

OECD High-Level Conference on Ending Violence Against Women

5-6 February 2020, Paris, France



Wednesday, February 5, 2020

13:00-13:15 Opening Remarks by the OECD Secretary-General

13:15-13:45 Keynote addresses

13:45-14:00 Speech by a survivor of violence

14:00-15:30 High-Level Panel: The Need to End Violence Against Women and Girls

The opening plenary will include Ministers from two OECD countries and one emerging economy to discuss the urgent need to end VAW in their countries, the key challenges in this struggle, and relevant policy measures that have been introduced – and to what effect. The opening panel will also include 1-2 CEOs, leaders of high-level foundations, and/or women's civil society organisations working with governments to end VAW.

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-17:00 Reporting and Measuring Intimate Partner Violence in OECD and non OECD Countries

How widespread is VAW in OECD countries? Do figures widely differ in non-OECD countries? How does society as a whole accept intimate partner violence? How frequent is its most common form -- intimate partner violence, typically perpetrated by men against women and girls? What challenges exist in reporting and measuring violence and norms around its acceptance and, more specifically, IPV? How do measurement and reporting issues affect survivors' path to justice and governments' ability to address VAW?

17:00-18:00 Cocktail and networking

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Thursday, February 6, 2020

9:00-9:15 **Introductory remarks and recap of Conference Day 1**

9:15-10:30 **Addressing Toxic Masculinity and Empowering Women and Girls**

Men carry out the vast majority of intimate partner violence against women. Any discussion of addressing and ending VAW must therefore start with the fundamental question of what leads men to harm women – and how to stop it. This requires not only educating men, but also empowering women and girls in society. This session will question norms and stereotypes around masculinity, and ask whether – and how – governments, the private sector, philanthropy and CSOs can get involved to change minds and behaviours.

10:30-10:45 **Coffee break**

10:45-11:00 **Speech by a survivor of violence**

11:00-12:30 **Integrating Services to Better Support Survivors**

VAW affects multiple aspects of survivor's lives, including their education, employment, income, social protection, access to justice, security and health. Survivors often need a range of complementary services to recover from violence and lead healthy lives. To address these issues, policies must take a holistic approach and service providers must be able to work effectively with counterparts providing different services. What has worked in integrating services for survivors of violence, and what has failed? How can governments ensure effective cooperation at the local provider level to help survivors and enable access to justice? How can local governments and non-profit organisations work together to provide a holistic continuum of care?

12:30-14:00 **Lunch**

14:00-15:15 **Call to Justice**

Women who are survivors of violence are particularly vulnerable when facing the justice system. They often face specific barriers in accessing justice, including stigma, harassment and re-victimisation during the different stages of seeking justice. How can governments better understand the legal needs of survivors of violence and remove barriers to seeking justice? What are the critical gaps in services that are necessary to deliver justice to people experiencing family violence? What policies would help to address these gaps? What does a survivor-centred justice pathway look like? What approaches have been successful, and what have not?

15:15-16:30 **Making VAW a Whole-of-Government Priority**

The issue of VAW often suffers from the same challenges gender equality issues face overall: uncoordinated responses across Ministries and levels of government risk generating secondary victimisation. States need to have a hard look at the means to overcome the institutional fragmentation related to the involvement of different branches of power. How can governments implement a horizontally- and vertically-integrated governance strategy for addressing and ending VAW? What does it take to make it happen at the institutional level? How should governments ensure effective access to justice within such strategies? What approaches have been successful, and what have not?

16:30-17:00 **Lessons Learned and Call to Action**