

## HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL – 56th SESSION

### Annual full-day discussion on the human rights of women

28 June 2024

The morning panel focused on economic violence against women and girls and in this vein, **the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Volker Türk**, opened the discussion. He addressed the Council affirming that **violence against women and girls is an egregious expression of power domination and patriarchy indeed**. Gender-based violence persists because of pervasive cultures of toxic masculinity and misogyny. It is not specific to cultures, or regions, or religions. **Any form of gender-based violence is a form of overt control over women and girls. Economic violence against women and girls** is one of the forms of gender-based violence that even today too often goes unseen, and unregulated. It has been documented **three forms of economic violence, namely economic control, economic sabotage, and economic exploitation**. In all its forms, economic violence is facilitated by archaic gender norms that consider men the financial decision-makers. Women are stifled and blocked from living a life of autonomy.

He further called for a stop to economic violence, and to ensure economic equity. The international community needs a complete overhaul of discriminatory laws and practices. Gender equality needs to be positively fostered through laws governing all areas of life – economic, public, and political. The international community needs policy measures to ensure that these laws are applied and that they protect and empower women’s economic, social, and cultural rights. Access to decent work, including equal pay for work of equal value, quality education that promotes human rights, gender equality and respect, the full realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights, equal property ownership, equal access to and control over financial resources, and shared childcare responsibilities and adequate childcare options are choices and opportunities to define one’s own life.

Lastly, he said that where economic violence occurs, the international community must make stronger efforts to ensure survivors can seek justice and remedy: perpetrators must be brought to justice. Better complaint mechanisms must be put in place, along with better economic and social support systems and better psychological assistance.

**Ms. Esther Waweru, Senior Legal Advisor at Equality Now**, began by saying that there can be no equality in society without equality in the family. Inequality in the family is a root cause of economic violence coupled with other factors emanating from retrogressive patriarchal gender norms. Globally, 1.4 billion women live in countries that do not recognize economic violence in their legal system or provide legal protection to victims of this form of violence. Economic violence refers to any act, behavior, or omission that limits the attainment of full economic, social, and cultural rights for women based on gender stereotypes and sexist laws. Article 2 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol) defines violence against women to include “all acts perpetrated against women which cause or could cause them physical, sexual, psychological, and economic harm, including the threat to take such acts.”

The lack of legal protection and the existence of sexist discriminatory laws, policies, and practices can give rise to economic violence and make women and girls even more vulnerable to exploitation. Controlling women’s ability to acquire, use, and maintain economic resources in this way, threatens their economic security and potential for self-sufficiency. Economic violence can manifest in different ways, often taking a gendered and intersectional nature.

Additionally, economic violence manifests through legal pluralism whereby women in religious and customary marriages particularly do not enjoy full legal protections. Child marriage continues to rob girls of the opportunity to attain an education, get good jobs, and build sustainable livelihoods.

Finally, she informed the council about good practices and examples as well as countries that have laws that prohibit economic equality, and which consequently enable economic violence to inhibit women's full economic participation and often expose them to exploitation. From this, she mentioned a few recommendations that States should take to redress the silent pandemic of invisibilized economic violence, including enacting comprehensive laws that criminalize sexual and gender-based violence and explicitly criminalize intimate partner violence including economic violence.

1. Repeal/revoke marital power clauses designating husbands as the head of the households and ensure equal rights for men and women to acquire, administer, and manage their own property before, during, and after marriage; and that clear consent requirements are in place for the transfer or sale of marital property by requiring the free, prior, and informed written consent of spouses.
2. Ensure equitable sharing of the joint property deriving from marriage, including the recognition of non-financial contribution in cases of separation, divorce, or annulment of marriage in civil, customary, and criminalize the threat of property dispossession upon divorce or separation.
3. Ensure equal labor rights including equal pay for equal work and non-restriction of certain categories of work of women.
4. Ensure equality for women and men as well as girls and boys particularly in customary, and religious inheritance regimes while safeguarding widows and widowers from disinheritance by family members.
5. Integrate a gender perspective in national fiscal and monetary policies; and protect women from the negative/adverse effects of globalization particularly in the Global South.
6. Ratify, domestic, implement, and lift reservations on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Maputo Protocol, The Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention of Belém do Pará), and the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).

**Ms. Genoveva Tisheva, Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**, introduced some highlights from the work of the Committee on this important issue of gender-based violence including economic violence. The CEDAW Convention is the main source of universal standards concerning women's rights, women's rights to equality, and also women's identity, autonomy, economic independence, and empowerment. Economic violence is gender-based violence and represents coercive control, coercive limitation of the personal life of human rights of women of their freedom in the economic sphere.

Economic violence has implications according to our practice also on the vulnerability of women to other forms of gender-based violence. It impacts their economic independence, economic security and possibilities, and their right to equal pay but also economic violence affects women's choices, access to their rights, the rights to health and reproductive rights especially not in some countries where they are restricted, they are not available for women deprived, for example, the reproductive rights services. Moreover, economic violence impairs the access to justice and political participation of women.

She concluded by mentioning practical examples and cases of National courts and recommendations for economic independence, for the education of women and girls, and also in relation to harmful practices including child and forced marriage, polygamy, and abduction of women for forced marriage.

**Ms. Agata Szypulska, Seconded National Expert in Gender-Based Violence at the European Institute for Gender Equality**, affirmed that violence against women and girls is a phenomenon deeply rooted in gender inequality, which continues to negatively affect women's and girls' lives and violates their

fundamental human rights. Both a cause and a consequence of gender inequality - violence against women – destroys their dignity, takes away the sense of security and endangers their health and well-being.

Starting from a brief overview of the challenges faced when exploring the economic dimension of violence against women, she offered some evidence-based solutions, including an urgent need to fill out the research and knowledge gaps, as well as a need to learn more about its prevalence, and carefully listen to victims' experiences – where regular population-based surveys can provide rich answers. Facilitating mutual learning between Member States, exchanging knowledge and good practices, and cooperation can help to address economic violence more efficiently.

Importantly, she reiterated that the concept of economic violence or economic abuse against women falls under different categories of economic control, economic exploitation, or sabotage: economic control prevents, limits, or controls a victim's finances and related decision-making; economic exploitation uses the economic resources of a victim to the abuser's advantage; economic sabotage prevents a victim from pursuing, obtaining, or maintaining employment and/or education. Challenges with conceptualizing economic violence have far-reaching consequences mirrored in data collection processes and legislative efforts. The lack of clarity in concepts often makes certain forms of economic violence against violence invisible.

**Ms. Anne-Sophie Parent, Chair of Older Women's Network, Europe**, shared two examples of economic violence against older women on which States could take action: 1. the increased risk of economic harm and deprivation in old age which result from some pension reforms, and 2. the risk of financial domestic violence and restriction of their financial independence faced by older women with low financial literacy and poor digital skills.

She focused the presentation on the lived experiences of older women in European countries. In most countries important pension reforms have been introduced with a dual objective: ensure the long-term financial sustainability of pay-as-you-go systems without shifting the burden of demographic ageing to the next generations, and introduce gender equality in systems which were initially designed for one bread-earner household (in most cases the man). This often meant aligning women and men's retirement age sometimes over rather short periods. To achieve gender equality in pensions, gender equity measures are needed. If gender equity is not embraced, older women may end up facing more deprivation. Gender equity measures must be carefully designed with a risk assessment for the diversity of profiles including the most vulnerable.

In conclusion, she affirmed that the rapid digitalization of retail payment services - combined with a decrease in access to and acceptance of cash in shops and public services - put older women with low financial literacy and poor digital skills at a high risk of financial domestic violence.

**In their conclusive remarks, speakers** welcomed statements made aimed at sharing best practices to contribute to addressing the issue of economic violence as well as to reinforce national commitments to eliminate economic violence against women and girls. Discriminatory laws and unequal family law regimes continue to disproportionately impact women and girls and these laws fuel, facilitate, and invisibilize economic violence against women. In a world where women continue to face economic violence because of a lack of legal regimes that would protect them. These legal restrictions must be removed and in particular, all Governments as a matter of urgency recognize economic violence as a form of gender-based violence and take all measures to ensure its prevention, protection, and punishment and additionally to continue to support women by ensuring all necessary measures to adopt gender perspective in monetary and fiscal policies.

National programs and plans for fighting gender-based violence are very important, including concrete provisions on economic violence. These measures, along with data collection and reliable evidence, are key components of a comprehensive and holistic approach toward ending economic violence.

## Interactive dialogue

27 country delegations took the floor during the interactive dialogue, the majority of the countries reported national action plans, programs, good practices, and pledges, including national policies and legislations that empower and protect women and girls, address existing economic challenges, increase legal protection, and access to free legal assistance and healthcare. **Antigua and Barbuda** reported that CARICOM's gender equality strategy provides the framework for targeted interventions sensitive to the unique challenges we face, prioritizing the economic empowerment of women and the elimination of violence against women and girls who are disproportionately affected by the scourge. **Member States of the Council** reaffirmed that economic violence could limit women's participation in public life and political life as well as their access to work, education, healthcare, and legal services. Further, this exacerbates the vulnerability of women to physical and sexual violence. Economic violence disproportionately impacts women and girls in all their diversity.

They also reaffirmed their commitment to combat discrimination and violence against women and girls anywhere according to the principles and purposes of the UN charter in the national law and respective national constitutional and legal provisions. When women are empowered, the whole society benefits, considered **Türkiye**. The international community must prioritize enacting policies and strategies to support women's economic empowerment including access to quality education, facilitating women's active participation in the workforce, and promoting women's entrepreneurship through training and support programs. Violence against women and girls is the most common violation of women's human rights and has lifelong implications for their physical and mental health, added **Albania**. The **EU and its Member States** agreed that an important form of economic violence is control over economic resources which is one of the main barriers preventing women from leaving abusive relationships. Around 12% of women in the EU have experienced economic violence by an intimate partner with devastating effects and in violation of human rights. A milestone in the EU's fight to combat such violence is the directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence adopted last month. **Slovenia** considered practices such as economic control, economic sabotage, economic exploitation, deprivation and restriction of financial independence, as a significant barrier to women's economic empowerment, undermining women's economic agency and exacerbating the stability of various other forms of violence and exploitation.

**Canada** called upon states to eliminate all forms of violence against all women and children in the public and private spheres and take meaningful steps to address the factors underlying these violent human violations through empowerment, protection, support, and relief for victims and survivors including the target set out in 2030 Agenda SDGs. **Bolivia**, further, stressed the need to dismantle this hierarchical system of subordination of women so that men and women can share their responsibilities at work and in the family in a fair way. The international community needs to develop without patriarchy, without colonialism, putting women at the heart of finding new innovative solutions to fight poverty. **Gambia and the African Union** prioritized the safety and protection of women and girls from all forms of violence, including economic violence. It also asked what specific measures can be recommended for strengthening the implementation of anti-economic violence legislation and how the benefits of these policies can be ensured. The **USA** remained committed to ensuring all women and girls become full and equal participants in today's economy and industries of the future, including the digital economy and the sustainable economy.

**Iran** shared one of the national best practices in the field of information and communication technology: 24% of Iranian inventors are women, while the global rate is only 14%. 904 Iranian women are managing directors, 2390 women are members of the board of directors, and 4,106 women are real shareholders of these companies. This achievement and interrelated activities and initiatives, despite the unilateral coercive measures that are violating Iranian women and girls' economic rights.

we thank the panelists for their statements. CEDA recalls essay in general comment 35 of the following: Economic violence is a

**UN Women** affirmed that economic violence is a form of gender-based discrimination disproportionately affecting women and girls. Economic violence is an often-overlooked form of violence, yet it is persistent and it can increase the risk of experiencing other forms of violence. It limits women's and girls' access to education and healthcare, threatens their economic security and self-sufficiency, and can increase poverty. Poverty and socioeconomic inequality are both causes and consequences of economic violence. Evidence shows that enabling women to have access to and control over secure and long-term income is crucial to preventing violence.

**NGOs** welcomed the discussion on economic violence as a form of gender-based violence against women and girls. This is rooted in patriarchal races, classes, and systems of oppression. Child marriage is both a driver and a consequence of gender-based economic violence. Poverty and lack of income-generating opportunities for girls and young women drive child marriage in many contexts. In this vein, **Girls Not Brides** urged Member States to support the establishment of a new optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, expanding the right to education; to adopt policy measures that increase adolescent girls' autonomy in the household making work a viable option coupled with facilitating employment opportunities as an alternative to marriage; and to adopt legislative measures that outlaws child marriage and other harmful practices including female genital mutilation and cutting. **Save the Children International** echoed the HC, by saying that one in three girls around the world will experience gender-based violence in their lifetime. For 12 million girls every year, this takes the form of child early forced marriages or unions. Economic violence is both a cause and a consequence of child marriage and increases the risk of other forms of gender-based violence for girls.

Delegations that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (27 country delegations):

*Albania, EU, Estonia (on behalf of the Nordic-Baltic Country), Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of 82 States), Slovenia (on behalf of Trilateral Group: Austria, Croatia, and Slovenia), Gambia (on behalf of the African Group), Vanuatu (on behalf of Cross-Region Countries: Iraq, Cameroon, Egypt, Gambia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Sierra Leone), Türkiye, Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the Caribbean group), Kazakhstan (on behalf of a group of countries: Canada, Pakistan and other 58 States), Bolivia, Israel, Iran, USA, France, Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Belgium, Georgia, Nigeria, Iraq, Switzerland, Canada, Kuwait, Italy, Morocco,*

NHRIs and NGOs that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (9):

Commission du Droit de l'Homme du Cameroon, the Advocates for Human Rights, Girls Not Brides: The Global Partnership to End Child Marriage, AKAHATA, Save the Children International, International Bar Association Human Rights Institute, Americans for Democracy and Human Rights in Brahin, Promotion du Développement Economique et Social – PDES, Réseau Unité Pour le développement de Mauritanie.

International Organizations: UN Women.

The afternoon discussion focused on the human rights economy and women's human rights. **Ms. Nada Al-Nashif, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights**, opened the session by affirming that the current economic legal, and policy frameworks hinder the achievement of gender equality. They do not recognize the specific experiences and rights of women and girls while privileging patriarchy and corporate power embedded in laws, policies, and institutions. The existence of gender discriminatory laws and practices has a severe impact on women and girls' enjoyment of economic rights, including the right to work and the right to social protection.

She further reported that gender stereotypes in dominant economic models also affect women and girls' equal enjoyment of their rights. Women and girls are still perceived as the primary caregivers; however, the value of care and support work is not adequately recognized, despite its essential role in the functioning of societies and economies.

In conclusion, Ms Al-Nashif strongly affirmed that for too long, the international community focused on how to integrate women into existing, unequal economic systems. Instead, it should reform these systems so that they guarantee women's rights and gender equality. A human rights economy puts people and the planet at the centre of economic, social, and environmental policies. A human rights economy demands women's and girls' equal and meaningful participation in decision-making.

**Ms. Hyshyama Hamin, Campaign Manager of the Global Campaign for Equality in Family Law**, shared findings in relation to inequality in family law that limits women and girls' right to education, employment, economic independence, and full participation in society. In multiple contexts, especially in the *Middle East, Africa, South and Southeast Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean*, unequal family laws and practices impact the financial rights of women. These family laws can affect a majority of a country's population or specific minority communities based on customs, traditions, ethnicity, or religion. At the household level, this can result in women being denied the agency to consent to marriage or unions. After a woman or girl has entered into a marriage or union, patriarchal family laws can allow a husband to limit her rights and even when women do work, they may have limited control over their earnings.

Then, she stressed that the positive impacts of equal family laws and practices on women's economic rights are far-reaching. There is compelling multi-country evidence that shows that women with more economic control are more likely to spend on fulfilling the basic and essential needs of their families and communities, such as by prioritizing their children's education, nutrition, and healthcare.

In conclusion, she listed 4 key recommendations for all member states to accelerate progress, including prioritizing and promoting egalitarian family laws and practices; ensuring that family laws and practices are aligned with CEDAW's Article 16; ensuring prohibition of child marriage; and recognizing and promoting the equal right to inheritance for children and widowed spouses and equitable distribution of marital property, taking into account financial and non-financial contributions.

**Ms. Emanuela Pozzan, Senior Gender Specialist at the International Labour Organization**, in considering the recent resolution endorsed by ILO, affirmed that for the first time, the international community shares a common understanding of the care economy and acknowledges that a well-functioning and robust care economy is critical for building resilience to crises, and for achieving gender equality and inclusion while addressing other inequalities. The Resolution makes it clear that just as labour is not a commodity, labour in the care economy is not a commodity, and that all people should be able to provide and receive care, including self-care. This principle is guided by a rights-based approach to care, grounded in the fundamental principles and rights at work and other relevant international labour standards.

She then explained the importance of care for gender equality, as well as the existing challenges and gaps in care leave policies and services as well as decent work worldwide. She reported also that as

the adopted ILC Resolution and Conclusions indicates, the ILO's 5Rs framework for decent work in the care economy informs integrated and coherent strategies to achieve decent work in the care economy and provides valuable guidance, including Recognizing, Reducing, and Redistributing unpaid care work; Rewarding care; and ensuring Representation, social dialogue including collective bargaining for care workers.

In conclusion, she affirmed the need for investment and the potential for gender equality as well as child and societal well-being making investing in transformative care policies a compelling choice. By closing the childcare policy gap, we not only address the structural barriers faced by women but also create a more inclusive and prosperous society.

**Ms. Savitri Bisnath, Senior Director of Global Policy at the Institute on Race, Power and Political Economy at The New School**, began by saying that the role of the economy and economic policy is to facilitate human flourishing. Economic policies can help ensure that the root causes of, and structural barriers to, poverty and inequalities are intentionally addressed and redressed for equitable and inclusive economies and societies that center all people and their human rights. There is consensus that the current economic model is failing to deliver economic prosperity for all.

Inequality of opportunities and outcomes is partly influenced by how specific individuals and communities are positioned by gender, race/ethnicity, income, parents' education, place of birth, occupation, sexual orientation, gender identity, and wealth. They also serve to justify inequalities in property rights, standards of living, access to assets, networks of influence and power, and citizenship status. Economic inequalities are evidenced by the large and persistent disparities that exist in ownership and control of economic wealth, access to resources and markets, and the exercise of political power. Another area where the culture of privilege crystallizes in social relations is the lack of upward mobility across generations.

In conclusion, she affirmed that the root and structural causes of economic inequality within and between countries are grounded in global, regional and national economic and political systems, wherein the communities most left behind experience multiple, persistent, and intersecting forms of discrimination and are often historically marginalized. Asymmetric power relations often influence political and economic processes and lack of remedies for human rights violations. Currently, most low- and middle-income countries allocate a significant share of their national budgets to debt servicing. The architecture of gender inequality within and between states is propagated in part through economic actors, institutions, rules, and practices. Equality for all requires a more integrated and intentional approach to human rights enabling economic policies.

**In their conclusive remarks, speakers** recognized that currently there are multiple global crises where the situation in many countries can get worse. The global financial architecture is mired in unequal power dynamics that put additional burdens and barriers on global southern countries by taking away from critical national expenditure including on education and healthcare. Women and girls are doubly affected. Not only do they face inequalities at the family and society levels but these are further exacerbated by the pressures of economic crises and recovery that our countries face from external economic institutions.

They reiterated that governments must recognize family law not just as a personal or household matter. Inequalities in family laws and practices is a deeply rooted systemic issue that contributes, intersects, and impacts all other areas of life including education, health, labor force participation, and political participation of women and girls. Reforming family laws to guarantee women's full autonomy and equal partnerships is essential followed by full implementation of good practices and positive laws procedures and practices. In this vein, the ILO's Resolution provides an integrated and coherent strategy to achieve gender equality and also to address deficits in the care economy.

## Interactive dialogue

25 country delegations took the floor during the interactive dialogue, all of which welcomed the discussion on how states can transform macroeconomic systems to advance women's rights. Macroeconomic systems are not gender neutral and therefore they are key for ensuring that women are not left behind. No economy can be robust or fair if it excludes 50% of the population. Macroeconomic systems still contain structural barriers that prevent the realization of gender equality and the full enjoyment of all human rights for all women and girls. In this context, States shared national action plans, programs, and policy measures to contribute to gender equality and address the gender gap. **China's** program of action on the development of women has integrated women's participation in decision-making and management.

**The EU and its Member States** remained committed to true and effective equality between men and women at the domestic level and also through our feminist foreign policy. The lack of women's representation in decision-making processes at the economic level stands in the way of transformative policies for eliminating gender inequality. **Qatar and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf** stressed the extreme importance of protecting women's rights and economic empowerment. Reported the number of measures to increase women's participation, to build capacities, to provide high-quality education to promote women's participation. It provided resources to support different initiatives for entrepreneurs, and female entrepreneurs and this affected the situation of women in the Gulf area in entrepreneurship.

**Chile** affirmed that Latin America and the Caribbean have made significant progress towards empowering women. However, these achievements remain incomplete. Comprehensive and participatory strategies are needed to break the intergenerational poverty cycle and to tackle social, structural, and macroeconomic issues intending to ensure a decent standard of living for all women and girls amongst other things through social protection systems and access to public services and sustainable infrastructure. The participation of women is the essence of combating gender prejudice and stereotypes. **Ecuador** agreed that reforms of the international financial architecture must be guided by human rights standards and gender perspectives. States and the international community must pursue their efforts to root out gender norms and prejudice in the workplace. **Afghanistan** reported that the current system of discrimination against women is a pressing issue that has a significant impact not only on their economic rights but also on the overall development of the country.

In terms of the progress made by the Member States in adopting legislations, ensuring equal access to quality education and access to the job market, as well as closing the gender gap; **the UAE** reported its 7th position among 146 countries, while **Belarus** ranked 41st. The government consistently takes comprehensive measures to ensure that women can flourish at work, taking into account wishes, education, and skills.

**UNDP** informed about the 2023 initiative economics to transform two key elements, where financial flows are directed and how care is distributed. This aimed to eliminate gender bias, women's poverty and the gender gap. Despite growing public debt and shrinking fiscal pace, it is crucial that the international community put the well-being of people and the planet at the center of its economic structures to meet its collective objectives on development and equality. **UNFPA** stressed that economic inequality worsened by the recent pandemic has disproportionately affected women, especially from marginalized communities. Women face increased unpaid care work including reproductive labor and limited economic opportunities. It advocates for a human rights-based approach to economic policy that centers on eliminating discrimination and ensuring sustainable growth, with programs that recognize women's health and economic independence are closely linked. **IDLO** affirmed that when laws are just and equitable, they unlock the potential for economic



empowerment, particularly for women, and bring about sustainable development. However, around the world, discriminatory laws continue to obstruct women's access to economic opportunities. Reported that around 3.9 billion women globally face legal barriers. It works closely with governments, young women, and local partners to conduct comprehensive reviews of legislation in several countries, including *Kenya, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, and Mali*, proposing recommendations and road maps for gender-responsive legal reforms.

**NGOs** denounced the inadequacy of the current economic system to deliver on women's human rights. Most of the global crisis, climate change, environmental damage, loss of biodiversity, and rising inequalities all have their roots in an attractive economic system that prospers at the expense of both women, mothers in particular, and nature, considering them as unlimited and free resources. **APG23** added that ensuring women's rights fully and equally means addressing the foundations of such structural injustice above all by prioritizing people and the planet over profits and financial conditionalities and shaping a human rights financing economy. **NGOs** urged Member States to invest in the mental and physical health, quality education, income and employment security, robust social safety needs, environmental sustainability, housing quality, and overall life satisfaction of women and girls to ensure their comprehensive well-being. In consultation with women and girls, Member States must adopt gender-responsive policies, especially budgeting to promote the economic independence of women and girls and address systematic inequalities hindering their progress including funding for girl's advocacy.

Delegations that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (25 country delegations):

*Spain, Iran, Qatar (on behalf of the GCC), EU, Luxembourg (on behalf of the BENELUX), Iceland (on behalf of a group of countries), Chile (on behalf of a group of countries), Venezuela, Ecuador, Honduras, China, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Senegal, Zimbabwe, Afghanistan, France, Qatar, Costa Rica, Canada, United Arab Emirates, Belarus, Bulgaria.*

NHRIs and NGOs that took the floor during the Interactive dialogue (9):

Make Mothers Matter, Action Canada for Population and Development, APG23, Plan International, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Women Deliver, Alsalam Foundation, Instituto da Mulher Negra, RSKS.

International Organizations: UNDP, UNFPA, IDLO.

To watch the full meeting refer to the UN WEB TV: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).