

**SDG-5 and SDG-11 critical drivers of the “Leave No one Behind”
Aspiration of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda:
Improving Accountability for the Gender-Responsive Implementation of the
New Urban Agenda**

Official 2018 UN High Level Political Forum Side Event

**Tuesday 10 July 2018 from 1pm-2:30pm
Salvation Army Auditorium
221 East 52st Street. New York, NY
(Between 2nd & 3rd Avenue)**

**Co-Sponsors: UN Women, UN-Habitat, the Huairou Commission & the
NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY**

Concept Note: For a UN system coordination perspective responding to the challenges posed by the New Urban Agenda and in line with the ambition of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the gender-responsive implementation is critical. This has been strongly recognized by Member States in the New Urban Agenda (para 13) which envisioned cities that “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, ensuring women’s full and effective inclusive participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making.”

The vision of the new urban agenda recognizes that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are both an end and a vital means to ensure full achievement of urban sustainable development. The New Urban Agenda also recognizes the inseparable links between the achievement of SDG 11 and its targets on making cities and human settlements sustainable, inclusive, safe and resilient, and SDG 5 on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls. This commitment of the New Urban Agenda is the fundamental framework for our joint action. This has been recognized by the CEB document on “Urbanization and Sustainable Development: A United Nations System Input to a New Urban Agenda” in which “strengthening gender equality and women’s empowerment” is identified as one of the ten transformative levers of change.

The framework is in place. The challenge now is implementation. On the way forward, it is critical for us to build on upon strengthens that are already in place which remain vigilant and to ensure, with a sense of urgency, the full and effective gender-responsive implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Strong accountability mechanisms are to be in place with clear responsibilities for all stakeholders while also providing avenues for civil society organizations at all levels to hold decision-makers accountable for their action and seek redress when necessary.

The event will provide an opportunity to identify and discuss good practices, challenges and opportunities, methodologies and lessons learned on how to integrate gender equality perspectives in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national and local level. It aims at providing policy makers and urban actors with a clear understanding of how to implement the New Urban Agenda in a gender-responsive way while unpacking the decisions and actions that are needed to ensure a systematic, integral and comprehensive response to gender equality priorities and the needs of women and girls in urban development policies and planning. This will also include discussions on financing the gender-responsive implementation of the New Urban Agenda, multi-stakeholder partnerships and gender statistics.

Opening: Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif

UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Habitat (invited)

Keynote: Ms. Asa Regner

Assistant Secretary-General of the UN & Deputy Executive Director of UN Women (invited)

Moderator: Ms. Patricia Cortes

Special Assistant to Assistant Secretary-General of the UN & Deputy Executive Director for Strategic Partnership of UN Women

Speakers:

- **Ms. Violet Shivutse**, Chair of the Huairou Commission: Women, Homes, and Community
- **Ms. Magdalena García Hernández**, Director General, Bufete de Estudios Interdisciplinarios, A. C., MIRA, Mujeres Iberoamericanas en Red; Co-Chair the Women’s Constituent Partner’s Group of General Assembly of Partners, GAP - ONU Habitat
- **Ms. Katherine Kline**, Co-Chair Older Persons Partner Constituent Group, General Assembly of Partners
- **Ms. Sri Sofjan**, Representative of AGGI, UN Habitat

Q&A
