

- Enhanced dialogue and experience sharing among Southeast Asian judges and judicial training institutions in promoting gender equality
- Action plans proposed for capacity building at country and regional levels to promote women's access to justice and gender responsive judiciary

The long-term outcomes/impact of the judicial colloquium are:

- Increased number of court decisions refer to CEDAW
- Improved judicial procedures allowing women better access to justice
- More women attain justice through courts.
- As leaders in their communities, members of the judiciary will help shape social attitudes about gender equality by challenging discriminatory practices both inside the court and in society at large.

#### **4. Specific topics that will be discussed during the judicial colloquium are:**

- (a) Gender equality jurisprudence and the role of the judiciary in promoting women's access to justice;
- (b) How the judiciary may respond when culture, customary and traditional practices or religion are invoked as justification for violations of the fundamental rights and freedoms of women;
- (c) Domestic legislation and the CEDAW;
- (d) Judicial decisions addressing violations of women's human rights in the private sphere, applying CEDAW and other international human rights instruments;
- (e) Judicial decisions addressing violations of women's human rights in the public sphere, applying CEDAW and other international human rights instruments;
- (f) Enhancing training on women's human rights for the judiciary and court personnel; and
- (g) Advancing judicial awareness and education on women's human rights and access to justice.

#### **5. Participants:**

At least 40 participants have been invited to this judicial colloquium. There will be Supreme Court-level judges and representatives from judicial training institutions of the 8 participating countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Timor Leste, Thailand, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, and Myanmar). Judges from lower courts of the participating countries have also been invited, specifically those who have either rendered decisions applying or invoking CEDAW principles or those whose mandates include deciding cases that have a direct impact on women's human rights (e.g. judges from juvenile and family courts).