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The 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women

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Written by **Media Advocacy**

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13th to 24th March, 2017

Features

We Rise Coalition: Pacific Women Rise In Solidarity For Annual UN Meeting On Gender Equality



Keeping the Beijing Platform for Action alive for women in the Pacific region and ensuring accountability to women's human rights is the mission of the group of four diverse and dynamic feminist organisations working together at the We Rise Coalition.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-women-rise-in-solidarity-for-annual-un-meeting-on-gend/10155158775279295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-women-rise-in-solidarity-for-annual-un-meeting-on-gend/10155158775279295>)

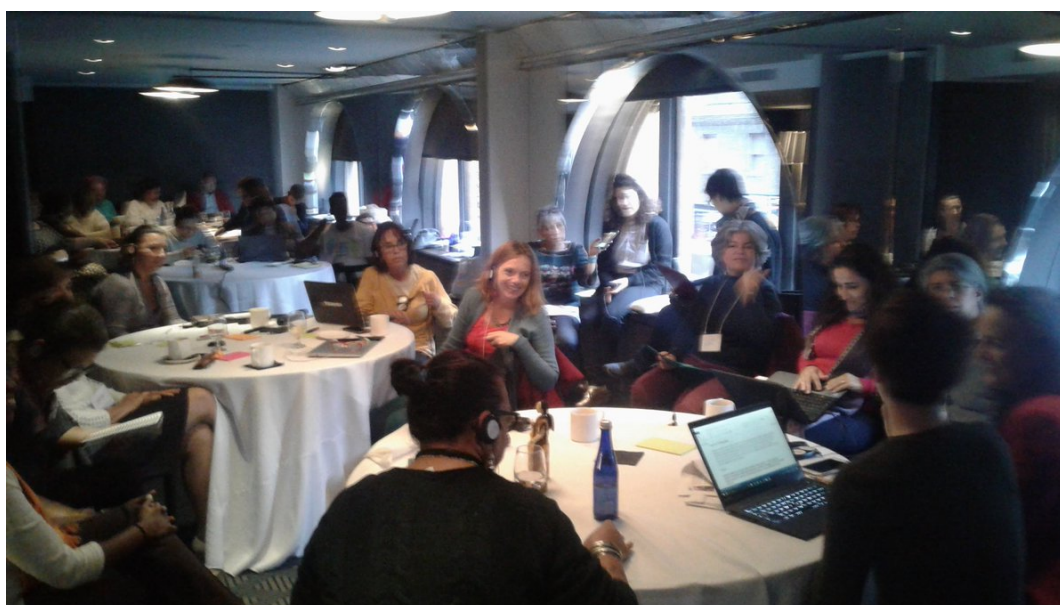
FemTALK CSW61: GMMP - A Reminder Of Who Does And Doesn't Make the News



“In the Pacific, while there was no significant change in the numbers, we can see the Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) institutionalised within the Fiji National Gender policy as well as engagement with media allies and intergovernmental organisations,” highlighted Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Executive Producer-Director of femLINKpacific and GMMP Global Ambassador, this past weekend.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-gmmp-a-reminder-of-who-does-and-doesnt-make-the-news/10155187400804295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-gmmp-a-reminder-of-who-does-and-doesnt-make-the-news/10155187400804295>)

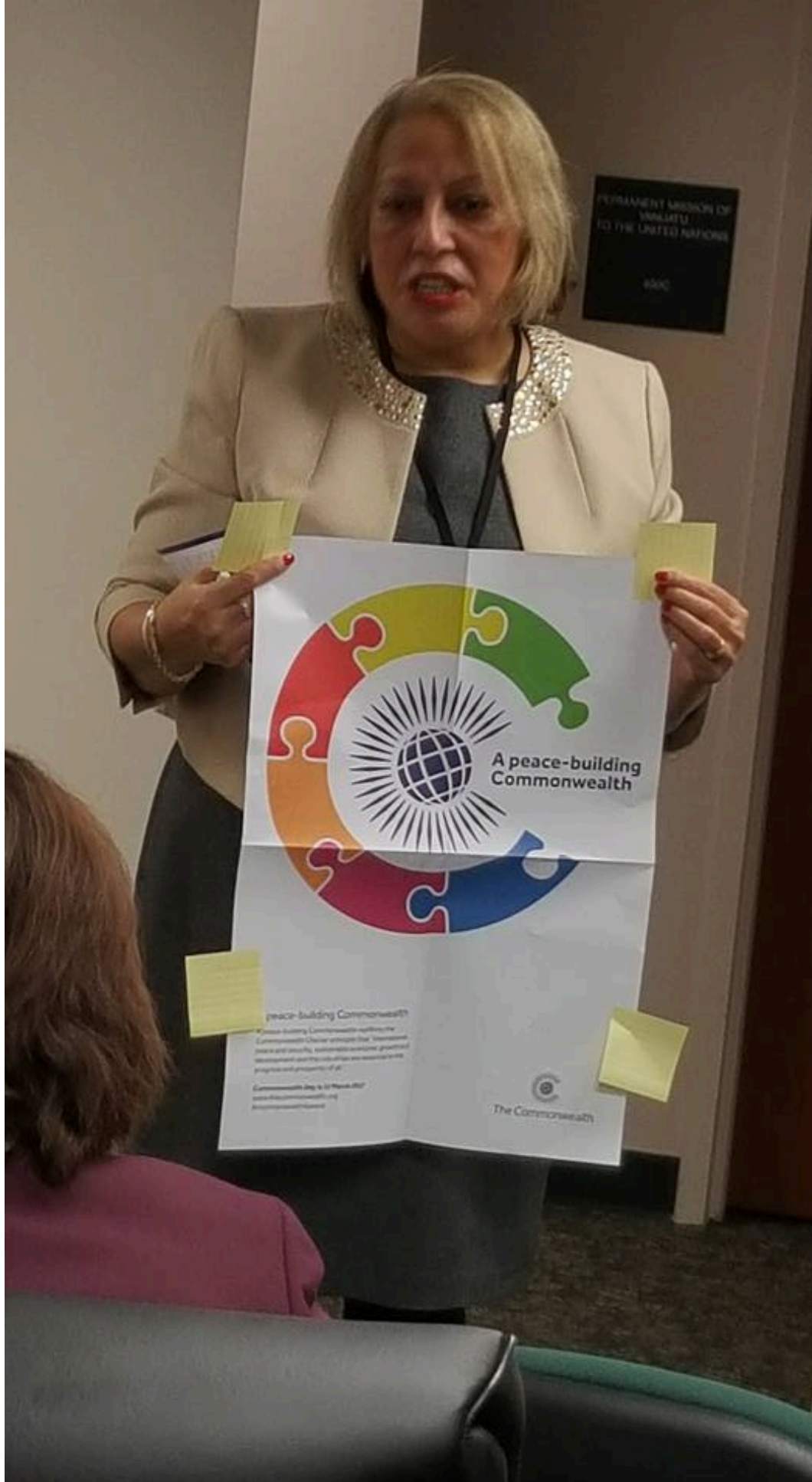
FemTALK CSW 61: WACC symposium participants urge building alliances



To “be bold for change” – the theme of International Women’s Day in 2017 – was a timely one for media activists, Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, told participants at WACC’s New York Symposium on “Gender and Media: Challenges and Opportunities in the post-2015 Era” as they wrapped up three days of discussion and dialogue on Saturday.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw-61-wacc-symposium-participants-urge-building-alliances/10155190286729295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw-61-wacc-symposium-participants-urge-building-alliances/10155190286729295>)

FemTALK CSW61: A Commonwealth Focused on Peacebuilding



“There is a renewed energy at the Commonwealth Secretariat with a serious focus on rule of law and CEDAW as well as engaging with traditional and faith leaders and civil society,” explained Amelia Siamomua who heads the Gender programme at the Commonwealth Secretariat’s Office of the Secretary General.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-a-commonwealth-focused-on-peacebuilding/10155187403914295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-a-commonwealth-focused-on-peacebuilding/10155187403914295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Women's rights ensure sustainable peace



It is a premier global gathering dedicated to the empowerment of women and girls which gives impetus to galvanising action and to ensure that leaders are held accountable to commitments made. While the 20 year review of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPA) offered 6 implementation strategies, including a gender responsive strategy to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS), CSW61 is a further reminder that progressing gender equality and human rights is a universal task and requires the involvement of all stakeholders including civil society, NGOs, trade unions, national human rights institutions and activists of all diversities.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-womens-rights-ensure-sustainable-peace/10155187401854295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-womens-rights-ensure-sustainable-peace/10155187401854295>)

We Rise Coalition: Pacific feminists call for a removal of the economic barriers to women's leadership



It is vital that the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) addresses the intersections of women's productive and reproductive labour, their paid work and their unpaid work so that women can equally participate in the formal leadership spaces say a group of Pacific feminists who working together to send a clear message about women's human rights issues in Fiji during CSW which continues until March 24.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-feminists-call-for-a-removal-of-the-economic-barriers-/10155190349839295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-feminists-call-for-a-removal-of-the-economic-barriers-/10155190349839295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Recognise Pacific Women's Realities

The Pacific Forum statement delivered today amplified the need for the outcomes of CSW61 and Agenda 2030 implementation to respond to Pacific women's changing world of work which are significantly impacted by climate change and intensifying natural disasters.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-recognise-pacific-womens-realities/10155192514559295>
(<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-recognise-pacific-womens-realities/10155192514559295>)

FemTALK CSW61: The changing climate of employment

“Our people are facing major challenges including coastal erosion, more severe drought and storms,” outlined David Collins.

Collins, Kiribati’s Minister for Women, Youth and Social Affairs, informed the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) that labour mobility is a climate change adaptation strategy for his small Pacific Island country that requires an approach with dignity as it also results in negative impacts on the community.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-the-changing-climate-of-employment/10155193221974295>
(<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-the-changing-climate-of-employment/10155193221974295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Turn words into action: Marshall Islands

As the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) prepares to roll out a new 3 year Gender Mainstreaming Policy with a key focus on domestic violence, their country statement this morning called for greater attention to gender equality in climate change in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the SDGS, as well as stronger partnerships to support Pacific governments to transform commitments into well-resourced actions and stronger political will which recognize and builds on matrilineal cultures.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-turn-words-into-action-marshall-islands/10155195584154295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-turn-words-into-action-marshall-islands/10155195584154295>)

FemTALK CSW61: “We are not just counting women but making women count”

The UN Commission on the Status of Women today heard from the Permanent representatives of the Governments of Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga responding to the theme ‘Women’s economic empowerment in the changing world of work’.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-we-are-not-just-counting-women-but-making-women-count/10155195760049295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-we-are-not-just-counting-women-but-making-women-count/10155195760049295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Statement Delivered by Sharon Bhagwan Rolls

61st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women - Statement by Ms. Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, 16th March, 2017.
statement video: <https://youtu.be/ozrJVOqceDU> (<https://youtu.be/ozrJVOqceDU>)

FemTALK: CSW61 - NY, Friday 17 March

Today our team took a break from the UN to participate in a strategy meeting on the annual The Official 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign (<https://www.facebook.com/16DaysCampaign/>). It was good to also have Lilly BeSo'er from Voice for Change PNG to be there as we all talked about the future of what is the longest women's human rights campaign.

<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158538674645093>
(<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158538674645093>)

FemTALK CSW61: Structural Changes Needed for Gender Inclusive Economic Security

The 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) resumes on Monday 20 March (NY time) with the focus on the week being the negotiations on the agreed conclusions, or the outcomes of CSW61.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-structural-changes-needed-for-gender-inclusive-economic->

security/10155206515104295 (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-structural-changes-needed-for-gender-inclusive-economic-security/10155206515104295>)

FemTALK CSW61: A Life Of Its Own – 25 Years of the 16 Days of Activism

“The beauty of the campaign for me has been – and I think the report also captures that - that there’s ownership for every organisation who’s participated,” reflected Zarin Hamid, program coordinator for Gender Based Violence at the Center for Women’s Global Leadership (CWGL). “There’s an ownership of the campaign for themselves so I’ve always liked that.”

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-a-life-of-its-own-25-years-of-the-16-days-of-activism/10155208365289295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-a-life-of-its-own-25-years-of-the-16-days-of-activism/10155208365289295>)

FemTALK CSW61: “Documentation strategies - working to enhance visibility of women's leadership”

When it comes to promoting women’s political participation, the stigma associated with women’s role and status in society is a global reality that women’s rights organisations must continually address.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-documentation-strategies-working-to-enhance-visibility-of-womens-l/10155211155314295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-documentation-strategies-working-to-enhance-visibility-of-womens-l/10155211155314295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Diverse Perspectives Vital

“Some of the communities... they don’t have street lights or (they have) poor road facilities that they have to travel (on) from one place to another,” shared Agu Tuinasau, concerned about the wellbeing and security of her community.

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-diverse-perspectives-vital/10155215387739295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-csw61-diverse-perspectives-vital/10155215387739295>)

We Rise Coalition: Pacific feminists negotiating in shrinking spaces

“Pacific feminists and women led groups are pressing for a CSW61 Agreed Outcome document that shows Governments showing courage to change the inequalities within and between states, examining and addressing sustainable consumption and production patterns, and envisioning a changing world of work for women that is not toward concentration of wealth and corporate power that prevents governments from investing in public services and social protection necessary for women’s economic rights, but rather toward a just and equitable future for all, including women and girls,” says Noelene Nabulivou, the Political Adviser of DIVA for Equality in the final days of the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61) here in New York (NY).

<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-feminists-negotiating-in-shrinking-spaces/10155218282539295> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/we-rise-coalition-pacific-feminists-negotiating-in-shrinking-spaces/10155218282539295>)

FemTALK CSW61: Adoption of Agreed Conclusions via UNWomen

UN Commission on the Status of Women provides roadmap to women’s full and equal participation in the economy

(New York)—UN Member States today committed to ensure women’s full and equal participation and leadership in the economy, as well as women’s right to work and rights at work, as a vital step to achieving sustainable development. This strong pledge to women’s economic empowerment came at the closing of the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61), the two-week meeting that concluded today.

<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158576492720093> (<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158576492720093>)

[Podcasts](#)

FemTALK89FM (Mar '17): CSW61 - Women's Struggles in the Middle East



Sharon Bhagwan Rolls moderates a panel discussion held by the Feminist Alliance for Rights (FAR) on 'Women's Struggles in the Middle East' ahead of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61).

<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-womens-struggles-in-the-middle-east>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-womens-struggles-in-the-middle-east>)

FemTALK89FM (Mar '17): CSW61 - A World We Women Want

On the first day of the 61st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Feminist Taskforce held a panel discussion, co-sponsored by the All Indian Women's Education Fund Association, to discuss experiences on women's economic empowerment in different regions under the theme 'A World We Women Want Achieving Economic Empowerment' with Dr. Pam Rajput, chair of the government of India's High Level Committee on the Status of women, Prof Emeritus Punjab University and convenor of Women 2030 from India, Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Executive Producer-Director of femLINKpacific from Fiji, and Marta Benavides, founder of SIGLO XXIII (23rd Century) and Feminist Taskforce Board Member from El Salvador.

<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-a-world-we-women-want>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-a-world-we-women-want>)

Pacific Country Statements at CSW61

Fiji: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-fiji-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-fiji-country-statement>)

Kiribati: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-kiribati-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-kiribati-country-statement>)

Nauru: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-nauru-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-nauru-country-statement>)

RMI: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-rmi-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-rmi-country-statement>)

Samoa: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-samoa-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-samoa-country-statement>)

Tonga: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-tonga-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-tonga-country-statement>)

Solomon Islands: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-solomon-islands-country-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-solomon-islands-country-statement>)

Pacific Islands Forum: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-pacific-islands-forum-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-pacific-islands-forum-statement>)

Commonwealth Secretariat: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-commonwealth-secretariat-statement>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-commonwealth-secretariat-statement>)

FemTALK89FM (Mar '17): CSW61 - The 16 Days of Activism with Zarin Hamid

During the 61st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, Sian Rolls speaks to Zarin Hamid, the program coordinator for Gender Based Violence at the Centre for Women's Global Leadership, about the work she does, some of the key findings of the report on the 25 years of the 16 Days of Activism Campaign and what she hopes to see in the next phase of shifting the focus of the global campaign from awareness to eradication of gender based violence.

<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-the-16-days-of-activism-with-zarin-hamid?in=femlinkpacific/sets/uncsw61> (<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-the-16-days-of-activism-with-zarin-hamid?in=femlinkpacific/sets/uncsw61>)

FemTALK89FM (Mar '17): CSW61 - Urvashi Gandhi

Sian Rolls speaks to Urvashi Gandhi, Deputy Director for Advocacy, Quality and Knowledge Management at Breakthrough, an international human rights organization based in India.

The interview was conducted during the 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women at 'Voices on Gender Equality from CSW: Civil Society meets the Press', a media event organised by UN Women connecting journalists to civil society representatives attending CSW61 in New York City.

<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-urvashi-gandhi>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-urvashi-gandhi>)

FemTALK89FM (Mar '17): CSW61 - Hazel Brown

Alisia Evans speaks to Hazel Brown, Executive Director of Network of NGOs Trinidad & Tobago for the Advancement of Women.

The interview was conducted during the 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women at 'Voices on Gender Equality from CSW: Civil Society meets the Press', a media event organised by UN Women connecting journalists to civil society representatives attending CSW61 in New York City.

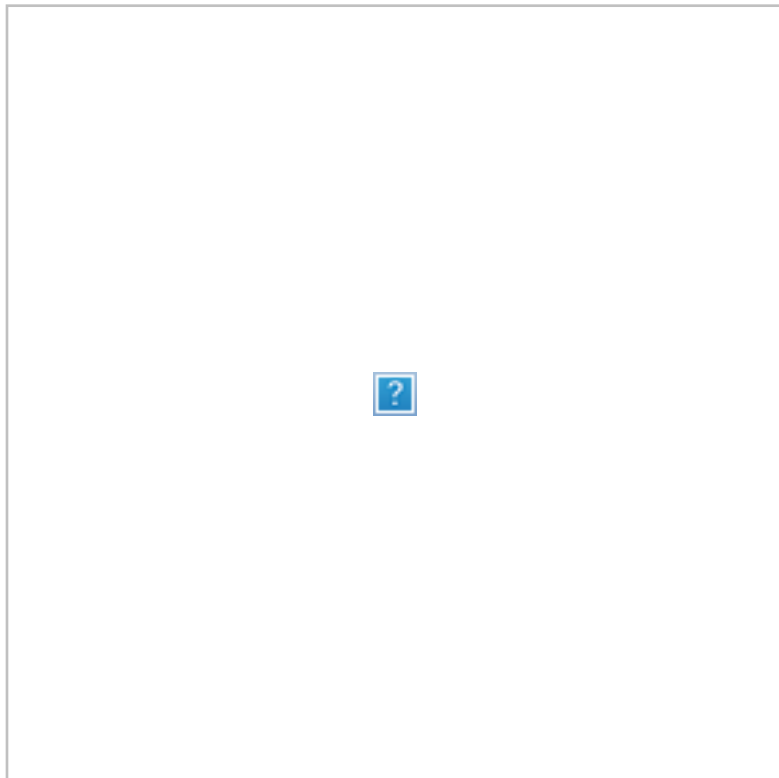
<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-hazel-brown>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-mar-17-csw61-hazel-brown>)

Partner Updates

A World We Women Want – website launched at CSW61 Side Event

<http://aworldwewomenwant.org/> (<http://aworldwewomenwant.org/>)

The Missing Link: Women's Political Leadership and Economic Empowerment

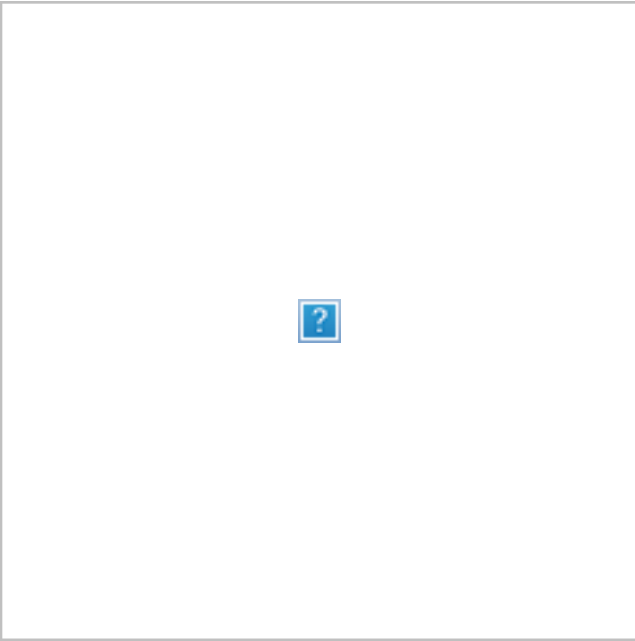


We Rise Partner Statement

Noelene Nabulivou of DIVA for Equality, and DAWN Associate, speaking at the 61st Commission on the Status of Women

<https://www.facebook.com/DIVAFiji/videos/763383050492311/>
(<https://www.facebook.com/DIVAFiji/videos/763383050492311/>)

Feminist Solidarity!





<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158569144495093>
(<https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/posts/10158569144495093>)

