

Commission on the Status of Women
52nd session
25 February – 7 March 2008

Interactive Expert Panel on
“Capacity-building for mainstreaming a gender perspective in the development, implementation and evaluation of national economic policies and programmes and budgets”

Tuesday 26 February 2008, 3-6 pm

Panellists

1. Ms. Marème Cissé Thiam (Ministry of the Family, Female Entrepreneurship and Microfinance, Senegal)
2. Ms. Olga Filippova (Administration of the President, Kyrgyzstan)
3. Ms. Purnima Mane (UNFPA)
4. Ms. Julia Benn (OECD Development Assistance Committee)
5. Ms. Shireen Lateef (Asian Development Bank)

1. **Ms. Marème Cissé Thiam** has been the Director of Female Entrepreneurship in the Ministry of the Family and Female Entrepreneurship in the Republic of Senegal since 2004. She has expertise in strategic planning and organizational development, project management and financing, and women’s leadership techniques. Between 2003-2006, she has participated in, supervised and/or organized nearly 40 workshops and conferences on women’s entrepreneurship and women’s socio-economic development. In addition, Ms. Thiam has participated in capacity-building “caravans” to train women entrepreneurs, and has done considerable work on strategic planning for the promotion and development of women’s entrepreneurship in Senegal. Ms. Thiam holds two Doctorates in cellular and molecular biology, one from the University of Paris VII in France and another from the University of Dakar. In addition, she holds a Master’s in natural science from UCAD in Dakar.

2. **Ms. Olga Filippova** is a Social and Gender Policy Expert in the Department of Social and Economic Policy of the Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. She has worked in the secretariat of the National Council on Women, Family, and Gender Development reporting to the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. Mrs. Filippova is helping in the development of the national statistical system for the improvement of the gender-disaggregated data and the integration of gender perspectives into the Policy for Employment and has experience in the development of the gender policy and gender-disaggregated

indicators and data for the monitoring and evaluation of the National Development Strategy for 2007–2010 and of the National Plan of Action for Achieving Gender Equality in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2007-2010. She has also participated in the evaluation of the financial requirements of that Plan.

3. **Ms. Purnima Mane** is Deputy Executive Director (Programme) at the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). She has devoted her career to advocating for population and development issues and sexual and reproductive health, pioneering work on gender and AIDS. Prior to joining UNFPA, Ms. Mane served in several international positions, such as Director of Policy, Evidence and Partnership at UNAIDS; Chief Fund Portfolio Director and Director, Asia at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; and Vice-President and Director of International Programmes at the Population Council. She worked for over a decade on public health and gender-related issues in India. Ms. Mane holds a doctorate degree from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences in Mumbai, India. She has co-authored and edited a number of books and is a founding editor of the journal *Culture, Health and Sexuality*.

4. **Ms. Julia Benn** is currently the Manager of the Statistical Policy, Analysis and Outreach Section of the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate. She has previously served as Principal Administrator of the Scaling up and Aid Architecture Section and Administrator in charge of the Credit Reporting System aid activity database, responsible for the collection and dissemination of statistics on aid and other resource flows to developing countries and countries in transition extended by the Members of the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD and multilateral institutions. Prior to her work with OECD, Ms. Benn worked with the ILO in both its Regional Office for Africa and its Technical Co-operation Promotion Branch, as well as with the Department for International Co-operation of Finland's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

5. **Ms. Shireen Lateef** is Director of Social Sectors of the South East Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Prior to this position she coordinated ADB's gender and development programme and activities for the Asia and Pacific region. As the lead gender specialist, she was responsible for developing the ADB's Policy on Gender and Development and the ADB-wide Gender Action Plan both of which constitute the ADB's guiding framework for gender activities. During the past 15 years Ms. Lateef has initiated and facilitated a wide range of gender initiatives in numerous Asian and Pacific countries focusing on policy development and coordination, conceptualization and development of regional and country specific technical assistance projects, and preparation of social, poverty and gender assessments of loan projects. Ms. Lateef has a PhD in social anthropology focusing on gender studies. Prior to joining ADB, she had various consultancy assignments with international development agencies and also held various teaching positions at the University of Melbourne, Victoria University and Monash University in Australia.