

**Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women,
including Domestic Violence**

**Closing Conference
10 – 11 June 2008
Council of Europe, Palais de l'Europe
Strasbourg, France**

“Good practices to prevent and combat violence against women”

**Remarks by
Ms. Carolyn Hannan, Director
United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women**

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/>

education, child health, maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS and overall sustainable development.

The topic for this morning's session is good practices to prevent and combat violence against women. As part of the campaign, Council of Europe Member States were urged to make significant progress in the areas of legal and policy measures, support and protection for victims, data collection, and awareness-raising. They were encouraged to collect and disseminate good practices in the areas of prevention, protection and prosecution.

The four areas of action align closely with the categories of promising practices

those working on other issues, such as HIV/AIDS, women's economic empowerment and other aspects of social justice, is also good practice.

The work of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women - in monitoring implementation of the Convention in the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women (CEDAW) with regard to violence against women, as well as under the Optional Protocol - enhances State accountability for

Last month, the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, convened another meeting of experts on good practices in legislation on violence against women, to analyze different legislative approaches; assess lessons learned in regard to laws and legislative reforms on violence against women; and identify effective approaches and recommended strategies for legislation. The experts developed guidelines and a model framework for legislation on violence against women. The outcome of the expert group meeting, which is expected to become available later this summer, will also contribute good practices for the Secretary

enjoy their human rights. It has united a range of stakeholders to take action. While work on violence against women has gained momentum, it nevertheless persists everywhere. At this closing conference, which everyone is in agreement is only the end of the beginning of the efforts to end violence against women, it is important to identify and creatively build on the gains made, scale up efforts and ensure sustained positive impact on the lives of women and girls.

It is positive that one of the recommendations being discussed in the Council of Europe today is a convention on violence against women. I believe that, in keeping with the global focus on all forms of violence against women in the United Nations – in the on-going work of the General Assembly, the in-depth study of the UN Secretary-General and the campaign of the Secretary-General – the focus of the convention in the Council of Europe should not be restricted to some forms of violence but should cover violence against women and girls in all its forms.

Identifying and broadly disseminating good and promising practices is one important element of scaling up and strengthening work on eliminating all forms of violence against women. I look forward to the presentations of concrete examples and the discussion to follow today, as well as to continuing close cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe on this critical issue.

Thank you.