**Brief biography of Anastasia Crickley**

Anastasia Crickley is the Chairperson of Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the second woman to chair the Committee since its establishment 1970.

Anastasia Crickley, has challenged and addressed racism throughout her life at local, regional, national and international levels, in direct work with discriminated groups including Travellers and Roma, in academic arenas, and in global and local policy and human rights fora.

She has been the Chairperson of the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism (EUMC) and of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency, and served as Personal Representative of the chair in office of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). She has a long standing association with the Council of Europe, including as a member of the Framework Convention on the protection of National Minorities, and is currently vice-president of the International Association of Community Development.

In Ireland, Anastasia was the Chairperson of the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism, which led the development and embedding of Ireland's National Action Plan on Racism. She was a founding member of the Migrants Rights Centre Ireland and of the National Traveller Women's Forum, Chairperson of Pavee Point national Traveller and Roma Centre and of Community Work Ireland. She also led the Department of Applied Social Studies at Maynooth University, which has played a national leadership role in access and participation opportunities for marginalised and minority groups including Travellers.

**Synopsys of her presentation**

Ms Crickley will be sharing CERD’s contribution to prevent racial discrimination. She will first give an overview of the Early Warning and Urgent Action Procedure that was first introduced by the Committee in 1993 and revised in 2007. This tool is unique in its preventative approach to potential violations of the provisions enshrined in the Convention by States parties. Ms Crickley will then demonstrate the many facets in which the Committee interacts with civil society organizations as well as the Committee's contribution to react to cases of reprisals and intimidation of CSOs, including human rights defenders, following their engagement with the Committee. She will also speak briefly to her own experience as part of national mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of General Assembly Resolution 1325 and particular issues for women with regard to early warning in conflict or possible conflict situations.