



CSW63 GWI Delegate Report

ICT and GBV side event

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There are many negative attitudes about the internet. .23% of women and girls are subject to GBV so we must learn how to use ICT better.

We should work with telecoms to combat conflict related sexual violence and sexploitation on line. The internet enables the rapid dissemination of information. It can refer survivors to services and collect evidence. One innovation is an alarm bell which you set off by holding down a button. There is a nexus between TV and violence. We should prevent and respond to sexual violence. Sexual violence is a recruitment feature in terrorism. Abductions generate revenue There is a lack of awareness and shame and stigma which prevent publication of events During war it is hard to collect data. There is lack of access, poorly trained police and a culture of impunity.

ICT contributes to healthcare. Somalia has a hotline, toll free, a reporting mechanism for GBV. Photographs of survivors provide for forensic evidence collection. Smart phones are a big help. Illiterate people can take pictures if they have an understanding of tech to document GBV in remote rural communities. ICT is not an end in itself and does not always work in expected ways. Women and men access tech differently. .It is not a solution to complex structural problems but we should encourage well designed well adapted tech, accessible broadly, for justice and security

Marion Monsef, Canada's Minister of Women and International Development, saw ICT as a tool which connects us; useful in agriculture. She announced \$100 million over 5 years to sustain women's organizations. She stated her government had been able to persuade FB to take revenge porn off FB. Canada was also successful when chairing the G7 in focusing an intersectional gender lens on its agenda and persuaded France to continue that in Biarritz this year when they chair the G7. Women in politics also suffer from GBV and threats online. Legislation on harassment on line is important to have. Women can be controlled and groomed on line by perpetrators.

Sierra Leone's Minister said GBV did not increase but is now better known and understood. .She spoke of the impact of the civil war, sexual slavery, forced marriage and rape Sierra Leone has a national action plan to prosecute offenders. Many laws on this topic were passed between 2007 and 2014. GBV now carries an aggravated assault charge. ICT presents a challenge when it comes to evidence gathering.