

57<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women,  
New York, 4-15 March 2013

## Side Event

### “Combating Violence against women and the role of the justice system – current challenges and best practices”

Tuesday, 5 March, 13:15 – 14:30 hrs

North Lawn Building, CR D

On the occasion of the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Permanent Mission of Austria is pleased to invite you to a discussion on “**The role of the justice system in combating violence against women**”. The event will focus on current challenges faced by different regions in preventing violence against women and on the strategies and responses developed in the framework of the respective justice systems. In countries around the world, systemic discrimination against women permeates every link of the justice chain – from police investigations, to prosecutions, to cases reaching the courts, and to the decisions and sentences issued. UN Women, UNDP and OHCHR are developing a programme of support to enable holistic, comprehensive reforms that will enable more women to successfully claim their rights.

#### Moderator

*Kristin Hetle*, Director, Strategic Partnerships Division, UN Women

#### Panelists

- *Dr. Lilian Hofmeister*, Substitute Judge at the Constitutional Court and CEDAW-candidate, Austria  
“**Trends in the implementation of CEDAW in Austria to prevent violence against women: female victims at the center of Austrian legislation**”
- *Rosa Logar*, Executive Director of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Program Vienna, Austria  
“**Support of survivors at the center of multi-agency work in Austria**”
- *Dr. Ranjana Kumari*, Director of the Centre for Social Research, India “**Reforming the criminal justice system in India: new thinking with reference to the Justice Verma Commission**”
- *Lee Waldorf*, Rule of Law Advisor, Policy Division, UN Women  
“**UN joint programme to improve women’s access to justice**”