**7th Annual Symposium  
on the Role of Religion and Faith-based Organizations in International Affairs**

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**January 26 2021, 8:00 am - 12:30 pm EST**

**Programme**

**Co-Moderators for Symposium**:  
**Mr Peter Prove**, Director, International Affairs, World Council of Churches  
**Ms Samira Fatma Baručija**, Multiregional Coordinator United Religions Initiative, UNDP Global Youth Programme for Sustainable Development and Peace ‘16 x 16’

**Tuesday 26 January**

**8:00** Open  
Housekeeping

**8:05 High Level Opening Session: Multi-stakeholder collaboration to accelerate Gender Equality, Equity and Justice**  
**Moderator – Dr Azza Karam**, Secretary General, Religions for Peace

Conversation with:

**Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**, Executive Director, UN Women   
**Ms Alice Nderitu**, UN Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide

**Mr Ib Petersen**, Deputy Executive Director, Management, UN Population Fund  
**Mr Anwar Khan**, President, Islamic Relief USA  
**Ms Kiran Bali**, Chair, United Religions Initiative Global Council of Trustees   
**Mr Rudelmar Bueno de Faria**, General Secretary, ACT Alliance

**8:45** History of the Symposium  
 Welcomes

**8:55 Session 2: An Epoch-Defining Urgency for Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Framing the Issue  
 Moderator – Dr Musimbi Kanyoro**, Senior Advisor, Together Gender Equality, UN Global Compact

**Keynote speaker - Dr Ganoune Diop**, Secretary, General International Religious Liberty   
Association and Director, Public Affairs for the General Conference of Seventh Day Adventists World Headquarters

Respondents

**Prof Charlotte Bunch**, Founding Director & Senior Scholar, Center for Women's Global Leadership, Rutgers University

**Ms Shahin Ashraf**, MBE, Head of Global Advocacy, Islamic Relief Worldwide

**Rabbi Laura Janner-Klaus**, former inaugural Senior Rabbi to the Movement for  
 Reform Judaism

Interactive discussion and Questions from the audience

**9:45 Break**

**10:00** **Session 3: Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Women advancing peace and security   
Moderator – Ms Ivy Koek**, UN Representative, Soka Gakkai International and Vice Chair NGO CSW/New York

Panelists

**Ms Nika Saeedi**, Team Leader for Prevention of Violent Extremism in Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions (CPPRI), and Religion and Development focal point, UNDP

**Ruby Kholifah,** Secretary General of The Asian Muslim Action Network (AMAN) Country representative of AMAN Indonesia

**Mr Victor Ochen**, Founder of African Youth Initiative Network (AYINET), Member of the Global Advisory Group to the UNHCR on Gender, Forced Displacement and Protection

**Ms Sharon Bhagwan Rolls**, Global Fund for Women, Co-chair Board of Directors Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict (GPPAC), Board Chair & GPPAC Pacific Regional Representative, YWCA of Fiji - Vice President, and Generation Equality Forum CSAG Member of the WPS and Humanitarian Action Compact Task Force (pre-recorded)

Interactive discussion and Questions from the audience

**11:00** **Session 4: Gender Equality, Equity and Justice: Multilateralism, Human Rights and Intersectionalities  
 Moderator – Rev Dr Liberato Bautista**, Asst. Gen. Secretary, UN and International Affairs, United   
 Methodist Church-General Board of Church and Society & President, Conference of NGOs in   
 Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (*Co*NGO)  
  
 Panelists

**Dr Ibrahim Salama**, Chief, Human Rights Treaties Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

**Dr Junaid Ahmad**, Director, Center for Islam and Decoloniality and Professor of Religion and Global Politics (Islamabad, Pakistan)

**Ms April Pham**,Senior Gender Advisor and Head of Gender Unit, Office of the Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) New York

**Ms Myriam Sfeir Murad,** Director, Arab Institute for Women, Lebanese American University

Interactive discussion and Questions from the audience

**12:00** **Moving from the Symposium: Partnership and Commitments to Achieve Gender Equality, Equity and Justice:  
 Ms Lopa Banerjee**, Director, Civil Society Division, UN Women and UNIATF  
 **Dr Nafissatou Diop**, Gender and Human Rights Branch Chief, UNFPA and UNIATF

**Ms Alison Kelly**, ACT Alliance and Chair, Symposium Planning Group

**12:25 Concluding Remarks   
Close**