

***Beijing Declaration: Its Contributions and Challenges to the Realization of the SDGs:
Speaker Bios***

Speaker: Sister Regy Augustine, MMS

“The Intertwined Struggles: Domestic Violence and the Pursuit of Gender Equality”

Bio: Regy Augustine, born in Kottayam District, Kerala, India is a Medical Mission Sister since 1996. She completed her Master’s Degree in Social Work, Bachelor in Law and Political Science, a Teachers Training Course and Diploma in Family Counseling. She has been a practicing lawyer since 2007, a former Juvenile Justice Board Member for 6 years and legal counselor of domestic violence for 5 years appointed by the Social Justice Board, Government of Kerala.

Currently, she serves as the secretary of VISWAS or Victims Information, Sensitization, Welfare and Assistance Society; the Regional Coordinator of Religious Sisters Working Against Human Trafficking-a network of Talitha Kum; an Internal Committee Member of Protection of Women from Sexual Harassment at Workplace, and the Gender and Human Rights Coordinator and Legal Consultant of Archana Women’s Center in Kottayam.

She has been working for HIV/AIDS for 14 years and has written a handbook, “Rights of Victims and Survivors”. She is currently based in New York for a 4-month Internship Program to the Medical Mission Sisters’ UN office.

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Speaker: Dr. Patricia L. McDonald OP, Ed D., LPC, CSW

“Women and Empowerment SDG 5”

Bio: Pat McDonald is a consultant, workshop presenter and author. Her professional background includes Community Mental Health, Agency work in Private Practice, and higher education.

She has been an educator in higher education from 1990-2024 where she taught courses in Business Ethics, Clinical Mental Health, Cultural Diversity, Education, Leadership and Psychology at:

- A.T. Still University
- Central Michigan University,
- Sacred Heart Major Seminary
- Siena Heights University

- University of Phoenix
- Dublin, Ireland, summer graduate classes from 2004-2014

Many of her classes were taught online as students are situated throughout the United States and some were on active duty as they served in the military around the world.

Pat serves as a consultant and provides professional seminars with businesses, churches, hospitals organizations and mental health agencies. Books she has published through www.trafford.com include:

- Forgiveness
- SIFT: Systems, Ideas, Faith, Think
- Anger and Forgiveness

Her work has taken her to 4 continents and 23 countries around the world

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Speaker: Ana Clementina Mejía Orellana

“The face of inequality in Honduras: Gender violence in the workplace, politics and femicides”

Bio: Ana Clementina Mejía Orellana is a Honduran feminist sociologist, married and mother of three children (two daughters and a son). Her work focuses on women's issues, especially gender violence and the constant search to improve their living conditions. She has researched female migration, both internally and internationally, including the return of migrant women. She has been an active participant in the formulation of gender policies in the municipality of El Progreso and is an activist of the Red de Mujeres del Progreso. She also teaches at the Autonomous University of Honduras. Her strong commitment to the cause of women has established her as a tireless advocate for their rights.

Spanish Version:

“El rostro de la desigualdad en Honduras: Violencia de género en el trabajo, la política y los feminicidios”

Biografía: Ana Clementina Mejía Orellana es una socióloga feminista hondureña, casada y madre de tres hijos (dos hijas y un hijo). Su labor se enfoca en temas relacionados con las mujeres, especialmente en la violencia de género y en la constante búsqueda de mejorar sus condiciones de vida. Ha investigado la migración femenina, tanto a nivel interno como internacional, incluyendo el retorno de mujeres migrantes. Ha sido una activa participante en la formulación de políticas de género en el municipio de El Progreso y es militante de la Red de

Mujeres del Progreso. Además, se desempeña como docente en la Universidad Autónoma de Honduras. Su firme compromiso con la causa de las mujeres la ha consolidado como una defensora incansable de sus derechos.

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Speaker: Maki Saito

“Impact of Beijing Declaration on Gender Equity”

Bio: Ms. Saito provides consulting services in the fields of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). To date, she has authored and translated eight books on SDGs, CSR, Social Entrepreneurship, Corporate Ethics, Philanthropy, and the Gift Economy. An active social entrepreneur, she has been teaching these subjects in MBA programs at SBI Graduate School and other universities for over 20 years. She is also working as a “social real estate agent,” leveraging her real estate investment experience to establish a Japanese senior home in Los Angeles.

During her years at Dentsu Inc., one of the world’s largest advertising agencies, Ms. Saito worked for global events. She was in charge for marketing and public relations for the Nagano Winter Olympics in Japan and led various projects in collaboration with the United Nations.

Ms. Saito earned her bachelor’s degree from Sacred Heart University in Tokyo and a master’s degree from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs in New York. She is currently writing a book to empower girls. Above all, she is a proud mother of a daughter.