



**CSW Side Event on  
Opportunities and Challenges in Improving Rural Women's Access to  
Clean Water and Sustainable Energy**

**UN Millennium Plaza Hotel, Riverview Room, 28th floor  
February 28, 2012, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, reception to follow**

In many developing countries, women and girls are often affected by lack of water as they are primarily responsible for obtaining and transporting it for daily use. At the same time, rural women are often tasked with collecting and managing traditional fuels, limiting their time and opportunities for education. The effects of climate change in the agricultural sector and its strain on food security add to these realities.

Set as an informal conversation among the Norwegian Minister of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, the Tunisian Minister of Women and Family Affairs, Members of Parliament from different regions of the world, and a sustainable energy entrepreneur, the Side Event will cover the following issues:

- Relevant country experiences on the adverse impacts of water scarcity, traditional fuels and climate change on rural women;
- From local to global: concrete initiatives to ensure rural women's participation in sustainable energy and access to clean water;
- Drafting and implementing legislation on the universal right to clean water and sustainable sources of energy through a gender lens;
- The gender dimension of a green economy: why is it important?

**Panelists:**

- Hon. Mr. Audun Lysbakken, Minister of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, Norway
- Hon. Mrs. Sihem Badi, Minister of Women and Family Affairs, Tunisia
- Mrs. Zaynab Kure, Senator, Nigeria
- Dr. Donya Aziz, Member of Parliament, Pakistan
- Mrs. Azize Sibel Gonul, Member of Parliament, Turkey
- Member of Parliament, The Maldives (TBC)
- Ms. Minou Tavárez, Member of Parliament, Dominican Republic
- Ms. Irene Addo Torshie, Member of Parliament, Ghana
- Ms. Elsa Papadimitriou, Member of Parliament, Greece
- Ms. Tess Mateo, sustainable energy entrepreneur, CXCATALYSTS

We hope you will consider joining us at this relevant event taking place during the 56<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

To confirm your participation, please reply by February 24, 2012 to Ms. Mónica Adame at [Monica.Adame@pgaction.org](mailto:Monica.Adame@pgaction.org)