

VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT

Hosted by the Permanent Mission of South Africa on the margins of the
8th Conference of the States Parties of the Arms Trade Treaty

TOPIC: SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES OF EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND MEN IN PURSUIT OF THE PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTIONAL ARMS TREATIES AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION

Date: Monday, 22 August 2022

Time: 13:30 – 14:30 CEST

Platform: Microsoft Teams ([Click here to join](#))

BACKGROUND

The question of equal representation in the disarmament fora continues to experience set-backs when probed or addressed in formal and informal settings. The gap in women's underrepresentation in mediation, negotiations and leadership positions is rather wide compared to where it is expected to be in this present era. The UNSC Resolution 1325 has many goals, which seek to address armed conflict, but focuses on two points: addressing the problems women face as victims or survivors of war, and promoting women as agents of peace. While this is so, the same resolution is rather silent when it comes to gender issues and arms control and does not quite address the weapons used to wage this armed conflict. To this end it is evident that for a number of years, women have been broadly excluded in arms control and disarmament spaces. However, it is rather encouraging that some member states have not been silent, but are increasingly working hard to break the silos between the WPS agenda and Arms Control within the multilateral system.

UN High Representative of Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, emphasised that taking gender into account will not only have positive benefits for women but of equal importance, a gender sensitive approach to disarmament will have positive impacts for the field as a whole. Reflected in the ATT Resolution A/C.1/73/L.8/ Rev.1, the UNGA First Committee duly encourages states parties and signatories to ensure the full and equal participation of women and men in pursuing the object and purpose of the Treaty and its implementation.



MODERATOR
MS HINE-WAI LOOSE
POLICY AND GOVERNMENT LIAISON OFFICER
CONTROL ARMS

Ms Hine-Wai Loose is currently the Government Liaison and Policy Officer for Control Arms based in Geneva. Previously, Ms. Loose worked as Project Manager for the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) on cyber security governance in the Western Balkans region. From 2011 to 2017, Ms. Loose served as the Deputy to the Implementation Support Unit for the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW). In this role, she led on the issues of anti-vehicle mines, explosive weapons in populated areas and lethal autonomous weapons systems. Ms. Loose started her career with the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she worked across the issues of disarmament, environmental negotiations, human rights and international law.

PANELISTS



AMB MXOLISI NKOSI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SOUTH
AFRICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN
GENEVA

Ambassador Mxolisi Nkosi is the Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations and other international organisations in Switzerland. Prior to his appointment to Geneva, Ambassador Nkosi had been serving as Deputy Director-General: Global Governance and Continental Agenda, at South Africa's Department of International Relations and Cooperation since 2017. He was Chief Operations Officer at the Department from 2016 to 2017. From 2011 to 2016, Ambassador Nkosi was South Africa's Ambassador to Belgium and to Luxembourg, and Head of Mission to the European Union, based in Brussels. From 2007 to 2010, Ambassador Nkosi served as Deputy Director-General: Africa, at the Department of Foreign Affairs, and from 2005 to 2007, he was Chief Director: West and Central Africa, at the Department. Ambassador Nkosi was a Counsellor for labour and social affairs at the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations Office at Geneva from 1997 to 1999. He then served as Director: International Relations, at the Department of Labour from 1999 to 2000. Ambassador Nkosi holds a master's degree in diplomatic studies from the University of Pretoria. As an International Gender Champion (IGC), one of his personal commitments is to promote equal representation of women within arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament fora.



AMB ANNA JARDFELT
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SWEDEN
TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN
GENEVA

Ambassador Anna Jardfelt is the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations and other international organisations in Geneva. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Jardfelt served as Sweden's Ambassador to Kenya, the Comoros and the Seychelles and Permanent Representative to UNEP and UN-Habitat in Nairobi. From 2014 to 2017 she served as Ambassador to the European Union's Political and Security Committee in Brussels. She was the Director of the Swedish Institute of International Affairs (UI) in Stockholm from 2010 to 2014. As a career diplomat Ms. Jardfelt has held other postings. She has also worked for the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in The Hague and in the European Parliament in Brussels.



ADV EZRA MAKHOSONKE JELE
HEAD OF SECRETARIAT: CONVENTIONAL ARMS
CONTROL
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
SOUTH AFRICA

Advocate Ezra Makhosonke Jele is the Head of Secretariat for Conventional Arms Control in South Africa's Department of Defence. He was appointed in 2014 until present as Head of Secretariat - Conventional Arms Control. Prior to that, from 2012 to 2014 Adv. Jele served as Director: Aerospace and Defence at the Department of Public Enterprises; 2008-2012 Deputy Director: Disarmament and Non-Proliferation at the Department of International Relations and Cooperation; 1996-2008, Technology Manager, Defence Peacekeeping and Sports Sciences specialising in Notational Analysis- a key feature of the Soccer World Cup in 2010, at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. From 1994 to 1996 served as the International Coordinator for Armaments Corporation. Adv Jele has extensive background in Economics and Law and holds a BCom Economics (Hons) and also holds a LLB degree from the University of South Africa. He has been involved in Disarmament and Policy Development for the past 25 years. His areas of expertise include Aeronautics, Technology Management, Systems Engineering, Governance and Compliance.



HANA SALAMA
RESEARCHER IN GENDER AND DISARMAMENT
UNIDIR

Hana Salama is a Researcher in the Gender and Disarmament programme at UNIDIR. She is the co-author of Women Managing Weapons, a report which investigates the previously unexplored area of women's participation in Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM). Currently Hana is leading several projects on gender in conventional arms control and disarmament. She is conducting a study on gender responsive arms control in conflict prevention and investigating good practices for gender equality in decision making and implementation of conventional arms control and disarmament. Prior to joining UNIDIR Hana was a consultant at the Small Arms Survey where she published several papers on armed violence monitoring in the Sahel and Sub-Saharan Africa. She also worked with the Oxford Research Group where she spearheaded a process which led to the creation of the first set of international standards on casualty recording. Her areas of expertise include gender analysis, conflict prevention, small arms control and disarmament, civilian casualty recording and protection of civilians in conflict. She speaks English, French and Arabic.



MR JOSEPH DUBE
DIRECTOR
DISARMAMENT AND ARMS CONTROL (NGO)

Joseph Dube is the Director for Disarmament and Arms Control, an organisation based in Johannesburg and a member of International Action Network on Small Arms. The organisation is working on Small Arms, light weapons, conventional Arms Control, Nuclear disarmament and emerging disarmament issues. Joseph works on thematic areas such as Gender Based Violence, the inclusion of women disarmament discussions. He is a seasoned leader who has a background in multilateralism with focus on disarmament and served, for example, as lead Africa campaigner to have Ammunition included in the Arms Trade Treaty. Joseph has throughout his professional life, passionately advocated for democracy, Human Rights, anti-racism and leadership for the inclusion of all. Currently Joseph is working with IM Sweden to get African Union member states to implement the African Union Agenda 2063 (The Africa We Want) with focus on the Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2030. He was employed as the Africa Coordinator of the International Action Network on Small Arms from 2005 to 2012. Before then, he worked on arms control and human rights issues for Amnesty International, Gun Free South Africa, World Council of Churches and the Catholic Church in Johannesburg.