2020 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). 2020 was intended to be ground-breaking for the accelerated realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, even limited gains made in the past decades are at risk of being rolled back.

Joining the “Generation Equality” movement to realize women’s rights for an equal future, in particular in light of the current pandemic, the Vienna-based Commissions – the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice – organize together with UNODC an MS Teams Event.

The event aims to raise awareness for the commitments made 1995 in Beijing, in particular in relation to the work of the Commissions in Vienna and UNODC, highlighting the joint contributions, and discussing how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting women and girls and further deepening pre-existing inequalities.