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# **Elections 2022**

# **Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**

# **Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

# **Human Rights Committee (HRCttee)**

# **Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**

# **Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)**

# **Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT)**

Questionnaire for candidates

Six UN Treaty Bodies (Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Human Rights Committee (HRCttee), Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) and Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT)) will have elections organised in 2022.

In order to strengthen the treaty bodies, the International Disability Alliance, Child Rights Connect, IWRAW Asia Pacific, the Centre for Civil and Political Rights, and the Global Initiative For Economic, Social And Cultural Rights – as part of [TB-Net](https://tbnet.org/en/), the NGO network on the UN Treaty Bodies – seek to promote quality, independence and diversity of treaty body membership through transparent and participatory nomination and elections processes.

This questionnaire, which is sent to all nominated candidates and is based on the criteria set forth in the relevant treaties and in the General Assembly Resolution 68/268, will enable all States and other stakeholders to better understand the skills, experiences and motivation of running candidates to CRPD, CEDAW, HRCttee, CRC and CESCR in advance of the elections.

The written responses to the questionnaires will be made available on the website [www.untbelections.org](http://www.untbelections.org), while the video responses will be shared on a dedicated [YouTube page](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3AE1yyjFFbfT9G9lFKAaTQ).

*This initiative does not imply that we support or oppose any individual candidates.*

## Questions for all treaty bodies candidates

1. Name: **EGHOBAMIEN-MSHELIA Esther**

2. Nationality: **NIGERIAN**

3. **Current position:** Convener and CEO Women Arise Development and Humanitarian Initiative (WADHI); Chairperson Ministerial Technical Committee on Private Sector Initiatives, International Advisory Board Member, Commonwealth Business Women’s Network (CBWN); and Chairperson CBWN Nigeria.

4. **Are you currently holding, or have you previously held any position on behalf of, or for, your Government (Executive branch) that may compromise your actual or perceived independence and impartiality? If so, please give details:**

No I am not holding and have not held in the past, any position for the Executive branch of Government. As a retired civil servant, I hold no positions that could in any way infringe on my independence and impartiality on the Committee. My role as Chairperson of the Ministerial Technical Committee on Private Sector Initiatives is a Technical Advisory, non-remunerative position that seeks to advise Govt and stakeholders on strategies for expanding Private Sector engagement in the advancement of gender equality and increasing accountability to global, regional and national gender frameworks and policies.

My experiences, including as the Convener/CEO of WADHI, a non-profit civil society organization has been deployed to strengthen partnership among stakeholders, parliaments and the Committee in the past to enhance CEDAW implementation by addressing intersecting rights concerns enshrined in CEDAW Articles, especially Article 3. Working to forge a relationship between the CEDAW Committee and the WTO Gender desk was a key result I achieved in the past, reflecting my capacity for objectivity and impartiality.

5. **Please indicate any current or potential conflict of interest that may prevent you from exercising independence and impartiality in your work as a member of a UN treaty body:**

Neither the nature or scope of my present work areas nor interests have any potential conflict of interest and risks to my role and obligation to exercise independence and impartiality in functioning effectively on the Committee. My performance on the Committee in the half tenure I was privileged to hold, attests to this fact and results achieved as Country Rapporteur for several State Party Reviews, Inquiry team member to South Africa, Alternate Rapporteur on Concluding Observations, and requests to serve as CEDAW Expert by several State Parties all demonstrate my capacity to operate as an independent and impartial expert. Such sterling qualities will be demonstrated as a member of the UN Human Rights Treaty Body if elected.

6. **Was the nomination process for your candidacy a transparent and participatory process? Was civil society or other relevant stakeholders involved?**

Yes, it was. Broad-based consultation with leading and umbrella CSOs, Women groups, and wide-ranging stakeholders, including gender focal points of key institutions were undertaken for my nomination process. This gave the opportunity to understand the current needs and priorities of women CSOs across sectors in the aftermath of the COVID-19, and to incorporate these into my vision and priority setting as a CEDAW candidate to ensure effective representation and performance.

Notably, consensus building with CSOs on priority issues was facilitated by my previous post as the Director Gender and Women Affairs and one time NGO Desk Officer for the National Women’s Machinery of my country. Additionally, I have been a longstanding member of the Nigerian Feminist Forum which is one of the largest women’s network in Nigeria and contributed to the development of the “Nigerian Womanifesto: What Nigeria Women Want” and the “Women’s Political Agenda”. These relationships have helped me to build solidarity and collegial working relations with national umbrella and grassroots women CSOs, CBOs, FBOs and MSMEs as a women’s rights activist capable of articulating, representing, promoting and protecting their interests. As a result, my candidacy received the full support of diverse categories of stakeholders.

7. **During your possible mandate as a Committee member, what other positions or professional activities do you intend to engage in?**

As Convener and CEO WADHI, I will continue to coordinate and manage the WADHI team to provide women and youth training and skills development in digital technologies and financial inclusion services at the WADHI Business Incubation Centre. This will enable me use this medium, to keep abreast with the needs and emerging challenges of women Micro, Small and Medium Entrepreneurs {WMSMEs), widows, women and youth with disabilities, women cooperatives, Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) and other vulnerable groups and human rights organizations. This role has served as an impactful capacity strengthening, tools development, learning, research and outreach mechanism as evidenced in these [beneficiary testimonials.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBf8mb1bNes)

I will also continue to provide on-going mentoring of youths especially young women on their human rights and GBV management to build a pool of next generation CEDAW vanguards and in so doing, contribute to the Generation Equality Objectives thus making the CEDAW a futuristic tool for the youth.

Having had the privilege to lead the development of Nigeria’s National Action Plan on UNSCR1325 which cascades women’s engagement in peace processes from the global to national, sub-national and local levels, I will continue to support efforts to adapt and replicate this model and thereby promote increased implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related CEDAW Articles through WPS networks and platforms. I also hope to continue to support the OHCHR led Judicial Dialogue Series which focuses on the role of the judiciary in addressing stereotyping and Gender-Based Violence within CEDAW and international HR frameworks. I also hope to support the engendering of National Parliaments in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to strengthen gender-responsive legislation and boost women’s representation in politics and public life at decision making levels. In partnership with key stakeholders, I will contribute to expanding the development of tools, digital platforms and resources to promote the implementation of the Buenos Aires Declaration on Trade and Women’s Economic Empowerment (2017), the SDGs, and the Faith for Rights Toolkit among critical stakeholders especially in the post COVID-19 era, thereby contributing, amongst others to an inclusive implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA).

8. **The commitments as a Committee member are very time-consuming during and outside session time. How will you ensure to have the capacity to dedicate the necessary time to the work of the Committee, both in person and online?**

Given that I have retired from active national service, I do not have career commitments that I am obligated to fulfil. Furthermore, I have digital proficiency and so I have no challenge in engaging virtually and this was evident in my contributions while on the CEDAW Committee during the 2018-2020 period as I effectively demonstrated my availability to meet the demands of the Committee both in-person and online.

Notably, I participated in several inter-sessional activities to advance the cause of women and promote the visibility and relevance of CEDAW in a wide range of sectors including through inquiry visit to States under the CEDAW Optional Protocol. Selected examples to buttress availability to dedicate time to CEDAW both during sessions and to inter-sessional activities are as follows:

1. CEDAW Hub Training for over 150 local CSOs between Dec 2018 and May 2019 on CEDAW reporting, governance and GBV;
2. Judicial Dialogue on role of the Judiciary in dealing with Stereotyping, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights in Nigeria, Tanzania and South Africa Oct 2018 - Dec 2019;
3. Strengthening implementation of National Action Plans on Women Peace and Security in West Africa through Knowledge Exchange, Abuja Oct 2018;
4. Promoting Digital Technologies for Women’s Financial Inclusion at the World Trade Organization(WTO) “Aid for Trade Review” in July, 2019 in Geneva;
5. ITC-She Trades Lessons Learning Forum October, 2019;
6. WADHI Training on mobile application usage to boost financial inclusion and market access for WMSMEs; and
7. EU/RoLAC Training of FCT-GBV Protection Officers on the National Protection Officers’ Manual, Standards, Guidelines Tools and Templates in January 2020 and March 2022,

9. **What are the current and main challenges that you see for the treaty body system and what are your ideas for improvement?**

In my estimation, lack of visibility and weak understanding of treaty body system processes, principles and standards is a major challenge. This is often compounded by insufficient synergy within and among the various committees and a disconnect between the treaty bodies and the programming organs of the UN and other multi-lateral agencies. Therefore, closing the loop between programming and policy interventions and the monitoring standards of the treaty body system is a significant challenge. The burden of closing development cracks revealed by the COVID-19 pandemic has made this an urgent reality.

The harmonization and review processes of the treaty body system started in 2020 is a unique opportunity to promote synergy and reduce transaction costs both among treaty bodies and state parties and the simplified reporting system is a very good step in this direction. My idea on the use of innovative approaches through technology and partnerships which was piloted through the “CEDAW Knowledge Hub” virtual peer learning and technical support system is a viable solution. The approach will in my view, help to enhance visibility and promote multi-stakeholder ownership of the principles, obligations and relevance of provisions enshrined in international human rights treaties.

The wider use of regional review sessions for consideration of reports is also a suggested modality for minimizing reporting costs/burden on stakeholders. I would further suggest that the HTRB system should consider utilizing a roster to assign committee members to cover other committees other than the one they were elected to on a rotational basis to enhance cross-fertilization of technical skills and maximize use of the expertise of members to enhance convergence on jurisprudence, principles and standards and promote mainstreaming of cross-cutting human rights concerns like women’s rights.

10. **Given the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide and the disruption of in person meetings of treaty bodies, will you be willing to adapt to undertake online work during your mandate, as an increasing way of functioning of the Committees?**

Yes, I am willing to adapt work modalities and undertake online work as best permissible by technology. As a past member of the CEDAW Committee during the initial lockdowns necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic, I was able to contribute substantively despite connectivity and bandwidth disruptions. Going forward, I intend to use available technological infrastructure and innovative approaches to support the Committee’s functions.

Link to your full resume: Kindly access downloadable version on: <https://estherem.com/about-eem/>



**Questions for candidates to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee)**

*Please provide responses that are as precise as possible and in no more than 200 words per question.*

1. **Why do you want to be a member of the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women?** ([video option](https://www.iwraw-ap.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/cedaw_guidelinesvideo_en.pdf))

CEDAW Committee membership will provide a platform to exercise my technical skills, competencies, and life-long passion of advancing accountability to women’s rights using universally agreed HRs standards. This passion sprung out of the level of women’s rights violations, stereotyping, marginalization, and poverty (at the family, community and institutional levels) that I witnessed in my 30yrs plus career as a social worker, policy analyst and gender specialist. Patriarchal gender roles, vertical and horizontal discrimination against women, harmful cultural practices, disinheritance/denial of basic rights like access to justice, shelter, water, housing, health, employment and education require redress. Despite progress recorded, bureaucratic and structural barriers still rob women of dignity and differential treatment of women and men in law, policies and service provision impede access to justice and critical resources or opportunities needed to guarantee rights and freedom of making choices affecting their lives, families, and communities.

The need for gender transformative approaches in dealing with unresolved and emerging gender issues in a post covid-19 world, failure to integrate women’s concerns in the new digital order, the re-inventing of discrimination and erosion of gains in women’s advancement are cogent reasons espoused in the attached [video](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1cC7Iz6qR88_ECDpDB71ALgDp3Lzv0lbj?usp=sharing).

2. **What are your specific areas of expertise in relation to CEDAW? Please provide examples as appropriate.** ([video option](https://www.iwraw-ap.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/cedaw_guidelinesvideo_en.pdf))

[**Related Gender Expertise**](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NJeW-8RuhueaGcI81NVR53XAL_qGXzK3?usp=sharing)

**Rights Protection Programming:**

* Social Worker, Counsellor & Trainer: Case management, Training on GBV, Social Disorders; EU/RoLAC GBV National Manual for GBV Professionals.
* Gender Technical Policy Analyst and Advisor: CIDA, GRB for CW Ministers of Gender, Cabinets; Legislature; Finance; initiated Gender and Procurement; CW Gender and Trade project resulted in ITC-She Trades; CEDAW review S/Leone, Taiwan.
* Multilateral Diplomacy: 10yr review of CEDAW Articles 5&6 Reporting as DAW Fellow; CHOGM CW Gender Forum; Rwanda study on women’s leadership; UNSCR1325 NAP on WPS; “Nigeria for Women”, World Bank Women’s Market Access; WTO Partnership to deliver CEDAW Articles, Aid for Trade and rural livelihoods; and Caribbean Diplomacy lecture series.

**CEDAW Jurisprudence:**

* Gender Law Briefs and manual for CW Law Ministers and Judges
* GR38 on Trafficking in Women and girls in Global Migration context (African inputs)
* OHCHR East/Southern Africa Judicial Dialogue series on ending stereotypes and discrimination replicated in Asia
* South Africa Inquiry Team that resulted in 1st African Private Sector GBV Fund

**Strengthening Institutional Mechanisms:**

* CEDAW Alternate Rapporteur on Concluding Observations 2019 - 2020
* CEDAW Knowledge Hub Virtual Peer learning model
* Improved Articles 3 & 4 implementation Template on NWM Effectiveness.

**Publications:** Women in Governance, Politics and Gender and Finance Policies.

**3. What do you think are the most critical and emerging issues for women’s human rights and gender equality? Please provide 1-2 examples.**

Integrating Gender equality in the Post Covid-19 economic recovery plans of nations, the global energy crisis, climate change and digital technology, particularly automation, are critical and urgent issues with implicit and explicit bearing on women’s human’s rights related to economic opportunities, livelihoods, cyber security and freedom from violence. Addressing these complex and intersecting issues would require systematic gender audits, policy and strategy reviews across sectors for increased accountability that I can contribute to as a seasoned gender policy analyst, GRB and Fintech expert.

Furthermore, the gender divide in the new digital economy, emergence of Web 3, NFTs and global blockchains and the increasing use of automation, Artificial Intelligence and robotics pose significant threats capable of eroding women’s livelihoods and re-inventing discrimination. A GR on “Gender and the Digital Economy” is urgently needed to provide appropriate framework for better safeguarding the rights of women and girls and mitigating new forms of VAWG, exclusion and feminized poverty. Cyber-based trafficking and violence against women is also growing at an alarming rate. I can draw on my innovative work on the KOWGO mobile application, digital technology training, partnership with financial institutions and digital GBV management to enhance the Committee’s response to these challenges.

**4. How will you ensure that the rights and issues of the most marginalised groups of women are addressed by the Committee? What measures should States take to ensure the political participation of marginalised groups of women in political life, at the local, national and international levels, including enhancing representation within the CEDAW Committee?**

I believe the CEDAW Committee reporting system, follow-up of Concluding observation, review of CSO shadow reports and the lunch time dialogue with CSOs all remain potent vehicles for engaging with marginalized women’s groups and ensuring that their rights concerns receive appropriate attention.

Providing guidance to CSOs on reporting mechanism and using CEDAW Articles and standards to benchmark progress on women in political life is key. I will therefore ensure that support for capacity building and advocacy on women’s participation in political life to equip them to track accountability and gender-responsiveness of policies, legislation, budgets and other regulatory systems are sustained. This is key to protecting women’s rights, ensuring gender balance in politics and political life which is in turn crucial to increasing women’s representation in decision making processes and realizing good governance.

I will promote the translation and wide circulation of CEDAW Concluding Observations to further equip marginalized women’s groups and empower gender champions to support the Committee’s work and enhance representation from diverse backgrounds thereby expanding the versatility and expertise of the Committee to engage multi-sectorally and protect the voiceless and under-represented.

5. **What do you think are the areas where the Committee can further strengthen international women’s rights standards**?

Areas include:

1. Providing guidance note and indicators on Post COVID-19 women’s economic rights violations that better capture the remit of Articles 3, 13 and 14 to elevate protection standards on topical global concerns like the energy crisis, climate change, digital technologies, taxation, procurement, infrastructure, urban development, to help build Smart Business and economic models
2. Increased visibility through social media and partnerships to diffuse the knowledge, jurisprudence and rich pool of tools developed by the Committee over the years for shared ownership of women’s rights protection standards and outcomes
3. Simplification of the Committees General Recommendations to make these technical tools more digestible and user friendly thus availing key gender practitioners, including State Parties, national and grassroots organizations of these under-utilized wealthy pool of resources as acknowledged by the UN Executive Director during her interaction with the Committee in Oct 2018.
4. Enhanced implementation of Articles 3 through guidelines on “Optimal Performing Gender Architecture for National Women’s Machineries” to strengthen their mandate, authority effectiveness and oversight functions.

Expected outcomes: 1) Enhanced Coordination of women’s rights protection; 2) Standardization and joint targeting in Post COVID-19 recovery efforts; and 3) improved impact assessment of investments in women’s rights protection.

6. **What has been your experience of working with the women’s rights movement in your country or globally?**

I have acquired experience in working with rural women’s groups as a trained counsellor, Social worker I handled for over 35 years, domestic and other forms of gender based violence in Nigeria’s Federal Capital Territory and through bi-lateral and multi-lateral projects, including as a fellow assigned to the UN Division for the advancement of women. As desk Officer Women NGO’s in the National Machinery for women, I gained experience in building mutually beneficial government/civil society relations and advancing women’s agency through women’s rights groups.

Being one-time Director Planning Research and Statistics enabled me to gain insight into the need for generating crucial evidence and gender-disaggregated data to inform policy and legal reviews for stimulating appropriate action targeting women’s exclusion, dis-empowerment and rights violation.

As Head of Gender for the Commonwealth, I worked with women’s rights organizations through the Commonwealth People’s Forum and was able to negotiate the setting up of the Commonwealth Women’s Forum in the wings of the Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) to avail the over 1 billion CW women the platform for engaging with Political leadership in a structured manner to set the agenda on women’s priorities across the Commonwealth pursue increased accountability.

7. **State parties to CEDAW are required to take steps to implement the Convention. How do you propose to help guide States in the effective implementation of Convention standards? How will you guide States in the removal of reservations to the Convention, especially reservations that relate to the object and purpose of the Convention (Articles 2 and 16)?**

Through the Mock Dialogue Sessions with State Parties, I will help to enrich their knowledge, skills and capacities to engage in the periodic dialogue with the Committee so that the legal obligations of States espoused in Articles 2 and 16 are covered and entry points for enhanced implementation, addressing reservations and redressing persistent challenges identified.

Through accredited UN women’s groups, networks and professional associations I will encourage government and civil society collaboration to expand lessons learning, evidence building and facilitate the Committee’s engagement with strategic stakeholders including NHRI to better champion gender transformation.

I will promote the use of tact and diplomacy skills acquired in my work with national governments, bi-lateral and multi-lateral institutions to resolve contentious issues and positively handle areas of reservation. An example is using cost benefit analysis of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and its impact on national Budgets. This was successfully applied during my tenure as Commonwealth Secretariat, Head of Gender and is now yielding results in Seychelles and other Commonwealth countries.

Sharing of [lessons and findings](https://www.academia.edu/32076820/Impact_of_Rwandan_Womens_Political_Leadership_on_Democracy_and_Development_Evaluation_Report) from the Rwanda Case Study on Women’s political leadership will also enable State Parties better envision the gains of broadening legislation and public policies to better harness women’s resources.

8. **What can the Committee do to further strengthen its engagement with other stakeholders and accountability mechanisms at country level, including gender machinery, national human rights institutions (NHRIs), members of parliament, judicial actors, civil society organisations and UN agencies?**

Building on lessons from the engagement with NHRIs, the Committee should consider/explore engagement with National Parliaments to establish direct accountability of the legislature in the spirit of separation of powers and to better address the under-resourcing of gender equality and women focused interventions in national budgets. This will strengthen gender sensitivity of the legislature in its oversight functions.

The conversations around organizing State Party periodic reviews at the regional level should be deepened and pilot regional CEDAW Sessions held to stimulate greater participation of duty bearers and critical institutions. This will also provide a broader array of stakeholders the opportunity to interact with and receive the objective, impartial and constructive feedback of the Committee on their obligations and vital role in achieving substantive equality.

The concept of the “CEDAW Knowledge Hub”, an outcome of the CEDAW at 40 Anniversary event was well received by the Committee. Through a pilot web-based peer-to-peer learning, the Committee has explored virtual panels via technology to enhance cross fertilization of ideas and promote ownership of women’s rights through interest groups working on diverse thematic issues.

9. **How do you see the CEDAW Committee strengthening the domestic and international environment for:**

**(a) holding business/private actors responsible for violations under the Convention?**

Providing guidance note that facilitates review of private sector regulatory and licencing policies to boost gender and procurement; gender compliant corporate social responsibility and other innovative mechanisms will enable State Parties better deliver their obligations under CEDAW.

These efforts would promote broad-based ownership and accountability to international women’s rights standards enshrined in CEDAW using multi-agency and multi-stakeholder approaches/models which has been recognized as pathway to transformative gender equality.

Engendering the inherent admissibility criteria, performance rating and impact assessment of these vital groups, mechanisms and programmes should greatly strengthen the domestic and international environment for holding a wider array of business and private actors culpable for violations of the convention with regards to economic and other activities undertaken while embarking on different profit or non-profit pursuits.

**b) ensuring accountability of State parties while acting within the broader multilateral system, including the gendered impact of State action or inaction on global economic and financial matters, the climate crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic; and**

Developing new GRs and guidance notes and updating existing ones to reflect new accountability benchmarks occasioned by lessons learnt from gendered impact of actions and inactions of SPs, global economic realities, climate change, internal strife and demands of the Post-covid-19 pandemic and building back efforts.

**(c) fortifying international cooperation on these and other urgent global matters?**

Recognizing the intersecting nature of gender issues demands that the Committee works more assiduously with other HTRBs, multilateral institutions, agencies, groups e.g UN Gender Inter-Agency and regional bodies to address gender dimensions of international cooperation matters, protocols, resolutions, and frameworks. Collaborative work with other TBs can be enriched through joint statements and projects.

10. **How do you see the CEDAW Committee and the review process contributing to the delivery of global commitments on gender equality, including under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?**

Women’s untapped economic assets for national growth and capacity strengthening to engage in E-Commerce and digital marketing even as MSMEs in the informal sector is a key message for the SDG 2030 agenda. The Committee through its Working Group on SDGs should popularize newly developed indicators and issue Statements through the widely circulated High level SDG platforms to promote integration of CEDAW specific results in SDG implementation.

Collaborate with partners and CSOs to undertake a mapping of CEDAW aligned SDG initiatives and implementation of the “CEDAW Beyond 40” outcomes would contribute to achieving the SDG targets.

Digital Engagement platforms like the Pilot Peer-to-Peer Webinar Series has affirmed the linkages between women’s Rights within the CEDAW framework, the OHCHR Faith-for-Rights Toolkit and the principles guiding faith-based actors and religious leaders in partnership with Religions for Peace organization. Lessons reflect the huge potential of the Committee in promoting and building synergies among multiple stakeholders to promote joint ownership of CEDAW principles, reduce transaction costs while enhancing the gender impact of existing and future initiatives. This complementarity of objectives is directly in consonance with the RES/68/268 review process.

11. **What role do you see civil society playing in the CEDAW State review process? Do you regularly engage with civil society in your current work? If so, how?**

Civil society organizations have been in the vanguard of advocacy for the implementation of CEDAW. The CSO Shadow reporting process provides a unique opportunity to continue to promote accountability to CEDAW and support efforts to fulfil obligations of State Parties and indeed all stakeholders including the private sector.

Recognizing the significant challenges faced by CSOs to engage in physical sessions, I suggest that regional level shadow reporting sessions with CSOs be organized to strengthen their voice and agency as human rights defenders. Capacity strengthening of CSOs on CEDAW reporting processes, jurisprudence and standards is strongly recommended. I have been and will continue to work with CSO networks, Development partners like UN Women, the multi-agency UN Spotlight Initiative and Generation Equality to build capacities of CSOs and women Human Rights Defenders on CEDAW.