

Advisory Board of the Women's Platform for the Peace, Security and Cooperation (PSC) Framework Terms of Reference (updated May 2017)

Goal and Objectives of the Women's Platform

The Women's Platform (WP) was established in 2013 by the Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region (OSESGL) and seeks to empower women of the region as peacemakers and leaders. The main objective of the WP is to ensure that women leaders and women's rights groups, at national and regional levels play a prominent role in peace efforts in the region and actively participate in the implementation of the PSC Framework.

The Women's Platform oversees three components: political advocacy, gender mainstreaming and provision of small grants to grass roots women's organizations. Over the next three years, the Women's Platform will continue to work towards its objectives in order to address the root causes of conflict in eastern DR Congo and the region. The Women's Platform performs the following functions:

- Increase women's effective participation in conflict prevention, political and peace processes at national and regional levels through advocacy;
- Provide small grants to women's right groups at grassroots and community levels in DRC, Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda;
- Convene women's organizations for capacity-building, shared learning and policy dialogues;
- Mainstream gender perspectives in the Office of the Special Envoy's roadmap, programs and initiatives.

Responsibilities of Advisory Board Members

1. Contribute expertise to the current and future work of the Women's Platform to deepen the understanding between the women's movement and peace and political processes in the Great Lakes region;
2. Advise the Women's Platform on issues that impact women's participation in peace and political processes at local, national or regional levels in the Great Lakes region
3. Make recommendations of relevant donors that could support Women Platform initiatives and support the Office of the Special Envoy in fundraising; and
4. Allow the Women's Platform and Office of the Special Envoy to publish your name as a member of the Advisory Board.

Meetings and Attendance

1. Advisory board meetings will be convened every 4 months via conference calls mostly and when opportune, they will take place in person.
2. Board members will receive updates on the Women's Platform activities twice a year and by e-mail.
3. It is expected that members attend all meetings and should not miss two meetings in a row.
4. Membership in the Advisory Board is voluntary.