Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in National SDG Implementation Plans

**Wednesday 25 April 2018 | 11:00-12:30 | Committee Room 1 | UN House, Beirut**

**Background:**

The 2030 Agenda notes that “realizing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the goals and targets”. In February 2018, UN Women launched its flagship 2017 report on global progress in the implementation of a gender-responsive Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. This report offers an excellent resource to member States and other stakeholders in the region in considering the gender dimensions of the SDGs in focus in 2018 (natural resources management).

**Session Objectives:**

- The session will aim to highlight how gender equality and women’ empowerment (GEWE), being a key component of the principle of Leave No One Behind, is a foundation of Agenda 2030;
- The session will showcase some experiences and best practices from the region in mainstreaming GEWE through national implementation, monitoring and reporting plans, with a focus on gender-responsive approaches to SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12, 15 and 17; and
- The session will examine how the Goals in focus are linked to other SDGs and targets with a particular impact on gender equality.

**Theme of Discussion:**

- The special session will focus on articulating a gender dimension of each of the four plenary themes of AFSD-2018 and how member States can reflect this in reporting processes. It will also highlight the contribution of civil society and academia to the work of governments to meet SDG targets.

**Facilitator:**

- Ms. Mehrinaz El Awady, Director, UN-ESCWA Centre for Women

**Panelists:**

- HE Jean Ogasapian, Minister of State for Women’s Affairs, Lebanon
- Ms. Shiruk Abayachi, Member of Parliament, Iraq
- Ms. Lina Abirafeh, Director, Institute for Women’s Studies in the Arab World, Lebanese American University
- Mr. David Griggs, Professor of Sustainable Development, Monash University, Australia
- Ms. Begona Lasagabaster, Special Representative of the Regional Director of UN Women in Lebanon