



MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
MALAYSIA



UNITED  
NATIONS  
MALAYSIA,  
SINGAPORE,  
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



GENERATION  
EQUALITY

# INTERNATIONAL W♀MEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS 2021

VIRTUAL FORUM

“WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP:

ACHIEVING AN EQUAL FUTURE IN A COVID-19 WORLD”

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

2.00PM - 5.00PM

#IWD2021, #ActforEqual, #internationalwomensday,  
#GenerationEquality



**REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK HERE - <https://tinyurl.com/3l5f63vq>**

**WATCH ON YOUTUBE LIVE HERE - <https://youtu.be/O3QTWTzlTws>**

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION 2021 VIRTUAL FORUM  
"WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: ACHIEVING AN EQUAL FUTURE IN A COVID-19  
WORLD"**

**Jointly organised by:**

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)**

**The United Nations in Malaysia**

**Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)**

## **BACKGROUND**

**International Women's Day (IWD) is a global day celebrated annually on every 8th of March to commemorate women's achievements in social, economic, cultural and political spheres. IWD seeks to honor women's accomplishments, increase awareness and understanding on women's rights and equality, and calls various stakeholders to action to achieve gender parity.**

**The global theme for IWD 2021 is "Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 World". The theme is timely, in view of the challenges faced by women and girls across the world in facing the unprecedented global pandemic in modern times, and in highlighting the leadership role of women in rising above the challenges.**



# OBJECTIVE

The IWD 2021 Forum aims to:

- Increase awareness among the various stakeholders and decision-makers in Malaysia on the political/economic/social/security/educational/psychological challenges confronted by women and girls in facing the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Share best practices, identify opportunities, and propose solutions as a way forward in empowering women and girls to eliminate gender discrimination.
- Highlight exemplary roles of women leaders, at the community, national, and international level, in facing the global pandemic crisis.

# FOCUS AREAS

- Challenges related to COVID-19 confronted by women and children in the political/economic/social/health/security/educational/psychological spheres.
- The role of the United Nations in promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls globally, especially in overcoming the impacts of COVID-19.
- Malaysia's international obligations in protecting and promoting the rights of women and children in the country.
- The Government's initiatives to cushion the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls, such as relating to the loss of livelihood, domestic violence, child abuse, disabilities, childcare, mental health, schooling, gender digital divide, job discrimination, and flexible work arrangements.
- Best practices and suggested solutions at the local, national, and international level to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls.
- Women role models at the local and international level who provide effective leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.



## OPENING SESSION (2.00-2.10PM)



Welcoming Address:

**Mr. Stefan Priesner,**

United Nations Resident Coordinator  
for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei  
Darussalam



Keynote Address:

**YB Dato' Kamarudin Jaffar,**

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
Malaysia

## PANEL I: HEALTH, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION OF WOMEN IN A COVID-19 WORLD (2.15-3.15PM)



Moderator:

**YBhg. Dato' Dr.  
Madeline Berma**  
SUHAKAM  
Commissioner



**Ms. Sumitra  
Visvanathan**

Executive Director,  
Women's Aid  
Organisation (WAO)



**Dr. Zurina binti Abdul  
Hamid**

Director General,  
Department of Women  
Development (JPW),  
Ministry of Women,  
Family  
and Community  
Development of  
Malaysia (KPWKM)



**YBhg. Dato' Prof. Dr.  
Adeeba Kamarulzaman**

Professor of Medicine &  
Infectious Diseases,  
University of Malaya /  
Chairperson of the  
Malaysian AIDS  
Foundation

**Question & Answer Session for Panel I**

**Break**

## SPECIAL VIDEO MESSAGES BY (3.30PM - 3.45PM)



**YBhg. Tan Sri Jemilah Mahmood**  
Special Advisor to the  
Prime Minister of Malaysia  
on Public Health



**Dr. Amalina Bakri**  
General Surgery  
Registrar & Clinical  
Research Fellow  
Imperial College London

## PANEL II: LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT IN ENSURING AN EQUAL FUTURE FOR WOMEN IN A COVID-19 WORLD (3.45PM - 4.45PM)



Moderator:  
**Mr. Najib Assifi**  
United Nations  
Population Fund  
(UNFPA)  
Representative for  
Malaysia



**Ms. Bandana Rana**  
Vice-Chair of the  
Committee on the  
Elimination of  
Discrimination  
Against Women  
(CEDAW)



**Dr. Nik Salida  
Suhaila Nik Saleh**  
SUHAKAM  
Commissioner



**YBhg. Datuk Yasmin  
Mahmood**  
Chairman, Pos  
Malaysia Bhd.  
Chairman, Heriot Watt  
University Malaysia

### Question & Answer Session for Panel II

## CLOSING SESSION (4.45PM - 5.00PM)



Message of Appreciation by  
**YBhg. Tan Sri Othman Hashim**  
Chairman of SUHAKAM



Closing Remarks by  
**YBhg. Datuk Nicol Ann David**

**End of Programme**





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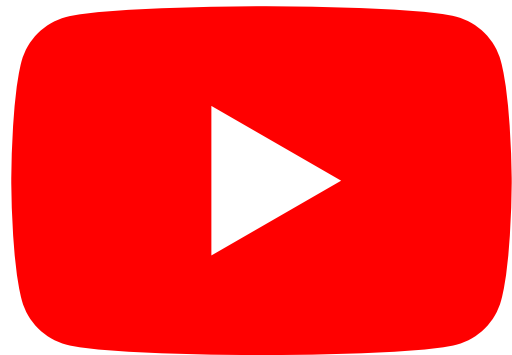


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