Call for Action - PNG

**Call for Action**

**8 June 2010**

**Women in decision-making: A key to sustainable development**

Women continue to be dramatically underrepresented in decision-making positions in Papua New Guinea (PNG). It is necessary to ensure full and equal representation and participation of women in the decision-making processes to address social and economic issues in an integrated way. It is also imperative to have a State consistent program with a budgetary allocation for effective implementation and monitoring mechanisms on women’s political empowerment.

**Women's participation in political processes is crucial for reaching Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);** States and donors must remember their commitments to gender equality. They must also remember the findings of the *Global Monitoring Report of the World Bank* and the *Gender Gap Report of the World Economic Forum,* which demonstrates that countries score high on competitiveness, also enjoy high levels of gender equality.

The PNG government committed itself in Beijing Platform of Action (BPFA), under Article 190 *“To establishing the goal of gender balance in governmental bodies and committees, as well as in public administrative entities, and in the judiciary, including, inter alia, setting specific targets and implementing measures to substantially increase the number of women with a view to achieving equal representation of women and men, if necessary through positive action, in all governmental and public administration positions”.*

In May 2010, as a result of the tireless efforts of PNG women, the PNG government tabled the Bill as a Notice, once again proposing 22 seats reserved for women in the Parliament. This Bill will be put up for debate and voting in July 2010. The constitutional amendment will ensure close to 20% seats reserved for women.

***Recognising positive steps of the PNG state towards the implementation of MDGs, BPFA and Convention on the Elimination of all kinds of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); We the women from Asia Pacific region call upon the PNG State to implement international and national commitments made for women’s political empowerment through the following:***

1. Implement special measures to increase the level of women’s representation to at least 33% in parliaments, national and local governments, parliamentary standing committees and political parties.
2. Implement gender budgeting initiatives and allocate adequate State finances for gender equality.

**List of Signatories:**

1. Avazkan Ormonova

Member, Forum of Women NGOs of Kyrgyzstan

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Email: [aormonova@rambler.ru](mailto:aormonova@rambler.ru)



1. Olga Djanaeva

Rural Women’s Association, “Alga”

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Email: [ngoalga@gmail.com](mailto:ngoalga@gmail.com), [alga@infotl.kg](mailto:alga@infotl.kg)



1. Dr. Kalyani K. Meena

Secretary,

Prerna Bharati

Jharkhand, India

Email: [prernabharati@yahoo.co.in](mailto:prernabharati@yahoo.co.in), [kalyanikandhar@yahoo.co.in](mailto:kalyanikandhar@yahoo.co.in)



1. Binda Pandey

Central Committee Member of CPN (UML)

& Chairperson, Fundamental Rights and Directive Principle Committee of Constituent Assembly

Kathmandu, Nepal

Email: [binda.pandey@gmail.com](mailto:binda.pandey@gmail.com), [binda.pandey@can.gov.np](mailto:binda.pandey@can.gov.np)



1. Farrah Parvaiz Saleh

Executive Director

Citizens Commission for Human Development

Lahore, Pakistan

Email: [Farrah\_saleh@cchd.org.pk](mailto:Farrah_saleh@cchd.org.pk), [saleh.farrah@gmail.com](mailto:saleh.farrah@gmail.com)



1. Bazar Chimed

Head of “Citizens Wiee” Union

Ulaanbataar, Mongolia

Email: [c\_bazar@parliament.mn](mailto:c_bazar@parliament.mn), [c\_Bazar2000@yahoo.com](mailto:c_Bazar2000@yahoo.com)



1. Khon Tavin

Vice-Chairperson

Women Movement of National Party

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Email: [meylakena@yahoo.com](mailto:meylakena@yahoo.com)



1. Restaria F. Hutabarat

Head, Division of Research and Development

Jakarta Legal Aid Institute (LBH Jakarta)

Jakarta, Indonesia

Email: [resta\_hutabarat@yahoo.com](mailto:resta_hutabarat@yahoo.com)



1. Luzviminda C. Ilagan

Representative Elect

House of Representatives

Quezon City, Philippines

Email: [repluzilagan@gmail.com](mailto:repluzilagan@gmail.com)



1. Lorna Bercilla Mandin

Integrated Gender and Development Division

Davao City, Philippines

Email: [igdd\_davao@yahoo.com](mailto:igdd_davao@yahoo.com), [elaybee@yahoo.com](mailto:elaybee@yahoo.com)



1. Aicha Binte Umar Bassarewan

Member of Parliament

Dilli, Timor-Leste

Email: [aicha.bassarewan@gmail.com](mailto:aicha.bassarewan@gmail.com)



1. Sharifah Syahirah Bt Syed Sheikh

Lecturer, Political Science

UiTM Shah Alam Selangor

Selangor, Malaysia

Email: [syahirah9275@salam.uitm.edu.my](mailto:syahirah9275@salam.uitm.edu.my), [shirs77@yahoo.com](mailto:shirs77@yahoo.com)



1. Zareeni Azmi

Lecturer, Universiti Sains Malaysia

Women’s Development Research Centre

(KANITA)

Penang, Malaysia

Email: [zaireeni\_azmi@usm.my](mailto:zaireeni_azmi@usm.my), [zaireni\_azmi@yahoo.com](mailto:zaireni_azmi@yahoo.com)



1. Baiyah Binti Ag. Mahmon

Senior Research Associate

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Sabah, Malaysia

Email: [baiyah@ids.org.my](mailto:baiyah@ids.org.my), [baiyahmahmon@gmail.com](mailto:baiyahmahmon@gmail.com)



1. Low Tsee Pei

Constituency Assistant of YB Ean Yong Hian Wah

(State Assemblyman for Seri Kembangan)

Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia

Email: [aduan.serikembangan@gmail.com](mailto:aduan.serikembangan@gmail.com), [stella2330@hotmail.com](mailto:stella2330@hotmail.com)



1. Bunn Rachana

Technical Assistant

Paz y Desarrollo (Peace & Development)

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Email: [rachana@pazydesarrollo.org](mailto:rachana@pazydesarrollo.org), [rachanabunn@gmail.com](mailto:rachanabunn@gmail.com)



1. Rhoda Sikilabu

Minister for Community Affairs

Isabel Provincial Government

Honiara, Solomon Islands

Dear All,

Women's rights groups, activists and political leaders across Asia-Pacific have been campaigning for quota legislation in the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Parliament, under CEDAW and Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA).  The Campaign started in 2009 and received heavy opposition.  But tireless efforts by women's rights groups, activists and political leaders resulted in the PNG government tabling the Bill this year in May.  This time, there were more people who showed support to the Bill. The Bill will be put to vote in July 2010.

APWLD recently organised a Gender and Politics workshop for women political leaders and activists, in Malaysia.  As an outcome of that workshop, the participants prepared a 'Call for Action' urging the PNG Parliament to seriously adopt and implement articles under CEDAW and BPFA to promote and institutionalise women's particiaption and leadership in political processes.

APWLD would like to circulate this 'Call for Action' amongst other political leaders and activists to endorse it.  Please either add your name and signature to the document or send your name and scanned signature to us and we will include it in the Statement.

The deadline for this is **30th June 2010**, after which the 'Call for Action' will be sent to concerned groups in Papua New Guinea.

Looking forward to your support and solidarity.

Rohini Ghadiok  
Programme Officer  
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)  
189/3 Changklan Road, A. Muang Chiangmai 50100  
Ph: (66) 53 284527            
Fax (66) 53 280847  
[www.apwld.org](http://www.apwld.org/)

Dear friends,

 I am so proud that a new network of political leaders is making its voice heard and I believe that it will lead to needed results!

Of course I am signing!

With all best wishes to our sisters in NPG!

with warm greetings to friends from the training!

I have just came from our conflict zone to set up a process of documentation of VAW cases and a mechanism to address it in our turbulent a blood conflict South of Kyrgyzstan.

**Nurgul Djanaeva**

President

Forum of women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan

Please add my name in the endorsement list

Tahira Khan

--- On **Fri, 6/25/10, Priya SK *<***[***priyavas@hotmail.com***](mailto:priyavas@hotmail.com)***>*** wrote:

From: Priya SK <[priyavas@hotmail.com](mailto:priyavas@hotmail.com)>  
Subject: RE: Endorse the PNG "Call for Action' - deadline 30th June 2010  
To: [apwld\_wip2009@googlegroups.com](mailto:apwld_wip2009@googlegroups.com)  
Date: Friday, June 25, 2010, 5:09 AM

I endorse the statement.

Please include my name and Indonesian Women's Coalition as well in the Statement.  
Titiek K Hendrastiti  
Indonesia

pls add my name also. thnks

Virada Somswasdi  
Head   
Women's Studies Center  
Faculty of Social Sciences  
Chiang Mai University  
Chiang Mai 50200  
THAILAND  
  
President  
Foundation for Women, Law and Rural Development (FORWARD)  
Women's Studies Building  
Chiang Mai University  
Chiang Mai 50200  
THAILAND

Please include my signature, as a sign of my affirmation to support the PNG Call to Action. I suggest APWLD led by its WIP programme release a press release in support of this campaign on the day when the PNG Parliament opens its sessions.

Cristina Palabay

Deputy Secretary General, People's Democratic Coalition-Philippines

*Zohra Andi Baso [zohrabaso@hotmail.com]*

Please add my name in the endorsement list   
Zohra Andi Baso   
Women concern forum of South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Awesome,please add my name also.

Regards

Priscilla Singh

[prisnaidu@connect.com.fj](mailto:prisnaidu@connect.com.fj)

I support this too,

Temarewe Tekaatau

K-WAN (Kiribati)

[temteata@gmail.com]

rohini, please include my name as one of the signatories:

Elisa Tita Lubi

Founding Vice-Chair, Gabriela Women's Party, Philippines

Please add my name in support. All the best!.  PNG can be a role model to all the Pacific countries. I can assure you it will make a difference in our political arena and the wellbeing of our people.

Wish Samoa would consider this!!!

regards

Roina Faatauvaa-Vavatau

**Chief Executive Officer**

SUNGO, P.O. Box 1858, Apia -SAMOA

Phone: (0685)22804  Mobile: (0685) 7522804:  Fax : (0685) 20654

Dear Rohini

Tamil Nadu Women's Forum Endorses the statement urging the PNG Parliament to seriously adopt and implement articles under CEDAW and BPFA to promote and institutionalise women's particiaption and leadership in political processes.

Fatima.N

Tamil Nadu Women's Forum [tnwforum@gmail.com]

Please include my name and as well NGO "Taraz Initiative Centre", (Kazakhstan) in the Statement.

Svetlana Beissova,

Thanks

--

С уважением,

sbeisova <mailto:sbeisova@mail.ru>

Dear Rohini

Please include my name to that very worthy endeavour.

Kindest Regards

Tupou

Tupou Draunidalo  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Sukuna Road  
P O Box 40  
Nadi Town  
Fiji Islands  
  
M: (679) 9996009

[tdraunidalo@gmail.com]