

WIDOWS THE ROLE OF WAR WIDOWS IN STRIVING FOR PEACE

FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025 10-1300, 15-1800

Welcome and introduction - Zarin Hainsworth OBE Chair WRI

Situation of widows in conflict zones

Member State representative - Dominican Republic TBC

Member State representative - Poland TBC

Global view - Carolyn Handschin, President NGO CSW Geneva, Women's Federation for World Peace International

DRC - Richie Lontulungu, Deputy Technical Secretary, DRC HRC

Widows and peace - Collete Samoya - Burundi diplomat

Widows in Cameroon: widows and radicalisation - Lia Wortsman, Graduate Institute, Global Fund for Widows

Discussion in small groups

Questions and comments

Comfort break

How conflict contributes to challenges facing widows

Introduction to session - Zarin Hainsworth OBE Chair WRI

Olufolake Abdulrazaq, First Lady, Kwara State Nigeria

Situation of widows in Mizoram, India - Mrs. Lalrinpuii, Cabinet Minister, Women & Child Development, Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Mizoram, India

Global conflict considerations - Francoise LeGoff, International Federation of the Red Cross

Migration and widows - Saba Haddad, Baha'i International Community

Mental Health of widows - Rocio Gutierrez, Latter-day Saint Charities

Financial implications for widows - Alejandro Bonilla Garcia, Chair NGO Committee on Ageing

Discussion in small groups

Questions and comments

Thanks and closing comments for Session 1 - Zarin Hainsworth OBE Chair WRI

(Testimonies of widows and organisations working for widows in lunch break TBC)

Contribution of widows to continuing challenges in conflict

Welcome and introduction - Zarin Hainsworth OBE Chair WRI

Member State representative, Vanuatu TBC

Member State representative, UK TBC

UN Women - Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, Deputy Executive Director, Founder Rozaria Memorial Trust (virtual)

UN Women - Humanitaria section

Water scarcity - Ashley Wheeler, Waterlight Initiative

Desire for scarce resources - Richie Lontulungu, Deputy Technical Secretary, DRC HRC

Widows as the centre of the family - Dr. Peter Reschke, Swiss Centre for Affective Sciences, BYU School of Family Life.

Best Practice from Haiti - Dra Christella CAYEMITTE

Capacity Building - Rejoice Mission, Nigeria (video)

Discussion in small groups

Questions and comments

Comfort Break

Contribution of widows to peace-building

Role of WPS Agenda -TBC

Faith and peace-building - Erin Holmes, BYU School of Family Life

Global trends - Bethe De-Vos Neven, UN representative Soroptimist International (virtual)

Widows and peace - Aleve Mine, OneGoallInitiative

No Peace Without Women - Patricia Elias, Peace Women Project

Advocacy - Best practice from Algeria - Nabil Benmir (virtual)

Widows and climate change resilience - Arthur Dahl TBC

Discussion in small groups

Questions and comments - with action points

Thanks and closing comments - Zarin Hainsworth OBE Chair WRI

Close

