers who deliver results on IFAD's operations, funding, governance and corporate matters. Ms. Meighan has over 25 years of experience in development finance and international institutional matters. At IFAD, she has led

complex legal initiatives including amending IFAD's Articles to enable lending to the private sector, structuring new financial instruments such as a unique impact investment fund for small-holder farmers, and leading the legal work to attain IFAD's historic credit rating (as the first UN fund to be rated). Before joining IFAD, Katherine Meighan was Assistant General Counsel and Manager at the International Finance Corporation (IFC). There, she led the legal work globally for Financial Institutions, Treasury, and restructuring/litigation. She also served as legal counsel to the Budget and Audit Committee of the Board. During her 17 years at IFC, she was based in Buenos Aires, Istanbul and Washington.

Ms. Melissa Upreti is Vice-Chair of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls. A human rights lawyer and women's rights advocate, she has spent nearly two decades advocating for the recognition and fulfillment of women's rights through the use of national, regional, and international law and mechanisms. She has led fact-finding missions, undertaken strategic litigation, built the capacity of civil society organizations, and provided technical support for law reform to governments in Asia. Ms. Upreti started her career working for a feminist legal advocacy organization and The Asia Foundation in Nepal. Upon receiving her LL.M. from Columbia Law School in the United States, she joined the Center for Reproductive Rights where she was the founding attorney of the Asia program and, building on the success of a series of capacity building initiatives on strategic litigation in India and Nepal, led the conceptualization and launch of the South Asia Reproductive Justice and Accountability Initiative which has resulted in the filing of precedent setting cases on contraceptive access and obstetric fistula in Asia. She actively facilitated and participated in the first CEDAW Special Inquiry in Asia in 2012 and was co-petitioner in the landmark case, *Lakshmi v. Nepal*, which recognized access to abortion as a constitutionally protected right. She has worked closely the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation to strengthen regional commitments to end child marriage and played a key role in bringing about the adoption of the Kathmandu Call for Action to End Child Marriage in South Asia in 2014. Ms. Upreti has written and lectured extensively about women's reproductive rights and the importance of legal accountability. Her articles and other publications on women's reproductive rights and discriminatory practices such as child marriage have been used by activists to develop legal strategies and in courses on human rights. Ms. Upreti is a Fellow in the University of Toronto Law Faculty's International Reproductive and Sexual Health Law Program and currently Senior Director of Program and Global Advocacy at the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University in the United States.

Dr. Lesley Ann Foster is the Executive Director of Masimanyane Women's Rights International and Chair of the Gender-based Violence Forum of the South African Women Lawyers Association. She is also Co-Chair of the International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific.

Dr. Ilaria Bottigliero (PhD in International Law, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva) is an international civil servant, academic and expert practitioner with 25 years' experience in international law, justice and human rights. She currently serves as the Director of Policy, Research and Learning at IDLO, where she leads IDLO's knowledge generation, research and learning, as well as the gender, climate justice and health law portfolios. In her role, she is responsible for the production of high-level, targeted research, expert knowledge products, identification and analysis of trends in the rule of law and justice sector, quality control of research and policy outputs. She regularly represents the Organization through knowledge sharing and learning activities, including events,

participation in global debates, dissemination of research and production of lessons learned and resources. Prior to joining IDLO, Dr. Bottigliero has lectured and researched in over 25 countries on key human rights, humanitarian law and gender issues, including at the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Lund, Sweden, the Lund University Faculty of Law, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and at the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Law. Dr. Bottigliero has published widely on victims' rights, gender and international criminal justice, including the seminal book "Redress for Victims of Crimes under International Law". She is the recipient of the 2010 Worldwide Universities Network International and Comparative Criminal Justice Network Fellowship.