Gender Inclusive Development amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

As frontline workers, women have remained the most vulnerable to the Coronavirus. Before and during the pandemic, they have been facing increased risks of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), and have been hit hard by its economic consequences, the unequal distribution of care and domestic work, and their exclusion from policymaking surrounding the COVID crisis. This plenary will, therefore, specifically focus on how to address vocal questions regarding the pandemic and its impact on perpetuating gender inequality.

The plenary will highlight some of the most critical challenging facing the implementation of the in light of the impacts of COVID-19.

In addition, the plenary will reflect on the impact and challenges facing the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals since the pandemic is now likely to delay the process of the implementation of Agenda 2030 which was already facing difficulties even before the pandemic hit due to scarce financial resources in developing economies, technological impediments, and monitoring loopholes. According to the UN ‘Leaving No One Behind’ is now more essential than ever. The challenge of improving peoples’ lives after this crisis will be greater than ever.

In light of the above, policy input from both government and opposition leaders is vital. The panel will, therefore, focus exclusively on the latter and invite thought leaders from the Opposition to discuss the following:

- Gender Inclusive Development amidst the Pandemic
- Challenges in the Implementation of UN SDGs: Future Prospects in Light of Pandemic Shocks

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