

11 November 2020

Distinguished Representatives,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the opening event of the 16-days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence and the celebration of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2020 "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!" on Wednesday, 25 November, from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (CET).

The virtual event will be hosted by IFAD and is co-organized with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

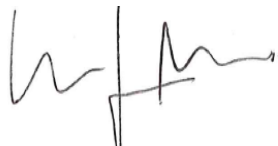
In line with the call for global action launched by the United Nations Secretary-General's campaign, UNiTE to End Violence against Women (UNiTE), the Rome-based agencies are joining together to increase awareness and create opportunities for addressing Gender-based Violence (GBV).

A number of champions, including Vibha Bakshi - Film Director and Producer, will voice their zero tolerance for gender-based violence and discuss in particular how the COVID-19 pandemic is disproportionately affecting women and girls in all their diversity and exposing them to greater risks of gender-based violence. Further information may be found in the [draft agenda](#) and [concept note](#).

Representatives may register online for this Zoom virtual meeting [here](#). Representatives are reminded of the naming convention for virtual meetings, namely COUNTRY NAME (in capital letters) followed by Surname (first letter capitalized). Upon completion of the registration process, the Zoom meeting link will be sent to participants. Participants may also add the meeting to online calendars. Instructions and quick guide on how to use Zoom and how to join a Zoom meeting by telephone are available in the Member States Interactive Platform under this [link](#).

We look forward to your participation at this event.

Accept, Distinguished Representatives, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luis Jiménez-McInnis'.

Luis Jiménez-McInnis
Secretary of IFAD

Representatives to the Rome-based agencies
for Food and Agriculture