



Responding to violence against women: the role of the criminal justice system

A panel discussion on the occasion of the fifteenth session of the
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
Tuesday, 25 April 2006 (1:15pm-2:45 pm), UNOV Vienna, Austria

The United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women/Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Criminal Justice Reform Unit/United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (CJRU/UNODC) will jointly organize a panel discussion on the role of the criminal justice system in addressing violence against women. The event will take place on 25 April 2006, in conjunction with the fifteenth session of the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. The panel is part of the preparatory process for the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women, which is being prepared by the Division for the Advancement of Women.

Efforts to eradicate violence against women require a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach involving different stakeholders. The panel will focus on the specific contribution of the criminal justice system in preventing and eliminating violence against women, illustrating innovations, experiences and challenges of this particular sector around the world.

The following speakers are confirmed/ to be confirmed:

- **Ms Karin Gastinger**, Federal Minister of Justice, Austria
- **Ms Asma Khader**, member of the Advisory Committee for the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women, and General Coordinator of Sisterhood is Global Institute/Jordan
- **Ms Yakin Ertürk**, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, and member of the Advisory Committee for the Secretary-General's in-depth study on violence against women
- **Representative from the Government of Brazil** (*tbc*)
- **Ms Christine Brautigam**, Chief, Women's Rights Section, DAW/DESA
- **Mr Mark Shaw**, Chief, Criminal Justice Reform Unit, UNODC

Ms Sumru Noyan, Deputy Executive Director, UNODC, will chair the panel discussion.

Following panelists' presentations, an opportunity for questions and comments from participants will be provided. Ms. Noyan will make concluding comments.