CSW65 Dialogue: “Women Leaders Impact Change”

Hon. Ms. Carolyn B. Maloney, U.S. Representative from New York’s 12th Congressional District. Congresswoman Maloney has represented parts of New York City in Congress since 1993. She is the Chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform and former Chair of the Joint Economic Committee – the first woman to hold both gavels. A champion of women and families and equal rights for all, Congresswoman Maloney is the longtime House sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment. She is also the author of the Federal Employees Paid Leave Act, part of which was signed into law in 2019 to guarantee 12-weeks paid parental leave to federal employees; the Debbie Smith Act to fund processing of DNA evidence in rape and sexual assault cases, which RAINN, the Rape, Incest and Abuse National Network, called “the most important piece of anti-rape legislation that Congress has ever passed;” the credit CARD Act, which, according to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), has saved consumers more than $16 billion annually since it was signed into law in 2009; the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act and its subsequent reauthorizations; and the Smithsonian Women’s History Museum Act, signed into law in 2020. Congresswoman Maloney has authored and helped pass legislation that targets sex trafficking, including the first bill that focused on the ‘demand’ side of human trafficking to punish the perpetrators of these heinous crimes. She is co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Human Trafficking, and previously served as the co-chair of the Trafficking Task Force of the Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues. During her first term in Congress, the Congresswoman passed legislation that provides annual mammograms for women on Medicare. Her legislation to create Women’s Health Offices in five Federal agencies was included in the Affordable Care Act.

Ms. Tessy Antony de Nassau is the Founder of the Global Consultancy ‘Finding Butterflies Consultancy Ltd’, a strategic communication firm which aims to be supporting governments, institutions and business leaders in Impact projects, educational campaigns, women inclusion, and conference attendance and organisation. Tessy is also an associate at LSEideas at the London School of Economics a global recognised educational institution in London. Tessy is also the Co-Founder of an investment vehicle which focuses on tech startups and renewable energies. Her commitments to education can be seen in her Charity‘ Professors Without Borders where she holds the title as President and Co-Founder– that brings top-level educators and global experts to the doorsteps of students worldwide, in order to develop talent. Moreover, Tessy is an ambassador for UNAIDS (Global Advocate for Young Women and Adolescent Girls) and is the patron to UNA-UK along with the creator of the UN Millennial goals Lord Malloch Brown. In the past, she spent five years in the Luxembourg military, during which she was deployed in Kosovo as a peacekeeper and only woman of her draft. Tessy is working on her medical doctorate and phd in integrative medicine at the moment. Tessy is the Co-Founder of the sustainable fashion brand called Human Highness. After an impeccable educational journey Tessy decided to put theory into practice. She actively promotes a number of issues, including global health and women’s rights. She is passionate about pushing her different agendas to benefit the Sustainable Development Goals and has committed her time and energy to furthering the work of organisations in which she believes in. Moreover, she is actively committed to strengthening basic human rights for all and empowering young women and adolescent girls around the world. She got bestowed the Dame Grand Cross of Order of Adolphe of Nassau from HRH Grand Duc Henri of Luxembourg. Moreover, she received the Woman of the Decade award from the Women Economic Forum in January 2017, the Humanities medal for spreading humanistic ideas worldwide and the Global Empowerment Award for her work in Africa. She was named “Leader of the Year 2019” by the Leadership Academy in Luxembourg. Tessy received her Honorary Doctorate for her work in and around education globally by the Paris College of Arts in May 2019. In 2019 Tessy was awarded with other distinctions for her work in education and women empowerment globally namely: Dame Grand Cross of the Order of the Drum received from HE The Majesty the King of Rwanda, London UK NATO Medal of recognition for her Deployment to Kosovo, Luxembourg 2004 United Nations Peacekeeping Medal of recognition for her deployment to Kosovo, Luxembourg 2004. Legacy Resident Recognition for Efforts to improve access to Higher Education around the world by the Beverly Hills City Council, California. Knight of the Order Lafayette by the Order Lafayette, Switzerland Pioneer of Growth & Economic Development Award by The Los Angeles City and The Honourable Council of Jamaica in Los Angeles, California. Pestalozzi Cross of Merit from the International Pestalozzi Gesellschaft, Switzerland. Chairman’s Commendation for global Leadership for Youth and Women Empowerment, London UK TIAW World of Difference Award for the outstanding contribution of making all the difference in the world to the economic empowerment of women, Australia. Tessy distinctions for 2020: Professor Honoris Causa from the Institute of Brain Chemistry and Human Nutrition in London. Freedom of the City of London as the first female Luxembourgish citizen in all its history. Tessy holds an MSc in International Studies and Diplomacy. She has certifications in Sustainable Business from the Harvard Business School and Pandemics and Epidemics from the University of California. She also holds a diploma and has actively worked for 8 years as a trauma psychologist in Luxembourg.
Ms. Mandy Sanghera, Award Winning Philanthropist, Entrepreneur and Global Human Rights Activist. Mandy is an Award Winning Philanthropist, community consultant and global campaigner often referred to as a global catalyst. As well as being an international human rights activist & motivational Tedx speaker from UK. Mandy has travelled all over the world empowering & motivating others. With over three decades of experience, Mandy is an expert in various development related fields. She has been driving innovation, building strategic partnerships, promoting advocacy and programming in the areas of human rights, gender equality, accountability and social justice globally. Mandy has helped hundreds of individuals and now reaches thousands through social media and her generous amount of worldwide TV appearances and public speaking engagements, last November she spoke at the US House of Representatives for the 3rd year in a row. This year she was at the World Economic Forum and spoke at a couple of side events.

Ms. Ronda Carnegie, Chief Innovation Officer, The Female Quotient. Ronda is a big idea thinker, builder, and connector who is currently Chief Innovation Officer of The Female Quotient leading the Business of Equality Practice. Known for her role as part of the leadership team building the TED brand, she founded the TEDInstitute, an internal consultancy to identify internal ideators, inventors, connectors and creators intensive one-on-one talk development for an event that was produced, filmed and hosted by TED. The result is a growing library of valuable, vetted TED Talks that showcase original research, spur innovation and can transform organizations. From her business experience in publishing and communications working with female leaders and executives to the creation of Connected Women Leaders, Ronda’s career reflects her belief in a transformative global agenda centered on women’s

Dr. Salma Nims, Secretary-General of the Jordanian National Commission for Women since 2014. She has 19 years’ experience in the areas of Gender and development and has been an activist for Women Rights since the early 1990s. Dr. Nims holds a PhD. in Development Planning (2004) and a MSc. in Sustainable Development (1998) from University College London, University of London. Dr. Nims served as a member of the Advisory Group to the High-Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality for the United Nations. She sits on the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Women Empowerment and co-chairs the “National Committee on Pay Equity” with the SG of the Ministry of Labour. In 2019, Dr. Nims received Said Foundation Outstanding Achievement Prize, which is awarded to individuals judged to have contributed significantly to the development of the region.

Ms. Ingrid Vanderveldt (iV) is the Chair and CEO of Empowering a Billion Women (EBW), EBW Distributors (a division of EBW2020). & Vanderveldt Global Investments. Previously, she was the first Entrepreneur-in-Residence (“EIR”) for Dell Inc. where she oversaw entrepreneurial initiatives worldwide helping to build a $250 million business segment and founded the $125M Dell Innovators Credit Fund, Dell Founders Club, and the Dell Center for Entrepreneurs during her 3-year term. iV is an Emeritus member of United Nations Foundation’s Global Entrepreneurs Council, is a Managing Partner of Vanderveldt Global Investments, founding organizer of the GLASS Forum (Global Leadership & Sustainable Success), and co-founder of The Billionaire Girls Club. She also created and hosted CNBC’s first original primetime series, “American Made,” reaching over 1M viewers around the globe and is a Dell Women’s Entrepreneur Network (Dwen) Member. She is a Global Ambassador and Advocate of Women & Diverse Leaders creating social and economic impact and job creation. She’s the Recipient of the Global Empowerment Award by the Global Business and Interfaith Peace Awards in partnership with the UN. iV has been featured on outlets including NBC, CNBC, FOX, ABC, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, Forbes, Bloomberg, CNN Money, Fortune Magazine, Fast Company, Inc Magazine and Entrepreneur Magazine. She was named one of Oprah’s SuperSoul 100 Global Leaders. She also was ranked #1 Super Connector by Fast Company, is the recipient of the Forbes and Northwestern Mutual Global “Entrepreneur in Excellence Award” and was just named the 100th Champion Celebration for the HearStrong Foundation, recipient of The Global Voice Award, World Women Foundation and The Girl Scouts “Women of Distinction” Award. She holds a Masters in Architecture at the Savannah College of Art & Design and an MBA in Entrepreneurship from UT at Austin.
Ms. Kirthi Jayakumaris is the Founder of The Gender Security Project an initiative that works at the cross-section of gender, peace, transitional justice, and security, through research, reportage, and documentation. Kirthi is an activist, artist, entrepreneur and writer. She also coded an app for survivors of gender-based violence called Saahas, which works as a web and mobile app. She founded The Red Elephant Foundation, an initiative built on storytelling, civilian peace-building and activism for gender equality. She also founded The Gender Security Project, an initiative aimed at expanding the global understanding of gender at the policy, legal, and institutional levels. She also runs a podcast #FeminifestoPodcast.

Mr. Jeffery Huffines, Senior Advisor of the Coalition for the UN We Need and Together First. Jeffery represented CIVICUS at the UN High-Level Political Forum since its inception and was an organizing partner at the UN DESA NGO Major Group (2011-2016) responsible for guiding multi-stakeholder engagement of NGOs during the lead up to RIO+20 through the adoption of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Jeffery joined CIVICUS in 2009 as UN Representative (NY). Since 2017 the civil society-led initiative UN2020 has facilitated discussions with many member states, UN secretariat officials and civil society on the need for a robust, well prepared 75th Anniversary commemoration for the UN in 2020, one that includes a meaningful process of stocktaking, review and strengthening of the organization. He was Chair of the 65th UN DPI/NGO Conference, “2015 and Beyond: Our Action Agenda,” UNHQ NY, 27-29 August 2014. Previously, Jeffery was elected Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee (2007-2011), when the Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference was hosted abroad in Paris (2008), Mexico City (2009), Melbourne (2010) and Bonn (2011). He had previously served as Main UN Representative for the U.S. Bahá’í Community where he led a number of NGO initiatives as Co-Chair of the Faith and Ethics Network for the International Criminal Court (FENICC); Chair of the UN Association/USA’s New York Council of Organizations; President of the Committee of Religious NGOs; and co-founder of the Tripartite Forum on International Cooperation for Peace.

Ms. Margo LaZaro, President and Chair of the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY. She is Co-Founder & CSO of the SDG Impact Awards Community. Margo is a Coalition Partner of the Coalition for the UN We Need and the Director of UN Relations for Global Family, and Chair of the Board of Advisors for Youth for a Better World/Montessori Model UN, Youth Impact! Forum and she represents the Huairou Commission at the UN. She is a proud to be a Board member of Soroptimist International Metro New York Chapter and a Climate Reality Project Leader. She is the Convener of the NGO Major Group Urban Thematic Cluster, as well as a member of the Women’s Major Group for the UN High Level Political Forum. Margo is a Designer and Artist with a career in Film, Theatre & TV production. In addition, she is an activist dedicated to supporting the causes related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. She has worked within the UN Community as a Chief Developer of meetings, conferences and Special Events with over thirty years of experience at the United Nations. She collaborates with all stakeholders in developing inclusive and impactful programs and projects. The NGOCSD-NY has been proud to be a Partner of the UN Secretary General’s UN75 Anniversary Dialogues and the UN Friends of World Ocean Day/Week initiative. Margo is mainly focused on connecting all areas of the 17 UN SDGs. She passionately champions SDG 17 on Building Partnerships and she believes in the NGOCSD-NY motto: “Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change.” Margo brings entrepreneurs of all ages and the private sector into the United Nations discourse to foster support for the success of the UN2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, so we “Leave No One Behind.”

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“Turn Your Passions into Actions for Change”
http://www.ngocsd-ny.org