

Expert Workshop on VAW – Challenges, Good Practices, and Opportunities

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) organized an expert workshop on November 24 and 25, 2010, to discuss obstacles, challenges, good practices, and opportunities in eliminating all forms of violence against women (VAW). This workshop was organized at the request of the Human Rights Council (HRC) and in accordance with resolution A/HRC/RES/11/2 entitled “Accelerating efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women,” which was adopted by the HRC in June 2009. The workshop was “open to the participation of Governments, regional organizations, relevant United Nations bodies, civil society organizations and experts from different legal levels.”

In accordance with the resolution, the workshop had two primary aims for discussion. The first was to consider “specific measures for overcoming obstacles and challenges that States may face in preventing, investigating, and prosecuting violence against women, as well as punishing the perpetrators of violence against women,” while the second was to examine “measures for providing protection, support, assistance and redress for women subjected to violence.” The workshop was organized with the intention of producing a summary report to be prepared by the OHCHR and submitted to the Council at its 17th session, while providing the opportunity for experts from different legal, professional and geographical backgrounds to contribute to the work of human rights mechanisms.

The workshop consisted of five expert panels that were organized around the following themes:

1. Challenges, good practices and opportunities in investigating cases of violence against women.
2. Challenges, good practices and opportunities in the prosecution of violence against women and punishment of perpetrators.
3. Challenges, good practices and opportunities regarding remedy and reparation for women subjected to violence.
4. Challenges, good practices and opportunities in the prevention of violence against women.
5. Challenges, good practices and opportunities in the protection of women subjected to violence.

Detailed information on each panel discussion can be found [here](#).

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