UN Women – proposed session for International ODR Forum 2024- Prague

The Annual International Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) Forum is a significant event that brings together innovators, changemakers, and thought leaders from various sectors such as business, society, and government. The event serves as a platform to inspire and envision the future of ODR.

The Forum includes a range of activities like panel discussions on integrating AI in mediation and arbitration, technology demonstrations, and competitions. These activities aim to explore new initiatives in justice related to ODR, with contributions from a diverse group of participants including students, professionals, and experts in the field.

The upcoming 24th ODR Forum is scheduled for June 5-6, 2024, in Prague.

In 2023, UN Women sponsored government officials from the Solomon Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Nepal and Timor-Leste to participate in the ODR Forum held in India. This initiative fostered exchanges between technology innovators and senior government officials, enhancing progress in addressing development challenges through innovation and technology.

In 2024, UN Women plans to create a platform at the Forum to enable collaboration between government officials and the tech community through a workshop format.

The proposed session is divided into three parts:

- 1. The introduction session will offer an update on the global and Asia-Pacific regional status of women's access to justice, exploring how technological advancements can benefit women's rights and access to justice. It will emphasize the critical role of cross-sector partnerships between governance and the private sector in achieving justice for all, especially the most vulnerable. UN Women will discuss the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) agenda, with a particular focus on justice for women with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. The session will also provide an update on the groundbreaking legal needs survey and urge technology companies to ensure their tools and solutions are accessible. (20 minutes)
- 2. Online Solutions for Advancing Women's Human Rights. This section will focuse on utilizing online tools to support the implementation of international women's human rights treaties, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). This part will highlight the collaboration between UN Women and <u>Jupitice</u> in developing a technological tool aimed at combating discrimination against women. (20 min)
- **3. Workshop on Government Challenges:** The third section will be a workshop where two government officials, one from the national level and one from the local level, will present their development challenges related to promoting women's rights and gender equality. Specifically:
 - An official from the Republic of Palau will discuss the discrepancies between national law and local practices, highlighting the impact on women's access to justice.
 - An official from Nepal will address the challenges posed by urbanization and governance issues, focusing on their effects on women's access to justice and services.

Following these presentations, participants will be encouraged to brainstorm with the government officials on technological and innovative solutions to support women's rights in Nepal and Palau. (60 min)