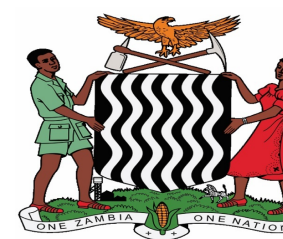




Permanent Mission of Italy  
to the United Nations



*Dipartimento per le politiche della famiglia*



PERMANENT MISSION  
OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

## UNHQ CONFERENCE ROOM 7

### PROGRAMME

#### OPENING REMARKS

LORENZO FONTANA - MINISTER FOR FAMILY  
AND DISABILITIES, ITALY

HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE OF UN WOMEN

CHARLES RAMSDEN - CHAIR OF THE GENDER  
EQUALITY COMMISSION, COUNCIL OF EUROPE

#### KEYNOTE SPEECH

ERIKA BERNACCHI - SENIOR RESEARCHER,  
ISTITUTO DEGLI INNOCENTI, ITALY

#### REACTIONS

FABRIZIO DAVIDE - COORDINATOR OF THE  
CROSS PROJECT

CHRISTINA AGORITSA - POLICY OFFICER,  
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, GREECE

AUXILIA PONGA, PERMANENT SECRETARY,  
MINISTRY OF GENDER, ZAMBIA

#### Q&A SESSION

MODERATOR: GIOVANNA PANCHERI - SKTG24

THURSDAY, 14 MARCH  
2019

1.15 PM - 2.30 PM

THE USE OF NEW  
TECHNOLOGIES  
FOR THE  
PROMOTION OF  
WORK-LIFE  
BALANCE AND  
THE  
ADVANCEMENT  
OF FAMILY  
POLICIES FOR  
THE SOCIAL  
INCLUSION OF  
WOMEN AND MEN

RSVP: [PLEASE CLICK HERE](#)

## BACKGROUND

THE CURRENT GLOBAL CONTEXT PRESENTS AN INCREASING NUMBER OF CHALLENGES COMING FROM THE DIGITAL EVOLUTION, WHICH IS CHANGING MANY ASPECTS OF OUR DAILY LIFE AND WORK. WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THESE CHALLENGES, A KEY ROLE IS PLAYED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW DIGITAL AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES THAT COULD OFFER NEW OPPORTUNITIES ABLE TO MAKE LOCAL SERVICES MORE AND MORE EFFICIENT AND IN LINE WITH THE NEEDS OF WOMEN AND MEN, FAMILIES AND COMPANIES.

THE INNOVATIVE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES ALLOWS TO CHANGE THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK SCHEDULE, WHILE ENSURING AN INCREASING TIME FLEXIBILITY. INDEED, DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES CAN PROVIDE NEW TOOLS FOR BOTH WOMEN AND MEN TO ENTER AND REMAIN IN THE LABOUR MARKET THROUGH NEW FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO ENHANCING WORK-LIFE BALANCE IN THEIR LIVES.

EQUALLY IMPORTANT TO THIS END IS THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF BOTH WOMEN AND MEN THROUGH THE REORGANIZATION AND OPTIMIZATION OF THE EXISTING WELFARE SERVICES, BY MEANS OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES ENHANCING THE NETWORK OF SUCH SERVICES AND THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE THIRD SECTOR, ALSO WITH A VIEW TO SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASPECTS HINDERING THE PARTICIPATION OF (ESPECIALLY) WOMEN IN EMPLOYMENT AND THEIR CAREER PATHS.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE IS THEREFORE A FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE FOR BOTH WOMEN AND MEN WORKERS AND IS LINKED TO MANY OTHER ISSUES SUCH AS THE QUALITY OF WORK, THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE LABOUR MARKET, AND EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN IN EMPLOYMENT.

IT IS THEREFORE OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE THAT BOTH PUBLIC ADMINISTRATIONS AND COMPANIES, AS WELL AS THE THIRD SECTOR PROMOTE, THROUGH THE USE OF NEW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES, THE OPTIMIZATION OF EXISTING SERVICES AND AN ORGANIZATION OF WORK BASED ON THE PROMOTION OF FLEXIBLE WORKING ARRANGEMENTS, ALSO WITH THE AIM OF INCREASINGLY INVOLVING FATHERS IN THE FAMILY LIFE AND PROVIDING BOTH MALE AND FEMALE WORKERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE CARE OF DEPENDENT FAMILY MEMBERS, AS WELL AS TO INSPIRE THE NECESSARY CULTURAL CHANGE TOWARDS AN OCCUPATIONAL CULTURE BASED ON RECONCILIATION BETWEEN WORK AND FAMILY LIFE AND ON THE INCLUSION OF BOTH WOMEN AND MEN IN ALL AREAS OF SOCIETY.

## OBJECTIVES

THE EVENT WILL BE MAINLY AIMED AT:

1. PROMOTING A CONSTRUCTIVE AND COMPREHENSIVE DIALOGUE ON HOW DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES CAN PROMOTE AND FACILITATE WORK-LIFE BALANCE;
2. PROMOTING THE EXCHANGE OF GOOD PRACTICES AMONG GOVERNMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NGOs AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS AND EXPLORING INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF RECONCILIATION AND FAMILY POLICIES;
3. PROMOTING THE ADOPTION OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR THE OPTIMIZATION OF THE EXISTING SERVICES FOR THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OF BOTH WOMEN AND MEN THROUGH THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES.

