

**URGENT
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AFRICA**

FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS



AFRICAN WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP



POWERING THE AFRICAN DREAM

**Round Table Discussions
9th – 10th March 2015
Harvard Law School**

RATIBA

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

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WELCOME NOTE



FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

2nd March, 2015

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I would like to personally welcome each of you to the Round Table Discussions on The Role of African Women in the Post 2015 Development Agenda and the +20 Beijing Review Process. It's an exciting time for Urgent Action Fund-Africa (UAF-Africa) and her partners as we continue to grow and adapt, remaining nimble, motivated, committed, responsive and alive to the realities of the women's movement in Africa. The world of Women's Leadership is an exciting area in which to fund, work, study, play, and organize. UAF-Africa continues to fund time sensitive, innovative and unique initiatives that promote women's leadership in democratic governance participation, conflict transformation, natural resources governance and environmental justice processes. The Fund leverages her convening capacity to catalyze debates on topical and emerging issues while playing a critical role in bringing women at the margins to the center of debates on women's rights. At the Fund we believe that the fundamental conversation of women's leadership needs a renewed and invigorated stoking of the fire so that women's voices and ideas are heard and acted upon with the urgency they deserve.

Let me share with you an idea of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next few days. One hundred and twenty delegates (fifty dynamic African women leaders) will converge at Harvard for two days, all representing different interest groups on Africa's development, feminist leadership for social justice, decision making and thought leadership in public and private sectors of our economies. The convening will have plenary sessions for presentations on pre-researched topics and studies, and for motivational speakers on selected subjects. A series of high impact and innovative side or concurrent sessions and events in the form of thinkshops will provide more in-depth and practical treatment of issues inter alia bridging feminist theory and practice in leadership for social justice in 'live' narratives of women's leadership in conflict and post-conflict Africa, economic justice, women's strategic interaction with the media and communications fraternity as well as on women in 'hot' political seats.

At the core of the convening is the notion of nurturing young feminist leaders who stand for social justice and who bring out the best in others in the struggle to the dismantling of patriarchy. The young women leadership theme will cut across the entire convening agenda. Iconic African leaders from different sectors and from across Africa will engage young women in intergenerational dialogues and share feminist and pan-African values and principles, leadership journeys and personal narratives and perspectives on thought leadership and development.

Let me take this opportunity to thank each of you for honoring our invitations and attending this convening thereby bringing your passion, soul, energies, dreams, experiences and expertise to this think space and networking forum. You, as organizations, industries and community leaders have the vision, the knowledge, experience and spirit to uplift and nurture a new generation of African feminist leaders for action. Throughout this convening, I ask you to stay engaged, keeping in mind the struggles that have been fought by our ancestors and the struggles that need executing by our generation-keeping our eyes on the goal! The fire needs to be stoked over and over again-with no "ifs and buts" until women are heard and seen sitting where decisions are made and executed. Working, playing, thinking, organizing as a collective group-everything becomes possible!

In solidarity,

Ndana Bofu-Tawamba
UAF-Africa CEO

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

9th – 10th March 2015

MEETING VENUE: Austin & Wasserstein Halls - Harvard Law School

AGENDA

9 TH MARCH 2015 VENUE: AUSTIN HALL, AMES CLASSROOM	
0800 - 0900 hours	NETWORKING - Morning tea
0900 – 1030 hours	Opening Ceremony <i>Building Strategic Connections for Today & Tomorrow</i> Facilitator-Musimbi Kanyoro: President & CEO, Global Fund for Women- Kenya/ USA Opening Remarks Mindy Roseman: Academic Director of The Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School-USA Ndana Bofu-Tawamba: CEO of UAF-Africa – Zimbabwe Margaret Hempel: Director of Gender, Sexuality & Reproductive Justice at Ford Foundation- USA H.E Ambassador Amina Ali: Permanent Representative to the African Union in USA, Washington DC- USA/TZ: The Role of African Women Leaders in the African Union's 2063 Vision <i>The African Moment-Spoken Word</i> Coumba Touré: UAF-Africa Board Chairwoman, Ashoka Sahel Representative & Poet - Mali/Senegal
HEALTH & NETWORKING BREAK	
1100 – 1200 hours	<i>Democracy, Peace & Security</i> Margo Okazawa-Rey: Professor in the School of Human & Organizational Development at the Fielding Graduate University and a Professor emerita at San Francisco State University-USA: Redefining Democracy Peace & Security in Africa
1200 – 1300 hours	<i>Women's Political Participation</i> Jessie Kabwila: Member of Parliament, Head of Women's Parliamentary Caucus of Malawi, Malawi Congress Party Spokeswoman, University Lecturer: Standing on Principle, Doing Feminist Politics: Harvesting Lessons from the Trenches <i>Poetry</i> Rudo Chigudu: Poet, Social Justice Scholar/Activist- Zimbabwe

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LUNCH & NETWORKING BREAK
GROUP PHOTO SESSION

1400–1630 hours	Wasserstein Hall, Milstein AB Facilitator- Funké Michaels: Harvard Kennedy School of Government-Nigeria/USA Solidarity Video Message from Rangita De Silva De Alwis: Associate Dean of International Affairs & Studies at University of Pennsylvania Law School <i>Economic Justice</i> Geraldine J. Fraser-Moleketi: Special Envoy on Gender at The African Development Bank-South Africa/Cote D'Ivoire: The New African Context: African Women at the Frontline of Development <i>Media & Strategic Communications</i> Sylvia Blyden: Owner of Awareness Times Newspaper, Medical Doctor-Sierra Leone: Women at the Forefront of the African Moment: Strategic Media and Communications Positioning
1800 – 2100 Hours	Networking Cocktail Dinner Wasserstein Hall, Milstein AB Harvard remarks Poetry – Rudo LIVE music

10TH MARCH 2015
VENUE: WASSERSTEIN HALL, MILSTEIN AB

0900 – 0910 hours	RECAP- Alice Kanengoni: Women's Rights Programme Manager at OSISA-South Africa
0910 – 1130 hours	<i>Peace, Security & Justice Panel</i> Facilitator- Caroline Kiarie: Head of Grant making at UAF-Africa-Kenya Insights from the ground: Politicising women's growing insecurities 1. Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng: Executive Director at Isis Wicce-Uganda 2. Patricia Donli: Maiduguri University Lecturer/Chairperson WANEP & ACTIONAID-Nigeria <i>Young Women's Leadership</i> Facilitator- Grace Chirenje: Executive Director at Zimbabwe Young Women's Network for Peace-building-Zimbabwe Emmanuella Chukwudumebi: Senior Program Officer at Women Advocates Research and Documentation Center-Nigeria: Young Women Powering Beijing Forward: Voices from Africa Poetry: Rudo

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11:30 - 1145 hours	HEALTH & NETWORKING BREAK
11:45 - 13:30 hours	Women in Politics Panel Facilitator- Grace Mbugua: Executive Director at WEL-Kenya Galvanising strategies that effectively position women's rights agendas in politics 1. Bothaina Kamel: Presidential Candidate, TV anchor, activist- Egypt 2. Hadja Makalé Camara: Politician/Ambassador/ Women's Rights Advocate- Guinea Conakry 3. Yvette Chesson-Wureh: Angie Brooks International Women's Leadership Center- Liberia 4. Fadumo Dayib: Presidential candidate & Harvard Kennedy School of Government scholar-Somalia
LUNCH & NETWORKING BREAK	
1430 – 1630 hours	Break Away Sessions Economic Justice Panel Facilitator- Yvette Kathurima: Advocacy Manager at FEMNET-Kenya Centralising Women's Leadership in Africa's Inclusive Economic Growth 1. Winnie Imanyara: Executive Director Housing Finance Foundation- Kenya 2. Maggie Kigozi: President: Business and Professional Women of Kampala, Former Executive Director of Uganda Investment Authority, Board member of Akina Mama wa Afrika -Uganda Media & Strategic Communications Panel Facilitator- Rosemary Orlale-Okello: Program Officer, Advancing Public Service Media at Ford Foundation-Kenya Sharing generational tactics for effective media & communications engagement 1. Adema Sangale: Harvard Kennedy School of Government, ex Procter & Gamble Executive- Kenya/USA 2. Colleen Lowe Morna: CEO, Genderlinks-South Africa 3. Samantha McKenzie: McKenzie Media Marketing Owner/Blogger- Kenya
1630 – 1715 hours	Amina Mama: Professor of Women & Gender Studies at University of California Davis- Nigeria/UK/USA: Weaving the narrative
1715 – 1730 hours	Ndana Bofu-Tawamba: Closing Remarks

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CONCEPT NOTE



Introduction

Urgent Action Fund–Africa (UAF-Africa), under the *Women Steering Innovative Leadership in Africa dialogue series*, in partnership with The Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School and Ford Foundation, are convening round table discussions on The Role of African Women Leaders in the Post 2015 Development Agenda and the +20 Beijing review process. The two day convening scheduled for 9th and 10th March, 2015 in the USA, will bring together fifty dynamic African women leaders (prioritising young women) from across the socio- economic and political arena; women's rights advocates, femocrats, academics, human rights champions, United Nations (UN) representatives, corporate & media women and thought leaders from across the US political, business and human rights arena and beyond to galvanize success stories, struggles, innovations, knowledge, history, networks and connections that articulate, advance and ground women's leadership as a landmark agenda for global integration, development and social change.

The convening will prioritise and attempt a methodology that gets participants out of the most-travelled ways of thinking, to stimulate women leaders to be more curious and explicit about experiencing their leadership differently-we all know that reproducing the same old strategies will not likely transform society. **The convening participants will be encouraged to embody new ways of being, seeing, thinking and acting in order to plant and ultimately harvest transformational change in their spheres of influence and countries. The thinking behind the convening is to coalesce new and dynamic constituencies into this domain-**

untraditional thinkers and actors who challenge and inject new energies and perspectives to women's leadership in the 21st Century. The intention should be to bridge theory and practice in ways that nurture collective understanding and practices that inform, enhance and elevate women's leadership, in Africa. It is envisaged that through engaging in this high level multi-disciplinary women leaders constituency, the platform can bring about visible innovative strategies and patterns that could ultimately lead to a tipping point in further developing and sustaining the capacity of women leaders to create more equitable internal and external impacts for gender equality.

Background: Beijing Platform for Action

The world has changed in important ways for women's rights and gender equality since the Fourth World Conference for Women in Beijing in 1995, an epic event that produced a globally-agreed 'roadmap' to gender equality and that remains a reference point for governments and for women's movements alike until today. Changes have been uneven at best, mirroring the complex path that social transformation requires and the call to action for a more holistic approach. Today the world is struggling with conflicts that are seeking to establish Islamic States. Ebola is raging and affecting women in destructive ways, climate change is threatening livelihoods. These issues took centre stage at the 69th UN General Assembly (UNGA). They are complex issues that require multifaceted and difficult solutions. At the UNGA, it quickly became apparent that without equal participation of women, the world stands no chance of tackling these global quandaries or mitigating future ones from surfacing.

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As the world marks 20 years since the adoption of the Platform for Action, the review process coined Beijing +20 is an opportune moment to critically assess progress, detours as well as remaining gaps and challenges. It is a galvanizing process that has the potential to reaffirm and strengthen political commitment, mobilize old and new actors, and advocate for the investments required across the spectrum to realise gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment. Nonetheless the review has to be grounded, realistic and contextualized as there is the risk of achieving a statistical success and moral failure.

There is no doubt that gender equality and women's rights agenda are experiencing a deep crisis of implementation. There is also no argument for not believing that the operating environment for gender equality has shifted for the positive, albeit, in variable degrees. Feminist activism and coalitions of the willing have resulted in more than 125 countries enacting legislations criminalizing violence against women, more than 178 countries with laws requiring paid maternity leave, and more than 40 countries with electoral quotas for women. Heaps of action plans and policies to advance gender equality have been developed, together with thousands of jobs worldwide for "gender advisors" for governments, multilaterals agencies, International NGOs (INGOs), private companies and donors. Studies have shown, however, that lack of accountability and entrenched patriarchal practices often thwart the best-intentioned efforts, leaving gender discrimination as the prevailing norm. Technocrats in the women's rights sector often say, "We know a lot about why and too little about how to advance gender equality". Surprisingly, a considerable number of prestigious institutions; the World Bank to Goldman Sachs, Deloitte & Touché – have entered the 'women's empowerment' space, generating data and positing that 'investing in women is smart economics' and good for development. The internet has become a formidable vehicle for influencing ideas and cultivating knowledge, showing us how millions of women and men pour out onto the streets of Delhi to protest the rape and death of a young woman student; how the harassment of women activists by Islamists in Egypt and Sudan generates outrage and solidarity with men. New actors and actions are essential for progress on gender equality; at the same time, their actions leave the deep structures of inequality largely intact, with women either instrumentalized as 'engines' of development or as 'victims' needing protection.

Post 2015 Development Agenda

The United Nations' post-2015 development agenda is currently under discussion. Seventeen new goals are on the drafting board, including proposals to end poverty, eliminate hunger, attain healthy lives, provide quality education, attain gender equality and reduce inequalities, sustainable use of water and sanitation, energy for all, productive employment, industrialisation, protection of terrestrial ecosystems and strengthening the global partnership for sustainable development. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other target-based, results-focused regimes have generated data on the results of investing in concrete resources for those most excluded from development. Women now constitute nearly 22 per cent of parliaments worldwide, up about 12 percent since 1997. At the same time, the quality and safety of education girls receive is variable, low-income rural girls in most countries too often fail to benefit, nearly two thirds of all employed women in developing countries work in vulnerable employment, and at the current rate of progress it will take close to 50 years to reach the parity zone in parliaments.

Therefore while attaining gender equality as a proposed goal is certainly welcome, more nuance and elaboration is imperative for gender equality to be a cross cutting theme across all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Amongst the issues that must be addressed under is women's control over assets and "securing food sovereignty based on the recognition of small holder farmers and fisherfolk, particularly women, as key economic actors whose right to use and own land and access rivers, lakes and seas should be protected against land and resource grabbing". The latter recommendation is among 22 vital recommendations that were issued by the Women's Major Group, which recognized women as one of the nine major groups of civil society whose participation in decision-making is essential for achieving sustainable development. It is pivotal that there be a specific focus on ensuring that the resources and political will generated by the post-2015 framework play a meaningful part in moving this agenda forward.

Another critical agenda whose relevance permeates throughout the eight agendas is conflict transformation, specifically conflict prevention. Conflict and violence have been perennial barriers to achieving the MDGs for women and girls. For example, in 2008, all eight of the countries with the highest maternal mortality ratios were in, or emerging from, violent conflict. In addition, 20 percent of the countries that the World Bank

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categorizes as 'fragile or conflict affected' have not been able to meet the basic poverty reduction target. In conflict affected and fragile countries where over 1.5 billion people live and where there are the greatest levels of poverty and least progress towards the MDGs, conflict prevention, political stability, democracy and rule of law must be a priority. There is therefore a need to link conflict transformation, democracy, human development, and economic growth to gender equality for a more sustainable development framework.

The Post 2015 Agenda and +20 Beijing review process are therefore a critical spaces for African citizens, civil society organizations and particularly for African women, youths and other marginalized groups to engage. Women's organizations have been instrumental in ensuring that the Post 2015 consultations are driven, influenced and shaped by the voices and experiences of the millions of African citizens on the ground. As deliberations continue on the priorities for the Post 2015 development agenda, it is critical to be mindful and purposeful of inclusivity and particularly ensure that gender equality is central to the framework. Women need to lead and guide the discussions that essentially shape and orient their day to day lives. Gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment need to be integrated consistently across the entire framework through data collection disaggregated by sex and gender, sensitive targets and indicators.

Lessons from the MDGS indicate that it is not sufficient to have a gender-specific goal, but rather, goals that are dedicated to gender equality must be explicitly established, in addition to mainstreaming a gender lens throughout all the goals. Already, Urgent Action Fund- Africa has supported several organizations across Africa to ensure that the consultations are representative and reflective of the complex web of development contributing factors. We know for sure that whoever narrates the story shapes history. Therefore, African women, in partnership with their global women's movement allies need to collectively organize and strategise-elevating their voices and presence in strategic spaces of power, at home and internationally, hence the convening in Washington DC, at this time, in our history, aligned to the 59th UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to be held from 9th to 20th March, 2015.

Why are we going to Harvard?

UAF-Africa is interested in building collaboration

across large populations and disciplines by creating a web of multiple constituencies and stakeholders, engaging, involving, and mobilising until there is a critical mass of people who can move together on a common path that tackles huge mountains created by patriarchy, class, homophobia, religion and other differences. Even in the most technologically advanced world, we still need face to face meetings, communication and the opportunity for sharing information and responding personally to each other.

We are living in a complex world, the world has shifted and we need to enhance our own capacities by thinking beyond our local capacities; hence the importance of thinking locally, regionally and globally, seeing the interconnectedness of issues and then acting locally.

Harvard is strategic. The Human rights programme at Harvard plans events, directs international conferences and roundtables on human rights issues and publishes working papers and books. It also works closely with the International Human Rights Clinic, as well as human rights organizations in the United States and abroad, to bridge theory with practice and reflect on the current state of human/women's rights. The Harvard's Human Rights Program extended their hand to UAF-Africa to co-host a two day dialogue related to African women's leadership.

The convening is an opportunity because it is taking place during CSW 59th Session; it is a platform that we need to take advantage of. It will also help us to enhance what we started in Malawi where we convened women and men from over 30 African countries working in diverse fields and thematic areas to discuss the role of women in shaping the discourse of 'African Women's leadership'.

Who is going to be there?

Women leaders (and a few men) who have knowledge and influence, understand Africa, our values and how our different thematic areas of economic justice, media and strategic communications and political leadership consisting of conflict transformation and democratic governance interact with each other.

What we want to achieve?

- Create a robust platform, lead debates and discussions on critical issues affecting the African woman such as militarisation and insecurity, and what we believe the role of African women should

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be and are doing, thus setting up a position for ourselves.

- Engage more multi-sectoral/disciplinary allies and hence increase the culture of collaboration, including the integration of global voices and the sharing of ideas, information, practices and experiences needed for transformative leadership development.
- Be a source of knowledge and influence by telling our own narrative regarding how social investment in women's leadership can re-shape local, national and global approaches to critical issues such as militarisation and illicit Financial Flows from Africa. In the process, correct the views of the media and the way they continue to portray African women as the poorest of the poor, waiting to be rescued by the donors.

Convening Strategy

This convening is set to be a think space, a coming together of thought leaders and transformative actors who transcend geography, age and sectoral divides to reflect and map the stage for women's engagement and leadership in 2015 and beyond. Building on the two frameworks that shaped and instructed our thinking and actions on women's leadership, the convening will affirm and reclaim gender equality as a powerful requisite towards sustainable development. We will reflect and strategize on positioning women as a leadership reserve with grounded experiences from across the globe that epitomise the power that exists in women's leadership. Under the auspices of UAF-Africa's Women Steering Innovative Leadership in Africa initiative and Wilson's Center Global Women's Leadership Initiative, we are combining efforts and leveraging global knowledge and experiences for a deeper and wider impact on women's leadership across the globe.

The convening will also bring the valuable opportunity to meet, discuss contemporary and pertinent trends and issues, network and build contacts among women leaders in an environment that sparks and fosters knowledge generation.

About Urgent Action Fund-Africa

As the first Rapid Response Fund in Africa, UAF-Africa adds value to the work of women's rights activists and organisations through provision of critical financial and technical resources to support the power of women to activate social change. This enables activists to take

actions that are time –sensitive and to embark on innovative and bold initiatives that are often catalytic in surfacing issues while promoting and supporting broad dialogue and debate on the issues.

The discourse between development and human rights, particularly women's human rights, has been increasingly disparate, with organisations working exclusively on development agendas or on human rights agendas. Women's human rights defenders find they are speaking parallel to other discourses on development, democracy, governance, politics, economics and others.

Inspired by the ongoing Post 2015 Development Agenda conversations and the +20 Beijing review process; UAF-Africa is embarking on innovative and bold initiatives to make a greater difference in her work and that of her partners and grantees. The Women Steering Innovative Leadership in Africa initiative is invigorating the approach to leadership by boldly bringing together several concepts; pan-Africanism, feminist, some human rights sensitive business approaches to leadership, drawing examples from "traditional" and "non-traditional" leadership sources, and women as equally vested members of community who can speak to all areas of society and development. The initiative is infusing new energy and prompt, bold and daring ideas among UAF-Africa partner organisations. The activities and partnerships are crafted to ensure a healthy skills exchange, capacity enhancement for the young women leaders as well as for partner organisations. In addition, UAF-Africa's Rapid Response Grant making work, her core business, will incorporate a focus on catalyzing and enhancing organic women-led initiatives to enhance women's leadership and contribute to economic and human growth spearheaded by African women for Africa.

About the Ford Foundation

The Ford Foundation supports visionary leaders and organizations on the frontlines of social change worldwide. The Ford Foundation Eastern Africa's goal is to advance reforms in land, livelihoods, rights, media and civic participation, particularly for women and youth. They support efforts to build a more democratic environment as well as to advance women's rights and reproductive health, agriculture-based rural development, and free expression.

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DELEGATES BIOS



Adema M. Sangale is an Edward S. Mason Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Prior to this Adema Sangale spent 16 years working for Procter & Gamble in various leadership roles across Africa, Europe and most recently in North America. During this tenure she has been a board member on diverse pan- industry associations and chambers of commerce. She is most renowned for her pioneering 'bottom of the pyramid' solutions in bringing to global attention the plight of girls not attending school during their menstruation.

In 2012 Adema Sangale was nominated a New Generation Leader by the African Leadership Network and is a 3 time honoree of the Top 40 under 40 Kenyans. Ms. Sangale holds a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Oxford which she attended as a Chevening Scholar. Ms. Sangale's interests relate to the nexus between business and government and in particular how to create win win solutions between multinational companies and the emerging economies of sub-Saharan Africa.

Amina Mama, Nigerian-British feminist scholar and activist, has worked in various European, African and U.S. tertiary institutions, developing transformative research and teaching methodologies. She spent 10 years (1999-2009) leading the establishment of the University of Cape Town's African Gender Institute as a continental resource dedicated to developing transformative scholarship bringing feminist theory and activism together. From 2007-2009 she was the first holder of the Barbara Lee Distinguished Chair at Mills College.

Mama's extensive public service record has included advising Global Fund for Women before being elected to Chair the Board for 3 terms; and serving on the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), and the United Nations Committee for Development Policy. She is on the advisory structures of 10 academic journals and founding editor of *Feminist Africa*, with the goal of strengthening African women's contributions to critical gender and feminism scholarship globally. Her publications include *Beyond the Masks: Race, Gender and Subjectivity* (Routledge 1995), *Women's Studies and Studies of Women in Africa* (CODESRIA 1996), *Engendering African Social Sciences* (co-edited, CODESRIA 1997).

Mama is currently a professor of Women and Gender Studies at University of California, Davis. Her key teaching areas are transnational perspectives on the global history of feminism, imperialism, globalization, women's movements, the role of militarism in underdevelopment and corporate globalization and post-colonial cinema. Her current research focus is on post-colonial women's mobilizations and feminism in post-colonial Africa.



Alice D. Kanengoni is a passionate feminist who manages the Women's Rights programme at the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA). She has over 17 years of experience in public policy advocacy focusing on women's rights.

Her core skills and competencies include feminist facilitation; programme design and management; research, writing and editing; professional coaching and mentoring for self- and group-leadership facilitation and training on gender and women's rights. She is also an avid reader. Alice earned qualifications in Integral Coaching Practice; media and communications and literature.

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Bothaina Kamel is the only and the first woman presidential candidate in Egypt. She ran for the presidential elections in 2012 after the Egyptian Revolution. She is a well-known TV anchor and a long time pro-democracy activist.

From 1992 to 1998 she hosted a popular Egyptian Radio Program called *"e3terafat lailiyah"* or "Nighttime Confessions" that was one of the bravest programs—in a government radio—to open taboos about family, life and culture and politics in Egypt. The program later was suspended by Egyptian authorities.

While working on Egyptian Radio, Kamel refrained from reading news protesting how misinforming news about government and politics is in government Radio.

In Egypt's parliamentary election of 2005, Kamel founded with other partners a grassroots movement called *"Shayfenkom"* or (we are watching you) which was a huge network of activist youth to monitor election fraud and physical abuses of Egyptian authorities top voters and candidates. She was one of the leading women voices in pro-democracy movements in Egypt throughout the last decade, in national groups such as the (Kefaya or Enough: Egyptian Movement For Change) and also was a leading voice in the solidarity campaigns with Egyptian judges who were prosecuted when they called for a

true independence of the judiciary in Egypt. She was the founder "Egyptians Against Corruption" which is yet another grassroots civil organization that played a significant role in exposing government corruption in Egypt as well as supporting and awarding Egyptian activists who expose state corruption in Egypt. According to most activists and bloggers in Egypt, Kamel is the only person out of all presidential candidates who never left a protest in Tahrir, and has been always connected to solidarity and human rights campaigns of peaceful protest and organizing in Egypt. Despite being beaten and harassed by Mubarak's police authorities in the last decade, and several times by officers and soldiers after the revolution, Kamel did not stop her campaigns and work.



In 2001, she was selected to be by the U.S. State Department as the woman of the courage of the year. She did not accept the selection in response of the fact of U.S. administration support of Mubarak's repressive machine as well as supporting Egypt's military junta with shells, gas, which were used to repress protesters in the aftermath of the revolution.



Caroline Kiarie is a Kenyan national and heads the Grantmaking Program at Urgent Action Fund-Africa. Possessing wealth of experience in funding women's rights in conflict and post-conflict settings, Caroline brings to the table a keen and analytical perspective into the dynamics and priorities of women in socio-politically volatile situations. A passionate defender of women's human rights, her

role involves the timely provision of intelligence and critical resources to women across the continent doing phenomenal work in advancing and safeguarding women's human rights.

Caroline ardently believes in women's agency and uses her skills in conflict analysis and communication to support and profile the lives and work of African women.

She is an expert resource in organizing convenings across the globe. In this regard, Caroline organizes spaces that facilitate regional and nuanced intergenerational knowledge, skills, strategies and tactics exchange. She has facilitated meetings on peace, security and justice and spoken extensively on women's rights issues at high-level human rights gatherings including during UN organized convenings.

Caroline is fascinated by engaging diverse cultures and populations on key issues regards conflict transformation and justice processes. This interest has taken her across the globe learning about the intersectionality's of human rights, democracy peace and security. She has authored and co-authored several articles and think pieces published on various media including Environmental conflicts, Natural resources and Diplomacy in the East and Horn of Africa published on the Horn of Africa Bulletin. Caroline holds a Master of Arts Degree in International Conflict Management from the University of Nairobi, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology and Communications and a Diploma in French.

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Chrys Wu, a journalist, strategist, coder and consigliere, works with businesses to deepen connection to people through community systems architecture, digital strategy, user-centric design and code. She speaks frequently on data journalism, online engagement and coding.

She is currently Developer Advocate for The New York Times, where she leads internal and public-facing projects that advance and highlight the technology made by New York Times Developers.

She has worked on award-winning, traffic-driving projects for The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, The Gates Foundation, The Knight Foundation, and NPR and its affiliates, among others. Her work in community systems architecture crosses on-line, mobile and real-world boundaries and helps people with common interests stay

connected. Chrys has been an invited speaker at The White House, has been called a “trusted consigliere” in New York tech, and is a trustee emeritus of the Awesome Foundation NYC, which grants \$1,000 monthly to something awesome in New York City.

Colleen Lowe Morna is the Chief Executive Officer for Gender Links in South Africa. She began her career as a journalist specialising in gender and development. Among positions she held were co-ordinator of the Africa office of Inter Press Service in Harare; correspondent for South Magazine and Africa Editor of the New Delhi-based Women’s Feature Service. She joined the Commonwealth Secretariat as a senior researcher on the Africa desk in 1991, and later served as Chief Programme Officer of the Commonwealth Observer Mission to South Africa.



Following South Africa’s first democratic elections in 1994, Colleen became an advisor on gender and institutional development to the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Assistance special programme of assistance to South Africa. She subsequently served as founding CEO of the South African Commission on Gender Equality. She holds an MA in Communications from Columbia University; BA in International Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of International Relations, Princeton University; and a certificate in executive management from the London Business School.



Born and raised between Mali and Senegal, **Coumba Toure** is the coordinator for Ashoka Africa Empathy Initiative. She is currently working on transforming education systems to raise a new generation of changemakers. She designs education material for children. She is a writer and a storyteller. She has an extensive experience in facilitating meetings, engaging young people, and designing and implementing and evaluating training programs to promote human’s rights especially for women.

She has worked with many organizations such as the Institute for Popular Education in Mali, the 21st century Youth Leadership Movement in Selma, Alabama, and the Youth for Environmental Sanity in Santa Cruz, California. She is a feminist, and board member of Urgent Action Fund- Africa. She also serves as an advisor to the Global Fund for Women and to the New Field Foundation and to IDEX. She is a mother, a sister, and a daughter to many.

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Eileen Alma joined the Coady Institute in March 2013 as the Director of the International Centre for Women's Leadership. She holds 20+ years of interdisciplinary experience in development research and practice. Eileen's focus is on women's empowerment – political, economic, social and legal – which is considered key to addressing poverty and inequalities both locally and globally. She does so by developing and directing specific programs which prioritize education of women and men to become aware of gendered power dynamics and to be sensitive, effective leaders in their communities as well as more broadly contributing to Coady's wide range of educational programs and community development research.

Under Eileen's direction, the Centre currently delivers a highly sought-after Global Change Leaders program that focuses on women's leadership in community development globally, an award-winning education program specifically for Indigenous women leaders in Canada

and an education initiative for Canadian women in the non-profit sector focused on community economic development. The Centre also partners with Urgent Action Fund-Africa in delivering a leadership program to African women leaders in Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Malawi and South Sudan, in collaboration with Strathmore University (Kenya).

Eileen's work has covered several fields, including: women's rights and citizenship; gender justice; peacebuilding, conflict analysis and post-conflict reconstruction; migration and diaspora engagement; decentralization, local power and access to services; governance and state-building; and land access and rights. She has worked extensively with individuals, organizations and networks in the Middle East, Africa and Southeast Asia. Eileen is currently engaged in research looking at women's livelihoods in the artisanal mining sector in Kenya, Sierra Leone and Mozambique.

Eileen holds a Master's Degree in Conflict Analysis and Management (ethno-political) from Royal Roads University, a Master's Certificate in Project Management from Royal Roads University and has undertaken additional studies on refugees and migration issues at York University. She is the author of *Women and Land: Securing Rights for Better Live* (Sage Publications and ID, 2011)



Emmanuela Chukwudumebi Azu is a legal practitioner and Senior Program Officer Gender and Legal Aid, with Women Advocates Research and Documentation Center (WARDC), one of the leading women organisations in the country. She is a dedicated human rights defender and a staunch advocate for the rule of law and Women Human Rights.

Emmanuela has participated in several coalitions and has worked extensively on gender, human rights, law, democracy and peace building projects that has produced several research materials and publications on these areas. with vast experience working with national and international NGOs. She has been involved in the training of different groups ranging from rural communities, CBOs, politicians, CSOs, government institutions, media, youth groups and faith based organizations using participatory skills in the area of human rights, Gender mainstreaming, women's rights, governance, constitutionalism, Peace Building and Civic Education, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights, peace building and conflict resolution, paralegals training and girl-child education.



Formerly a member of Kenyan award-winning hip-hop group Camp Mulla, **Miss Karun** (Born Karungari Mungai) is a 21 year old solo Kenyan vocalist, song writer and BET Award Nominee. She is currently a student at Berklee College of Music.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Fadumo Dayib is a new MC/MPA Mason fellow at Harvard University who is also a doctoral candidate with a focus on Women, Peace and Security at the University of Helsinki. She received her BSc, MSc and MPA degrees from a Finnish university and is currently at Harvard as a 2015 MC-MPA Mason fellow. She is a transnationalist with roots in Somalia, Kenya and Finland. She has extensive international experience from Europe, Africa and the Pacific and is multilingual in Somali, English, Finnish and Swahili.

Fadumo is a healthcare and development practitioner with over 12- years' experience in research, strategy development, policy formulation, planning and implementation in forced migration, HIV, gender, women's and adolescents' interventions from the EU, Finnish public sector and the UN. In addition to her technical and academic expertise, she is an avid blogger, a proud mom and a tireless human rights advocate.

Gabriela Follett is the Program Assistant for the Human Rights Program at Harvard Law School. She is a 2013 graduate of the University of Vermont, where she studied Environmental Studies with a focus on Food Justice. Gabbie's passion for advocacy work about gender-based sexual violence on college campuses began while she was an undergraduate student at the University of Vermont.

She worked closely with the Women's Center on the launch of a campaign, "You Could be the First to Know," a video guide for friends who are the "first to know" about an assault. In her current position, she assists with the administration of post-graduate and summer fellowships, organizes various conferences and events, and supports the Visiting Fellows Program.



Geraldine Joslyn Fraser-Moleketi is Special Envoy on Gender of the African Development Bank. The first official appointed to this new position, she has developed a strategy to mainstream gender in the Bank's policies and operations, to make the institution a role model for Africa, and to propel development of the Continent that is more inclusive and economic growth that is more robust. Under the plan, the Bank unveils its first gender inequality index for Africa in this spring.

Previously, she served as Director of the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Democratic Governance Group, and a board member of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. A native of South Africa, Moleketi prepared the country for its first democratic elections in 1994 as National Deputy Elections Coordinator of the African National Congress, and then became a Member of Parliament. She went on to serve as South Africa's Minister for Public Service and Administration and as Minister for Welfare and Population Development. Mrs. Fraser-Moleketi was a 1994 fellow at the Institute of Politics of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She serves on the boards of the Institute for the Study of International Development at McGill University in Montreal and the International Anti-Corruption Academy in Vienna.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Grace Mbugua is the Founder and Organizational Director of Women's Empowerment Link, a national non-governmental organization based in Kenya. She has been actively guiding programming and national policy on women's economic, social and political empowerment. She has been actively advocating on policy & legislative agendas on women human rights in Kenya for over ten years.

Grace spearheaded in the development of the Kenya Women's National Charter and the recently national conference to launch the National Action Plan for the implementation of the charter a midst over 1000 women. She is an active member of the African Regional Network and the Mwamko Mpya Uongozi Bora Initiative. Grace is a renowned women & political leadership mentor and trainer. She holds a Masters in Gender & Development, Sociology, Psychological Counseling and Business Management.

Grace Ruvimbo Chirenje is a young feminist leader from Harare, Zimbabwe. Grace's passion is community development and facilitation with a special emphasis on youth and women in relation to democracy, good governance and conflict transformation. She is the founder and current Director of Zimbabwe Young Women's Network for Peace Building (ZYWNP). She is a former board member of Women's Coalition of Zimbabwe. Grace sits on the Board of Centre for Community Development in her efforts to contribute to the democratization process of Zimbabwe. Grace was the non-Women Lawyer Human Rights Defender 2013 awarded by Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association. She is also part of a Southern African young Women's Steering Committee that mobilizes young women from SADC around youth and women's development. She is also active in the regional parliament for youth.

Grace holds an Honors degree in African Languages and Culture from Midlands State University. She is currently a holder of a Masters in Leadership and Management (Africa Leadership and Management Academy), and a Diploma in Theology (Africa Christian and Theological School).



Hadja Makalé Camara, is the Secretary General of the Network of African Women Ministers and Parliamentarians of Guinea (REFAMP/G). For the last four years, she dealt with peace building issues, to negotiate a reconciliation between political leaders and the Government of Guinea. Her Network met with all political parties and sent a memorandum to the Head of State. Through the support and collaboration of republican institutions, religious groups and NGOs, she coordinated a big coalition of 235 women organizations, which made peace walk demonstrations within the country, forcing belligerents to sign the global peace agreement. The result ended in the general elections to end transition in September 2013.

From 2007 to 2011, Camara served as the Ambassador of Guinea to France, Spain, Portugal and Monaco. At the same time, she was also the Representative to UNESCO and FRANCOPHONIE. Before that, she was the Ambassador of Guinea in Senegal, Gambia, Mauritania and Cap-Vert. While in Senegal, she established diplomatic relations between

Guinea and South Korea. The instruments was signed in August 2006 in Seoul Eunder the aegis of Ban Ki-moon, Foreign Minister at that time. Camera has served as the Minister of Social Affairs, Women Protection and Childhood, and the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Breeding.

Camera has a Master's degree in Labor Law; trained at Ecole Nationale D'Administation Publique (ENAP of Quebec) and is a former Humphrey Fellow. She has also participated in several workshops including conflict management, planning and cooperation between civilians and militaries at Harvard University, School of Government.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Jane Godia has worked as a Gender and Media Expert for the past 20 years. She is among the few women in Kenya who have risen to the level of Managing Editor within the mainstream media. She holds a post-graduate diploma in Communications, Post-graduate degree in Gender and Development and a Bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Ms Godia has enormous experience in writing and editing stories as well as newsroom management. She is currently the Managing Editor of the Kenyan Woman, an online newspaper with African Woman and Child Feature Service that provides visibility to women in political decision making and leadership as well as empowerment and advancement in various fields including access to gender equality. She also serves as Managing Editor of The Reject, a newspaper that gives voice to the voiceless in

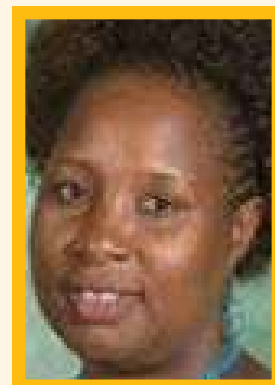
communities by airing their views on issues that affect them.

She is a great advocate of gender equality with a bias towards women's issues and women's rights. She has written various articles on Gender-Based Violence that target policy makers. She has vast experience in training journalists both locally and abroad on gender sensitive reporting. She had an opportunity to train women leaders and up-coming politicians in Kenya and within the East African region how to interact with the media as well as on how they can raise their profile within the media in their countries and across the region.

Jessie Kabwila is a member of parliament of the Malawi National Assembly representing Salima North West, She is chair of the Women's Caucus and Publicity Secretary for the main opposition party – Malawi Congress Party (MCP).

Jessie Kabwila is a lecturer by profession. She holds a Bachelor of Education, Honors Education and Master degree from Chancellor College, University of Malawi. Her PhD is from Binghamton University, State University of New York and it is on Transnational Feminisms. She has over 15 years of teaching experience in several countries including Malawi, Botswana, and Zimbabwe.

Her publications include book chapters in the Queer African Reader (2011) '*East, West, North or South, Home is Best: The danger of Malawi's Gay and Lesbian Discourse Spinning on the human rights axis*'. Some of her published journal articles are '*Cross Dressing in Un-African?*' in Feminist Africa (2006), '*Crossing Lines*' (2007), '*Celebrating Africa House: An Interview with Professor Nzegwu*' in JENdA (2007), '*Speaking Football in Malawi before and after 2010*' in Genderlinks (2010), and '*The African Public Space of Dangarembga's Neria -A site of Autochthonous Feminist Agency*' in CODESRIA'S Africa Development (2010). Kabwila is an intellectual who uses public media to narrow the gap between theory and praxis, bring academic issues into the public domain by extensively publishing in Malawi's leading newspapers such as the Nation and Nyasa Times and taking part in public debates.



Julia Akur Ajuoi Magot is a young feminist South Sudanese lady passionate about women and child rights. She is the Deputy Chairlady and one of the founders of the Southern Sudan Women Lawyers Association which is affiliated to the international federation of women lawyers. She is a holder of a LLB and an LLM in International Development Law and Human rights.

Julia is also the head of legal administration in the Ministry of Petroleum and Mining in the Republic of South Sudan where she spearheads a project aimed the engendering the Petroleum Sector in South Sudan.

She has participated in a number of law reform initiatives and spearheaded the drafting of the South Sudan Child Act. She was also a member of the Interim Constitution Drafting Committee that drafted the 2005 Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Margaret Blick Kigozi commonly known as Dr. Maggie Kigozi is a medical doctor by profession, a business consultant, a Chancellor at Nkumba University and an “avid” motorcycle rider, like her Father and siblings! In Uganda, she’s better known for her work as the Executive Director of the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) from 1999-2011. She is a Board Member at Akina Mama wa Afrika.

She holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and has practiced as a physician in Zambia Kenya and Uganda. In 1994 Dr. Maggie left the medical profession and joined Crown Bottlers Uganda Limited (manufacturers of Pepsi products) as the Marketing Director where she has worked until her appointment at the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) in 1999. Dr. Maggie is the first woman (and first person) ever to hold this position.

Dr. Maggie has continued to serve in various capacities as the Associate Professor, Makerere University; Member of the Global Banking Alliance for Women (GBA) Advisory Board; Director of the Board, Uganda Export Promotion Board & Crown Beverages Limited; Founder, Uganda Investment Authority Women Entrepreneurs Network; Focal Point Officer, Africa Asia Business Forum; Patron, Uganda Change Agents & Junior Chamber International; Patron, Ugandan Diaspora Network; Chief Scout, Uganda Scouts Association; Sportswoman : represented Uganda in Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Hockey & Squash.

Margaret Hempel is the Ford Foundation Director for Gender, Sexuality and Reproductive Justice. Her portfolio focuses on advancing the rights of women and LGBT people; reducing discrimination based on gender, sexual or HIV/AIDS status; and ensuring that the priorities and leadership of women and young people who face multiple forms of social, economic and political exclusion are central to the advancement of policies and programs for sexuality and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). Her team makes grants in Mexico, Nigeria, South Africa, Kenya, Egypt, China, Indonesia, India and the United States.



Margaret spent nine years at the Ford Foundation, from 1990 to 1999, first as a program officer and then as deputy director of the human development and reproductive health unit. She returned in 2008 to direct the foundation’s SRHR work. In 2013, she assumed leadership of an expanded unit encompassing work on gender rights in addition to SRHR.

Before joining the foundation as a director, Margaret served for two years as vice president for programs at American Jewish World Service, an international development organization where she managed the grant making, international service and advocacy programs. She also spent seven years as vice president for programs at the Ms. Foundation for Women and was responsible for grant making, training and advocacy work focused on strengthening policies and programs that benefit low-income women and their families in the United States.

Margaret has also worked for several international agencies and lived and worked in China and Burma. She has a master’s degree from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and a bachelor’s degree from Johns Hopkins University.



Rudo Chigudu is a feminist, activist and artist fiercely committed to social justice and human rights particularly women’s sexual and reproductive rights. She has worked for almost a decade with young women on issues of sexuality and leadership. Using creative arts as a feminist popular education tool to politicise women’s sexuality and its linkage to broader political discourse. She is popularly known as a V warrior for her engagement in the struggles surrounding women’s bodily autonomy.

Rudo has a keen interest in international law and human rights and is currently studying toward a Master of Philosophy in Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Africa. Combining rights knowledge, an understanding of the African context and creative arts Rudo seeks to engage in more meaningful social justice for women in the social, economic and political arenas.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Memory Zonde-Kachambwa, a dynamic, energetic Development Professional and Women's Rights Advocate, with 15 years' experience in establishing new initiatives, philanthropy, transformative cross regional leadership, movement building, training and consultancy. She is a Gender and Governance Specialist by training with expertise in the areas of Program and Organisational Management, Community mobilisation, Outreach, HIV and AIDS, Gender Based Violence, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Auditing, Gender Assessment, Women's Economic Empowerment, Policy Analysis, Peace, Conflict Management and Transformation, Advocacy, Humanitarian, Research, Monitoring, Evaluation and Results Based Management, Capacity Building and Human Rights.

Memory has extensive work experience in managing and coordinating projects with multiple development partners. She served as the Executive Director of The Women's Trust, and spent 8 years working within the United Nations System, working for UNFPA, UNIFEM and UN Women.

She currently sits on Boards for the Women and AIDS



Support Network and the Student Solidarity Trust an organisation that assisted survivors (students) of political violence. Memory is a fellow of the Fast Forwarding to the Future East and Southern Africa Leadership Programme patroned by Madam Graca Machel and the late Nelson Mandela and also co-founder and convener of the Africa-wide African Young Women Leadership Caucus which ensures young women's participation in the Pan African dialogue and debate. She holds a MSc in Water Resource Management, BSc in Geology, Geography and Environmental Science and currently studying for a Masters in Peace, Human Rights and Development.

Mercy M. Njoroge has six years' experience in journalism and is currently a senior sub-editor/columnist/features writer at People Daily newspaper. She previously worked at The Star newspaper in the same capacity. Mercy has wide experience in writing on gender issues, with particular focus on girls and women's issues. In the light of this, Mercy, as an editor on consultancy basis, successfully oversaw publication of two issues of The Dawn magazine in 2012, a developmental publication on engendering the political leadership in Kenya.

Mercy is an active member of The Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK), a national media association for women journalists and communicators.

Her involvement in the association enabled her to network and participate in a competitive selection process for Urgent Action Fund–Africa (UAF-Africa) African Women's Leadership and Mentorship Initiative (AWLMI) programme. Through the continuing two-year programme, Mercy's outstanding participation, engagement and passion for women's leadership has aptly placed her as a trailblazer in the emerging crop of young women leaders in Africa.

In December 2014, Mercy graduated with a Masters of Art in Gender and Development studies from the University of Nairobi. She also holds a Post Graduate Diploma in Mass Communication from the Kenya Institute of Mass Communication (KIMC), Nairobi. Mercy has a Bachelor of Arts in Education, specialising in English and Literature.

Mercy has attended various professional capacity-building trainings including Thomson Reuters Foundation (Poverty Reporting) in South Africa; and the International Institute for Journalism (IIJ) of InWent (Freedom and Responsibility in the Media) in Germany.



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Mindy Jane Roseman is the Academic Director of the Human Rights Program (HRP) and a Lecturer on Law at Harvard University, Law School. Roseman received her J.D. from Northwestern University School of Law and a PhD from Columbia University, in Modern European History with a focus on reproductive health. After graduating from law school, she clerked for Judge John F. Grady, Chief Judge, U.S. District Court, Northern District, IL. Roseman was an Instructor in the Department of Population and International Health at Harvard School of Public Health, and a Senior Research Officer at the International Health and Human Rights Program, François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health, where she researched and reported on a range of health and human rights issues, with special focus on reproductive and sexual rights, including HIV and AIDS, and women's and children's rights.

As both a researcher and advocate, Roseman specializes in international health and human rights, particularly as they relate to gender, sexuality and reproduction. She has fostered the development of health and human rights norms, as well as their implementation, at the international and national level. She has worked with various UN agencies, as well as international and national

non-governmental organizations on human rights matters in connection to HIV/AIDS, gender, sexuality and sexual practices, reproductive health, maternal health, and criminal law. Currently she is the principal investigator for an interdisciplinary and international research project on the use of criminal law to regulate sexuality, reproduction and gender.

In her capacity as a part time clinical supervisor, Roseman collaborates with local and international NGOs on submissions to UN and regional human rights bodies on the rights of LGBTQ individuals in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Iran, Japan, and Rwanda. She has also teamed with local partners to conduct human rights research and investigations into the forcible sterilization of women living with HIV in Namibia, and on access to sexual and reproductive health care (as part of access to justice) in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Monica Aleman Cunningham works on women's rights issues in the Ford Foundation's Eastern Africa office. Her grant making focuses on increasing the capacity of national, regional and global groups, cultivating men as allies, supporting national and regional networks, and strengthening programs that focus on economic opportunities, all to help build a sustainable and vibrant women's movement.

Before joining Ford Foundation in 2011, Monica served as the Executive Director of International Indigenous Women's Forum, a network of organizations in Asia, Africa and the Americas. She also served as Program and Policy Director at MADRE, an international women's rights organization. In addition, Monica has worked as a coordinator and assistant for the United Nations' Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights and has consulted for various organizations, including the Ford Foundation and Nicaragua's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Her extensive background includes expertise in community organizing, social movement building, participatory monitoring and evaluation, all honed through her work over the years with national, regional and global organizations. She has also written a number of opinion and issue-oriented articles, primarily on women's rights and the rights of indigenous peoples and communities.

Monica received her Masters degree from the Intercultural Indigenous University, Popayan, Colombia, and her Bachelor's degree in International Relations with a focus on Political Science and Business Administration from the University of Mobile, Latin America Campus at San Marcos, Nicaragua.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Musimbi Kanyoro is an international leader and advocate for the health, development and human rights for women, girls and minority groups. She is currently President and CEO of the Global Fund for Women, the largest publicly supported grantmaking foundation that advances human rights by investing in women-led organizations that use Global Fund grants to promote women's human rights. The Global Fund for Women's model of social change philanthropy brings together grantees and donors to realize a better world for women.

Kanyoro's accomplishments include: spearheading efforts to include girl's education and women's leadership at Packard Foundation grantmaking while Director for Population Program (2007-2011). Prior to moving to the USA, Dr. Kanyoro worked internationally while stationed in Geneva, Switzerland from 1988 to 2007. Musimbi Kanyoro was the first non-white woman to be appointed as general secretary (CEO) of the World YWCA after one and half centuries.

A true global citizen, Kanyoro has traveled for work in all parts of the world, and lived extensively in Africa, and Europe and currently in the USA. Her vast international experience has made her a sought after speaker and thought leader for media, government, advocacy and NGOs. She has written

and published extensively on matters affecting the lives of women and children.

Kanyoro received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Nairobi, Kenya, a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Texas, Austin and a Doctorate in Feminist Theology from San Francisco Theological Seminary. She was a visiting scholar of Hebrew and the Old Testament at Harvard University. She has received three honorary doctorates and several recognition awards, including a leadership award from the Kenya Government and most recently she was named as one of the 21 women leaders for the 21st century by Women's E-News.

Ndana Bofu-Tawamba, a proud African citizen and Zimbabwean national, is the CEO & Executive Director at Urgent Action Fund-Africa (UAF-Africa). Ndana brings to the women's movement, a sophisticated appreciation of the global philanthropy architecture, multi-faceted narratives of women's leadership successes and struggles and a lived reality characterised by gender injustice, grit, hard work and remarkable achievement. Prior to joining UAF-Africa, Ndana was in charge of the UN Women office in Harare, Zimbabwe, where she led in the execution of the multi-million dollar funded EC, DFID and DANIDA Gender Support Program. She has lectured at the Women's University in Africa, been invited as guest lecturer and speaker at several institutions to speak about African Women's Leadership, New Frontiers of Philanthropy, the nexus of HIV&AIDS, Ebola, Gender and Conflict; Psychology of Women as an intellectual discipline as well as on Women Peace Security and Justice.

Ndana is an Executive Education on Leadership alumnus of INSEAD Business School, Fontainebleau, France and Singapore. She earned her Master's degree in Women's Studies from Lancaster University, UK; Bachelor of Science Honors degree in Social Psychology from University of Zimbabwe and a diploma in Personnel Management. Ndana sits on the Board of the International Network of Women's Funds, Mexico. Her work with UAF-Africa, the Global women's movement, the UN, academia and regional consultancy assignments has meant extensive travels across Africa and the globe, thereby allowing her to combine her commitment to social justice with an opportunity to further explore women and girl's realities throughout the world.



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Olufunké Michaels is an Edward Mason Fellow at Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Nigerian-born Olufunké Michaels has over 19 years' experience with multi-million budget brands such as Coca-Cola, Peugeot, Rothmans, Heineken, Subaru and Samsung in managerial positions spanning Sub-Saharan Africa, North-Africa/Middle East, Europe and the UK, Latin-America and the Caribbean. As a Creative-Communications practitioner, she has won several awards for her work in Marketing Communications, especially with new or renewed product introductions. In various consulting capacities for governments and multi-nationals, she has been a cross-functional resource for African, Caribbean and North American markets.



Her most recent work is in the area of managerial communication, exploring creative language use and its influence on leadership roles within corporate and political organizations. Her interests include specific research into the linguistic and socio-cultural compositions of industrial clusters, as well as geo-specific communication management for technology groups and humanitarian organizations. Funke is a great resource in addressing a global audience using effective person-to-person and business-to-consumer communication methods. She has shown unflinching commitment towards the development of industry by fostering collaborations between academia, entrepreneurs, and leaders of the corporate and political frontiers.

Over the past three years, in addition to full-time studies first at MIT, and then at Harvard University, Funke has consistently kept up her interest in the market dynamics and growth potentials of developing economies. She hosted The Achebe Colloquium at Brown University, Rhode Island in December 2012, delivering the colloquium summary and closing address at what turned out to be Professor Chinua Achebe's last gathering of world leaders before his demise in March 2013. Funke was also panelist, then anchor-person and convener at the MIT Africa Conferences in 2012, 2013 and 2014. The conference focuses on opportunities for scaling and increased foreign-direct investment across African agriculture, media, technology, education, and entertainment industries.

Funke is also an author, adjunct lecturer, public speaker and culture coach.



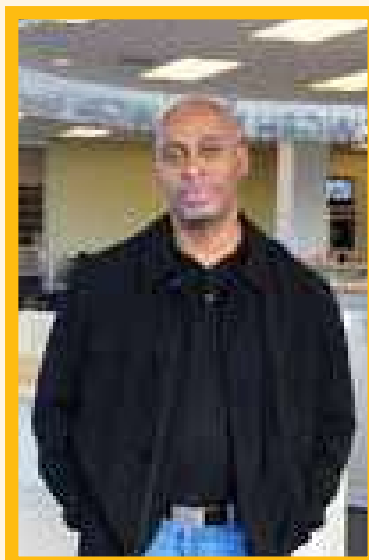
Patricia Donli is an educationist and lecturer of over 30 years in the Department of Biological Sciences, University of Maiduguri. She holds a Ph.D Degree in Agriculture with specialization in Plant Pathology from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. She is currently a Professor of Plant Pathology in the University of Maiduguri.

She also holds various certificates in the area of gender and development, organizational development, environment & sustainable development, good governance, conflict management and peace-building, Human Rights Based Approach, monitoring and evaluation.

Professor Donli is passionate about women and their advancement. In 1997, she established an NGO (there were very few in Borno state at this time) Gender, Environment and Rural Development Initiative (GEARDI) and in 2007, Gender Equality, Peace and Development Centre to tackle issues of gender equality, violence against women, child marriage, women's rights, child rights (issues which were seen as controversial). Through these organizations, she has managed many projects that tackle various issues that plague women and funded

by various development partners. Professor Donli is a master trainer in areas of gender, women's rights, VAWG, UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions, conflict management, women's leadership and mentoring, advocacy and lobbying among others.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Phillip Martin is a Senior Investigative Reporter at WGBH-FM. Since joining WGBH in the spring of 2010, Phillip Martin has reported on human trafficking in southern New England, the Boston Marathon bombing, Whitey Bulger, carbon offset schemes, police shootings, training and race, the Occupy movement and the fishing industry in New England, among other topics.

He is a Senior Fellow with the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism and a 2012 International Center for Journalists Ford Foundation Fellow. Phillip is also executive producer for Lifted Veils Productions, a nonprofit public radio journalism project dedicated to exploring issues that divide and unite society. His Color Initiative--an occasional series of reports about the global impact of skin color--aired on The World, a co-production of WGBH, the BBC and PRI.

Phillip was a Harvard University Nieman Fellow from 1997 to 1998 and a U.S.-Japan Media Fellow in 1997. He earned a master's degree in law and diplomacy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and studied international protection of human rights law at Harvard Law School as well as journalism at the University of California at Berkeley in the Program for Minority Journalists.

Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng is the Executive Director of Isis- Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE), a women's transnational, vibrant well-established feminist organization that values justice, fairness and mutual respect for humanity, and is based in Uganda. Ruth is one of the key women leaders on the continent of Africa advancing the rights of women on the peace and human security architecture. With 20 years' experience in development communications, and 14 years in her position of leadership as the Executive Director, she has initiated programs to promote women's leadership in peace and human security. She has researched and documented women's experiences of armed conflict in Uganda, Liberia, Nepal and South Sudan, and has coordinated the production of a number of video documentaries on Women, Conflict, and Human Security, which have been used by different development partners in training and advocacy work.



Her interest in preserving and transferring skills and knowledge has made her develop a number of presentations at national, regional and international forums, advocating for the urgent need to involve women in peace building processes, as well as supporting the practical and strategic needs of women girls' survivors in post conflict communities. Some of her writings have been published in deferent spaces. Ruth holds a M.A. in Communications Policy Studies and a B.Sc. in Information and Communications. She has also undertaken several short courses in gender, advocacy and peace building and conflict resolution.



Sakhile S. Sifelani-Ngoma expends her energies and legal skills towards facilitating and supporting tangible transformation within the governance and democracy discourse and architecture of Zimbabwe through her leadership at Women in Politics Support Unit (WiPSU). WiPSU is a feminist resource base, strengthening the capacities of Zimbabwean women in political organizing in their political candidature and elected office. WiPSU works to entrench equality in decision making processes and governance, within Zimbabwean law, policy and practice, by locating and placing women within the power and political framework to bring about that change. WiPSU's approach to transformation in political engagement has earned the organisation leadership in the SADC Gender Governance Cluster, expanding the discourse and engagement of women in politics by working to enrich a strong feminist movement in the SADC region and internationally.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS

Rosemary Okello Orleale is the Program Officer for the Ford Foundation Eastern African office on Advancing Public Service Media Initiative whose goal is to promote the public media sphere as a platform to give voice and visibility to the marginalized, and to add diverse perspectives to everyday struggles for social change while simultaneously transforming alternative media into a critical and cohesive voice of civil society.

Orleale has a wealth of more than 20 years of experience and expertise in communication, media, gender and development communication within the mainstream media, government, private sector, UN-organizations and also in NGOs in Africa. Previously she worked as the Executive Director African Woman and Child Feature Service (AWC), a media NGO focusing on development communication in Africa for the last 18 years. Some of the experience includes working with UN and donor communities in analyzing the impact of donor supported work in the lives of women in Somalia, and also with the government of South Sudan in analysis of gender and leadership and analysis of capacities of women leaders in Sudan.

In terms of gender mainstreaming within government, Rosemary was instrumental in identifying gender gaps in the Ministry of Environment in Kenya, Ministry of Northern Kenya and Semi-Arid land, Ministry of East African Community and developed tools for gender mainstreaming which has since been adopted by the Government of Kenya.



Samantha McKenzie graduated with a law degree from the University of Nairobi. She worked as a paralegal with Coulson Harney, a member of the Bowman Gilfillan Africa Group, before being recruited by Young & Rubicam, a company that promotes major brands in 35 African countries from the Africa headquarters based in Nairobi, Kenya. In 2011, she established AllAfrica's East African operations, a pan-African news and information organisation, whose work is disseminated through allAfrica.com. At AllAfrica as the Regional Manager for East Africa and Coordinator of Development Reporting, Samantha worked with a technical and editorial staff producing multi-media content collaborations among reporters and producers in Kenya, South Africa, Liberia, Senegal and Washington DC. In 2013 Samantha, along with a small team, established the IREX East Africa SAFE (securing access to free expression) -Initiative Center based in Nairobi, Kenya with outreach to South Sudan, Ethiopia and Somalia and ran a successful one-year pilot program. Samantha currently manages and runs Maridadi.co a multi-media storytelling platform, which highlights the work of Nairobi-based designers.

Shinaz Rehema Ali is a Kenyan national and Program Officer at Urgent Action Fund-Africa. Prior to joining UAF-Africa, Shinaz worked as a social worker, theatre trainer and a project officer at AMREF's Children In Need Programme. Shinaz possesses extensive experience and expertise in women's rights, development and implementation of legal policies and community oriented capacity development on psychosocial issues.

Shinaz's rare skills set in legal, social work and the arts has been greatly valued at UAF-Africa's grant making portfolio where intersectional strategies in the provision of grants is of huge priority. Her analytical, inquisitive and curious nature has afforded her the opportunity to conduct instructive grant making due diligence thereby ensuring provision of sound and innovative grants that have gone on to change women's realities on the ground.

Shinaz holds an LLB from University of Nairobi and Diplomas in Project Management and Social Work and Development. She is currently completing her studies in French and a Masters Degree in International Relations and Political Science.



ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS



Susan Kihara-Nguu is a gender practitioner with 10 years of experience as a grant maker in the East African region, working with Ford Foundation. She holds a Bachelor of Education specializing in Business Administration and English at Kenyatta University and is finalizing her Masters in Gender and Development at the University of Nairobi.

As a mother of a young daughter, Susan is passionate about creation of opportunities and raising the visibility of African young women; shaping new spaces of public engagement for the inclusion of women leaders and the innovative use of ICT to educate, inspire, create solutions and documenting the success stories of social justice in East Africa. She currently volunteers at Akili Dada, a leadership incubator for young women and sits on the Board of Trustees for the Ford Foundation Provident Fund.

Sylvia Olayinka Blyden, is a trained medical doctor, an entrepreneur, a journalist & socio-political commentator, a gender, youths and human rights activist, owner of the country's most widely read newspaper, a philanthropist and in February 2013, she became the first woman ever appointed to Sierra Leone State House with Cabinet-rank. She gracefully resigned that position after two years - during the Ebola Crisis.

She holds two university degrees in Medicine and is certified by United States' Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG). Whilst at University, in June 1994, she emerged as Sierra Leone's first, and so far, the only woman to be elected as a University of Sierra Leone students' president; beating two male candidates in a landslide victory.

As the then only female university students' president, Dr. Blyden was invited by the United Nations to represent Sierra Leone's female youths in Beijing, China during the 1995 United Nations Conference on Women where her African peers from other African Nations, chose her to deliver the Female Youths of Africa Speech in English.

With further inspiration of Beijing 1995, Dr. Blyden again made history in Sierra Leone by becoming the country's youngest ever National Political Party leader at age 30 years and the third ever Sierra Leone woman to lead a fully registered political party. This was when she led the Young Peoples Party (YPP) to elections in middle of 2002. Dr. Blyden, has in the past, spoken of her future interest to run for Presidency of Sierra Leone. A successful entrepreneur, in 2003, she pioneered ground-breaking 24-Hours Internet Cafes that literally benefitted Sierra Leone youths who used free night-time services.

In 2007, Dr. Blyden became the youngest ever Sierra Leonean to be nationally honoured with an Officer of the Rokel insignia in recognition of her service to the Nation.



Dr. Blyden has been repeatedly named as a Child-Appointed Goodwill Ambassador for Sierra Leone's Children since 2004 to date. She is also currently, the only National Goodwill Ambassador for Youths in Sierra Leone since 2011. She is highly cited as a Motivational Speaker and regularly delivers speeches both in and out of Sierra Leone.

Dr. Blyden is a direct descendant of Edward Wilmot Blyden, the "father of Pan-Africanism".

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Talent Jumo Madziva is an Education rights activist and a development practitioner who has fought to ensure that young women from marginalised communities can challenge inequality. She is the co-founder of the Young Women's Leadership Initiative, now known as Katswe Sistahood. Katswe Sistahood is a movement of dynamic young women fighting for the full attainment of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) by women in Zimbabwe. It is a platform that enables young women to mobilize, organize and articulate their needs and aspirations in respect of SRHR education, SRH services and legal protection, (as entry points to overall empowerment); and to communicate these to policy-makers and implementers.



Rooted in feminist analysis and women's lived realities, Katswe has to date mobilised more than 6000 young women, aged between 15-35, who include school dropouts, sex workers, young mothers, students and young professionals, to initiate and implement local and national level actions towards the realisation of their rights. Talent holds an Education Diploma from the University of Zimbabwe and a Diploma in Development Studies from Kimmage University.



Yvette Chesson-Wureh obtained a Juris Doctorate degree with honours from the North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law where she was also featured in "Who is Who in American Law Schools" 1988 Edition. She is a recipient of several awards and certifications including a certificate in Mediation/Arbitration from Bowie State University. A member of several professional associations both in the United States and Liberia, Cllr. Chesson-Wureh is a member of the United States Supreme Court Bar, The U.S. Federal District Bar, The Association of Female Lawyers of Liberia (AFELL) where she serves on the Board, and a current member of the Board of Tax Appeals of Liberia.

An advocate and a champion of women's rights and gender equality, she was the Manager in 2009 of the International Women's Colloquium for Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development,

International Peace and Security, which was Co-convened by H.E. President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia and H.E. President Tarja Halonen of Finland that brought together over two thousand women from around the world including four sitting Presidents (Liberia, Finland, Rwanda and Senegal).

Cllr. Chesson-Wureh is currently the Establishment Coordinator of the Angie Brooks International Centre (ABIC) for Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace and Security, which is the concrete outcome of the International Colloquium. Cllr. Chesson-Wureh serves as the Board President of Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE), based in Uganda.

Yvette Kathurima is the Head of Advocacy at FEMNET (The African Women's Development and Communication Network). Before joining FEMNET, Ms. Kathurima worked as a Project Officer at the IPPF Africa Region where she coordinated the African Women Leaders Network for Reproductive Health and Family Planning (AWLN). She has been at the forefront of advocating for African women's issues especially in regard to the framing of the new development agenda at the regional and international levels. She is passionate about the promotion of social justice and development.

To this end, over the past 7 years she has worked in organizations that are keen to contribute towards achieving a vision where respect for diversity and equality are paramount with the end result being improved lives of the poor and marginalized. She holds a Master Degree in Development Studies (Women, Gender and Development) from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands and an Undergraduate Degree in International Relations.



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Winnie Kathurima Imanyara is the Executive Director Housing Finance Foundation whose theme is to Create an Army of 1 Million Artisans for Kenya and the region.

Prior to this role, she served as Director Change & Strategy at Housing

Finance, and Director Change & Leadership at Equity Bank. These roles championed the transformational journeys in both institutions. She serves in several boards both in Kenya and overseas. Her study in industrial

psychology, strategy and leadership has enabled her global robust career.

Winnie is the Founder Director of Global Coaching Centre Foundation (GCC) which champions mentorship for women and girls. The foundation has over 6000 women and girls who have seen changes in their lives through mentorship programs.

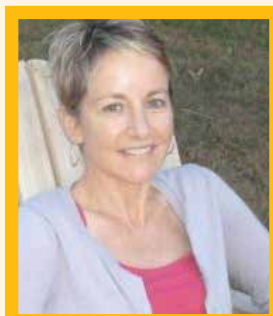
Winnie is the Kenyan Torch Bearer of the United Nations Millennium Development Goal Number 3 (UNMDG3) on promoting Gender Equity and empowering women. She holds a Head of State commendation for her work on women empowerment.

Margo Okazawa-Rey currently is on the faculty of the School of Human and Organizational Development at the Fielding Graduate University in Santa Barbara, California, and Professor Emerita at San Francisco State University. She has also held the Barbara Lee Distinguished Chair n Women's Leadership at Mills College, Jane Watson Irwin Chair in Women's Studies at Hamilton College, and has been visiting professor at other universities and colleges. Okazawa-Rey's primary areas of interest and research are gender, militarism, and feminist activist research.

Her work focuses specifically on militarism, armed conflict, and violence against women. In her research, she examines the connections between militarism, economic globalization, and impacts on local and migrant women in South Korea who live and work around US military bases.



Another of her latest publications, with Amina Mama, is "Militarism, Conflict and Women's Activism in the Global Era: Challenges and Prospects for Women in Three West African Contexts," published in the Feminist Review. Dr. Okazawa-Rey also worked for three years as the Feminist Research consultant at the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling in Ramallah, Palestine, and sits on the international board of the NGOs, PeaceWomen across the Globe, based in Bern Switzerland, and Du Re Bang (My Sister's Place) in Uijongbu, South Korea. She was a founding member of the Combahee River Collective, who articulated a theory of intersectionality in "A Black Feminist Statement" in the 1970s. She received her doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education in 1987.



For over 30 years, **Lisa Veneklasen** has been an activist, educator, strategist and organization-builder with a variety of social justice and women's rights efforts worldwide, and has advised and trained with numerous international development and human rights organizations. Prior to founding JASS in 2002, Lisa worked with women's rights and development organizations in Asia, Africa, Latin America and Eastern Europe. With Women, Law and Development International for over five years, she relocated to Zimbabwe to design and coordinate a 10-country training and networking project that led to the creation of the pan-African Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF), and worked closely with dozens of women's groups in Africa and Eastern Europe to prepare for the UN Women's Conference in Beijing in 1995. From 1997-2001, she was the Assistant Director of the Global Women in Politics program of the Asia Foundation, where she ran a multi-regional advocacy training and political leadership project.

She serves on the Reference Group for the International Budget Partnership, on the board of the Bank Information Center, and as an advisor to the Nobel Women's Initiative. She graduated from Smith College, and has Masters in Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

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Dana Elhassan is a Gender and Fragility Expert working with the African Development Bank Group's Office of the Special Envoy on Gender. With a background in humanitarian and development assistance in Sudan, South Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Syria and India, she supports different operations in special Bank initiatives such as those in the Horn of Africa, Mano River Region, and the Great Lakes.

She advises the SEOG on issues of internal transformation and regional member country advocacy. Dana Elhassan has an MSc in Violence, Conflict and Development from School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

H.E Ambassador Amina Salum Ali is the permanent representative of the African Union to the United States.

Ambassador Ali speaks on behalf of the African Union and its member states to accelerate socio-economic integration of the continent, promote peace and stability, and build partnerships between African governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women and youth, as well as the private sector. One of the major functions of her office is to support the African diplomatic corps in its efforts to consolidate and strengthen partnerships with both the executive and legislative branches of the U.S. government, as well as other federal agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and the Organization of American States.



A veteran Tanzanian civil servant and politician, Ambassador Ali was born and raised on the island of Zanzibar and educated in India, where in 1979 she earned a bachelor's degree in economics, and two years later a master's in business administration in marketing. She was a long-serving member of Parliament and has held various ministerial positions in the Tanzanian government, the most recent of which was minister of state in the office of the chief minister in Zanzibar.

As the African Union's first woman ambassador, Ambassador Ali is committed to promoting women's rights and children's issues. She is also the founder of Zanzibar Women Welfare Trust, an NGO that supports the development of women and children to combat devastating health issues like HIV/AIDS. Ambassador Ali is also a member of IDB Bank eminent women panel to mainstream women development policies in the bank.



Monde Muyangwa currently serves as the Director of the Africa Program at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Prior to this, she served as Academic Dean at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies from 2002 to 2013. In this capacity, she oversaw all curriculum and programs for the Africa Center, including in the areas of Security Studies, Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Threats, Civil-Military Relations, Defense Economics and Resource Management, and Conflict Management. From 2000 to 2003, she served as Professor of Civil Military Relations at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies.

From 1997 to 2000, Monde worked as Director of Research and then Vice President for Research and Policy at the National Summit on Africa. In these capacities, she was responsible for developing and overseeing the organization's programs, research, and publications aimed at enhancing U.S.-Africa relations. Her work at the Summit culminated in a national summit on Africa, attended by President Clinton and more than 8000 people.

The Summit resulted in the development and publication of The National Policy Plan of Action for US-Africa Relations in the 21st Century, a set of recommendations for improving and strengthening US-Africa relations.

Monde holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and a BA in Politics, Philosophy and Economics from the University of Oxford, as well as a BA in Public Administration and Economics from the University of Zambia. She was a Rhodes Scholar, a Wingate Scholar, and the University of Zambia Valedictory Speaker for her graduation class.

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Women Steering Innovative Leadership in Africa, Malawi Conference, 2013