

Women at the Peace Table

Saturday, June 17, 2023

Het Perron, Ypres

Conference Program

9.00 am Welcome

9.30 am Video message by **Anwarul K. Chowdury** - former Ambassador to the United Nations & signatory of Resolution 1325 in 2000

9.35 am Welcome by **Sarah Schlitz** - Secretary of State for Gender Equality, Equal Opportunities and Diversity in Belgium

9.45 am Dialogue between **Sima Samar** - former Chairperson of the Afghanistan Human Rights Commission - and **Annie Matundu Mbambi** - President of WILPF DRC - led by **Elien Spillebeen** - MO magazine journalist & founder of Mama Kivu

10.25 am Testimony of **Razia Arefi** - former director for Mothers for Peace in Afghanistan

10.30 am Testimonies from **Parents Circle** (Israel & Palestine) led by **Anne-Marie Gielen** - Pax Christi collaborator

11.15 am Coffee break

11.40 am Poem

11.45 am Panel with **Reem Alsalem** - UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, **Pr. Rangita de Silva de Alwis** (member of CEDAW committee) and the **Belgian Youth for Climate (Boon Breyne)** led by **Tine Hens** - Belgian journalist

12.20 am Drawing by **Sonja Mazereel**

12.30 am Lunch and networking

2.00-3.30 pm Workshops

- **Dabka dance** Palestine (multi-purpose hall or open air)
- **Documentary** on South Sudan (For the Sake of Peace), large hall, **NL/ANG**)
- **Empowerment** from India, sisters Jeanne Devos and Françoise Bosteels, both have lived and worked in India for many years (meeting room, **FR/ANG**) “Women in Black” will also explain their actions.
- In-depth **dialogue** on the situation of women in the DRC, with Annie Matundu and the Congolese diaspora in Belgium (meeting room, **FR**)
- Workshop on **non-violent communication**, Pat Patfoort from Vuurbloem (meeting room, **NL**)
- Peace walk in Ypres, with the guide Ann Reynaert (**NL**)

3.30 pm Coffee break

4.00 pm Reading of the Peace Declaration in three languages

4.15 pm Official signing of the Peace Declaration by the authorities and the public

4.30 pm Closing speeches