



Sunday, 17 September 2023 | 15:00 – 16:30 | Trusteeship Council Chamber

# SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE

## DRAFT SESSION PROGRAMME

The global Spotlight Initiative to eliminate violence against women and girls is a United Nations initiative in partnership with the European Union and other partners. Launched with a seed funding commitment of €500 million from the European Union, the Initiative represents an unprecedented global effort to invest in gender equality as a precondition and driver for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Section of Session	Timing	Speakers and Moderator
Welcome Address and Opening Remarks	15:00 – 15:05	Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General
Introduction & Video: The Spotlight Initiative Story	15:05 – 15:10	Sinead Bovell
Keynote Address	15:10 – 15:14	Dubravka Šuica, Vice President of the European Commission for Democracy and Demography
Commitment Addresses	15:14 – 15:27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Caroline Gennez, Minister of Development Cooperation, Belgium</li><li>• H.E. Moinina David Sengeh, Chief Minister, Sierra Leone</li><li>• H.E. Bendito dos Santos Freitas, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Timor-Leste</li></ul>
Musical Performance	15:27 – 15:32	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MILCK</li><li>• Natasha Bedingfield</li></ul>
Influencer Statements	15:32 – 15:41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cecilia Suárez, UN Global Advocate for Spotlight Initiative</li><li>• Natalie Portman, actor and philanthropist</li></ul>
Civil Society Statement	15:41 – 15:45	Terry Dale Ince, social entrepreneur and rights advocate
Video: The 'Culture Change Commitment'	15:45 – 15:50	Sinead Bovell to introduce
Panel Discussion: <i>"The influence of entertainment in changing the global culture of violence against women and girls"</i>	15:50 – 16:19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Speakers:</i> Cecilia Suárez; Natalie Portman; Ashley Judd; Nikolaj Coster-Waldau; Yemi Alade</li><li>• <i>Moderator:</i> Sinead Bovell</li></ul>
Musical Performance	16:19 – 16:22	MILCK
Statements from Member States	16:22 – 16:27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UN Group of Friends for EVAWG</li><li>• Spotlight Initiative programme countries</li><li>• other Member States</li></ul>
Closing Remarks: Joint statement from the heads of UN agencies	16:27 – 16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sima Bahous, UN Women Executive Director</li><li>• Natalia Kanem, UNFPA Executive Director</li><li>• Haoliang Xu, UNDP Associate Administrator</li></ul>