



THE HIGH-LEVEL NETWORK ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICING

‘BUILDING COMMITMENT ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICING’

FIRST MEETING OF THE HIGH-LEVEL NETWORK ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICING

QUICK FACTS

Co-Chairs

Chile, the Netherlands and Senegal

Members

Albania, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Cyprus, Finland, France, Iceland, Latvia, Netherlands, Norway, Niger, Peru, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden

Representation

Ministerial or Police Chief level of national police, gendarmerie and other law enforcement agencies

Who can join?

Member States and Permanent Observers of Non-Member States to the UN

Secretariat

UN Women

Advisory Members

UN Police Division, UNODC, UNDP, OHCHR, and UN Women

Over 80 participants attended the First Meeting of the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing in person at the UN Secretariat and a further 30 Network Members and gender-responsive policing experts joined online, including from their respective capitals.

Brazil, Finland, France, Iceland, Norway, Peru, and Spain presented on examples of ‘good practice’ from their respective countries, in addition to challenges and lessons learned. These included establishing multi-sectoral support centres for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and specialized police patrols, increasing women’s representation and visibility in the police force, streamlined case reporting and increasing public awareness and training.

‘This first meeting is the start of a movement.’

Ms. Kalliopi Mingeirou, Chief, Ending Violence Against Women Section, UN Women

Challenges included resistance to changing police culture, which takes time, as well as resources constraints and addressing perpetrator accountability.

Network Members expressed their strong commitment to gender-responsive policing, including strengthening institutions, preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence and ensuring perpetrator accountability. They also called upon other Member States to consider joining this important initiative.



‘Gender Responsive Policing requires a change in the traditionally male-dominated police culture.’

Commissioner Janny Knol, National Police
Commissioner, The Netherlands

‘Gender-Responsive Budgeting is critical in efforts to end violence against women and girls.’

H.E. Jean Baptiste Tine, Minister of the Interior and Public Security, Senegal



‘The Police Division strongly believes that this initiative will give renewed momentum to our respective efforts to keep a gender-responsive policing perspective firmly at the center of our work globally.’

Commissioner Faisal Shahkar, United Nations Police Adviser
and Director of the Police Division

‘We need to increase the number of women in operational policing and also their participation in police leadership positions. A network like this provides a valuable arena to meet, work together, assist each other, and share ideas. Together, we can serve our citizens better and achieve more.’

Acting Deputy National Police Commissioner Tone Vangen, Norway

‘There has been an exponential increase in online violence against women and girls. This occurs in different forms and affects over half the world’s population. We need to do an analysis and have a shared understanding of this phenomenon, so we can effectively prevent and address this problem.’

Nathalie Pilhes, Ministerial Delegate for Women, Peace and Security National Plan, Ministry of the Interior, France



‘The benefits of gender-responsive policing are many – from increased policing expertise and knowledge of trends and effective practices – to all communities having stronger trust and confidence in the police.’

Ms. Kalliopi Mingeirou, Chief, Ending Violence Against
Women Section, UN Women, New York

‘In addition to strengthening specialized services for violence against women, it is essential that we develop initiatives aimed at protecting and supporting our female police officers, who are not immune to gender-based violence.’

Sra. Isabel Figueiredo, Director of the Unified Public Security System, Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Brazil



‘In 1990, we introduced social workers in police stations, and this practice has expanded considerably since 2019. Social workers reassure victims and direct them to other social services and social protection if needed.’

Commissioner Charlotte Huntz, National Police, France

‘We promote an institutional culture of zero tolerance against any form of violence or harassment, whether based on gender, sexual orientation or identity. [In this way], we are taking a firm institutional stance against discriminatory behaviour and actively defending equality and human rights.’

Commissioner Eulalia González Peña, Deputy Director General of the Technical Cabinet, National Police, Spain

‘All stakeholders should work in close cooperation, support each other and provide response when needed. It’s not just about cooperating but working together for the same objectives.’

Deputy Police Commissioner Sanna Heikinheimo, Finland



‘As part of its Equality Plan, the Guardia Civil is promoting and encouraging measures to achieve real equality within the organization, establishing equal opportunities between women and men as a strategic principle of our institutional policy.’

Lieutenant Colonel Verónica I. Guillén Malagón



‘Gender-Responsive Policing must be an institutional shift, not just an initiative.’

Sigríður Björk Guðjónsdóttir, National Police Commissioner, Iceland

OBJECTIVES OF THE HIGH-LEVEL NETWORK ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICING

Support advocacy and Members' efforts to **implement effective gender-responsive policing practices**, with a focus on addressing sexual and gender-based violence

Convene expertise and **facilitating knowledge exchange** between Members (at global and regional levels)

Foster multi-stakeholder partnerships e.g., with international and regional and security organizations, civil society and the UN

Across 5 key areas:

INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE	PREVENTION AND INVESTIGATION
GENDER-RESPONSIVE BUDGETING	CAPACITY- STRENGTHENING
GENDER-RESPONSIVE LEADERSHIP	

ACTIVITIES



Guidance
and tools



Community
of practice



In person meetings
and capacity
development
opportunities



Events and
webinars
with police
specialists



Building
partnerships
across countries
and regions

For further information, please contact Caroline Meenagh by email: grpsecretariat@unwomen.org

Launch of the High-Level Network on Gender-Responsive Policing
UNCOPS Summit, New York, 26 June 2024 (Photo Credit: UN Women/Ryan Brown)

