



**African Women's Political Leadership Conference:
Challenges, Opportunities and Strategies**
Brussels, October 7-8, 2008

**Biographies of Club of Madrid Members, Experts,
Country Delegations, Other Discussion Leaders
and Staff**

Club of Madrid Members



Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga

Former President of Sri Lanka (1994-2005)

Ms. Kumaratunga was the fifth President (and fourth to hold the office as Executive president) of Sri Lanka and the country's first female President. Her father, Solomon Bandaranaike, was assassinated while serving as Prime Minister in 1959. President Kumaratunga's mother, Sirimavo Bandaranaike, was elected as the world's first female Prime Minister in 1960.

She worked in journalism for Le Monde and then as Managing Editor of the Dinakara Sinhala and served as an Expert Consultant to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

In 1993, Ms. Kumaratunga was elected to the Western Provincial Council of Sri Lanka and appointed as the Chief Minister of the Province. In 1994, Ms. Kumaratunga was elected to Parliament and appointed Prime Minister. Seventeen years of National Party rule ended with Kumaratunga's election to the Presidency campaigning on a platform of vigorous new efforts at lasting peace with the Tamil Tiger Movement (LTTE). At the outset, Ms. Kumaratunga made strong peace overtures to the LTTE, but when a viable peace agreement could not be reached, she pursued a prolonged military campaign in the north of Sri Lanka. During the 1999 elections she was badly wounded in an LTTE assassination attempt.



Ketumile Masire

President of Botswana (1980-1998)

A Member of Parliament from 1966-1980, Ketumile Masire served as Vice-President of Botswana and Minister of Finance and Development Planning. In 1980, he succeeded the late Seretse Khama as the second President of the Republic of Botswana. During his tenure of office, he was Chairman of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and Co-Chairperson of the Global Coalition for Africa, a position he still holds today.

From 1998-2000, he was Chairman of Eminent Personalities of the Organization for African Unity (OAU) Investigating the Circumstances Surrounding the 1994 Rwanda Genocide, and Member of the Commonwealth Observer Group to the Nigeria Assembly and Presidential Elections in 1999. Ketumile Masire has most recently served as Facilitator for the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue (2000-2003).



Benjamin William Mkapa

President of the United Republic of Tanzania (1995-2005)

Benjamin Mkapa worked as a civil servant in the district of Dodoma and Dar es Salaam, which united with Zanzibar in 1963 to form present day Tanzania. In August of 1962, he was recruited for Exterior Services and four years later he specialized in journalism as the editor of the daily governmental Tanzania Nationalism and Uhuru (1966). Previously he worked for the Daily News, Sunday News.

Mkapa occupied a number of important government posts in the late 1970's and 1980's, serving the political party Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM, State Revolutionary Party) in the areas of Foreign Affairs, Information and Culture, Information and Broadcasting, as well as Science, Technology, and Higher Education. He was also the High Commissioner in Nigeria, Canada and the United States Ambassador, all the while belonging to the "Bunge" or Parliament since 1985.

In 1987 Mkapa became an elected member to the central committee of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania. In 1995, Mkapa won the first democratic elections in Tanzania, as a candidate for the CCM. During his first term, Mkapa continued the economic liberalization program initiated by his predecessor, Ali Hassan Mwinyi, which encouraged privatization and foreign investment. In the 2000 elections, Mkapa was elected for a second term which concluded at the end of 2005. He succeeded in the cancellation of some of Tanzania's foreign debt.



Cassam Uteem

Former President of the Republic of Mauritius (1992-2002)

Club of Madrid Member

After years of youth leadership and social work, Mr. Uteem was elected in 1969 at the Municipal Elections as Councillor of the City of Port Louis. After several years in this position he became the city's Lord Mayor in 1986. Cassam Uteem was Member of the Mauritian Parliament from 1976 to 1991. From 1982-1983 he served as Minister of Employment, Social Security and National Solidarity, and in 1990-91 he also held the title of Deputy-Prime Minister and Minister of Industry and Industrial Technology. During his time as Opposition Member of Parliament he occupied the post of "Opposition Whip" and Chairman of the "Public Accounts Committee."

In July 1992 Mr Uteem was elected President of the Republic of Mauritius, and was re-elected in 1997 for a second 5-year term. He resigned from this post in February 2002. Cassam Uteem is also very active in the field of international public policy.

Club of Madrid Experts



Betty Bigombe

Senior Fellow, United States Institute for Peace

Former Minister of State for Pacification of North Uganda under Yoweri Musevenis' government, Betty Bigombe has been involved in peace negotiations in Uganda to end the Lord's Resistance Army's (LRA) insurgency since the early 1990s. Following the failure of a military solution, Bigombe initiated contact with rebel leader Joseph Kony. This initiative gave birth to what would become known as "Bigombe talks." In 1994 Bigombe was named "Uganda's Woman of the Year" for her efforts to end the violence.

She spent time providing technical support to the Carter Center in the peace efforts between the governments of Uganda and Sudan. She then held a fellowship at Harvard University's Institute for International Development in Public Policy in 1997. Bigombe joined the World Bank in 1997 as a senior social scientist at the Bank's newly created Post-Conflict Unit and also worked with the Social Protection and Human Development Units.



Dora Byamukama

Member of the East African Legislative Assembly (2006-2011)

Dora Byamukama was a Member of Parliament of the Republic of Uganda from 2001-2006. She is a member of the National Disciplinary Committee of the National Resistance Movement, and the Legal Committee which provides for the Gender Committee. MP Byamukama wrote a number of research papers while attending Georgetown University Law Center. She co-founded the Law and Advocacy for Women in Uganda (LAW-Uganda) NGO in 1997.



Winnie Byanyima

Director, UNDP Gender Team

Winnie Byanyima, was elected three times to the Uganda legislature and was a founder of the Assembly's Women's Caucus. Before joining UNDP, Ms. Byanyima served as Director, Women, Gender and Development Directorate of the African Union Commission. She was also a founding member and first chair of the Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE).

She is a member of the Executive Board of the African Capacity Building Foundation and the International Centre for Research on Women. Recently, she was a member of the UN Millennium Development Goals Task Force on Education and Gender Equality. Ms Byanyima has several publications on issues of gender and governance.



Drude Dahlerup

Political Science Professor, Stockholm University

Prof. Drude Dahlerup has written extensively on Women's Political Representation, Gender quotas and balance, Women in political parties and women as voters. Professor Dahlerup was the Vice-Chair of the Danish Government's Council for European Politics 1993-2000, a Member of the board of KVINFO, The Danish Center for Information on Women and Gender, Copenhagen, 1998-2003, a Member of the Norwegian State Research Council, section for political science 1991-1994, the Head of Cekvina, Centre for Gender Studies at the University of Aarhus, 1991-92 and 1997 and the Chair of the International Political Science Association's Research Committee on Sex Roles and Politics, 1982-85 (together with Professor Fanny Tabak, Brazil). Her research interests include gender and political representation, and equality policies.



Pregaluxmi Govender

ANC Member of Parliament (1994-2002)

Pregs Govender became an ANC member of parliament in 1994, during which period she chaired the joint Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Quality of Life and Status of Women, and played a key role in national debates on military spending and HIV/AIDS. RDP Assistant Co-ordinator in the National RDP Office (March 1994). Women's National Coalition Overall Project Manager (October 1992 - February 1994). She became director of the First Workers' College in South Africa based in the Western Cape in 1990 to 1992. Trade Unionist employed by SACTWU (the union with the largest women's membership in SA); occupied several positions in this union, (1987-1990). Researcher, assisting the Director at the Institute of Socio-Economic Research at UDW (1986). Pregs Govender started as a teacher at high schools and at the University of Durban-Westville (1982-1985).



Mona Lena Krook

Fellow, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University

Mona Lena Krook is Assistant Professor of Political Science and Women and Gender Studies at Washington University in St. Louis, USA. In 2008-2009, she is a Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University. Her research focuses on the design, adoption, and implementation of candidate gender quota policies. Her book, *Quotas for Women in Politics: Gender and Candidate Selection Reform Worldwide*, will be published in early 2009 by Oxford University Press.



Miria Matembe

Governance Director, Centre for Women in Governance (CEWIGO)

A lawyer by profession, Hon. Dr. Matembe was a member of the National Parliament of Uganda for 17 years, a Cabinet Minister for Ethics and Integrity for 5 years and a pioneer member of the Pan African Parliament. In 1995 she was a member of the Constitutional Court that created the Ugandan Constitution.

She is currently serving as an international expert on gender equality and women’s empowerment with the Club de Madrid and the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and does international training of women in or aspiring to be in politics. She has initiated the formation of many women’s organizations and has been a feminist and a leader in the women’s movement for more than twenty years.



Cecilia Ogwal

Member of Parliament, Uganda (2006-...)

Graduated in Politics, she served as de-facto leader of UPC Party in Uganda from 1985 to 1996 and was the lead voice in agitating for the restoration of multiparty politics in Uganda. She served as an elected Delegate to the Constituent Assembly and has been elected as Member of Parliament 3 times since 1996. She is currently serving as a member of the Budget Standing and Agriculture Committees. She was Chairman of the Uganda Development Bank before becoming a Member of Parliament.

Hon. Ogwal has strong interest in Multiparty politics, human rights, security, women’s rights and children’s issues.



Ruth Khasaya Oniang’o

Member of Kenyan Parliament (2003-2007)

Professor Ruth Oniang’o is a former Shadow Minister for Education, former member of the Education Committee, and former Vice Chair of Kenya Women Parliamentary Association. She was nominated Woman of the Year 2000 by the American Biographical Institute. Prof. Ruth is Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development and the founder and Chair of Board of trustees of Rural Outreach Program (ROP) which won an award from Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). She also Consulted for numerous International Organizations and is on the Boards of IFDC, IFPRI, Monsanto Company, IRRI.

She was appointed to presidential commissions in her country on the review of laws affecting women and children (1995), financing of university education (1995) and poverty eradication (on-going).



Hon. Gloria Musu Scott

Member of the Liberian Senate (2005 - ...)

A legal expert, Ms. Glora Musu Scott is a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Liberia, and a current member of the Liberian National Bar Association. As co-founder of the Association of Female Lawyers of Liberia, she has advocated for women's rights.

Ms. Scott was also an assistant professor at the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law at the University of Liberia, from which she had received a bachelor's degree in economics prior to her law degree.

Ms. Scott also participates in the Independent Elections Commission.



Jackie K. Weatherspoon

Former State Representative (New Hampshire) and UNDP Technical Advisor

Hon. Weatherspoon serves on the Board of Directors of the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government and is a member of the Harvard Law School Mediation Program, serving as a mediator in the Small Claim Courts and Landlord Tenant Courts of Massachusetts. Hon. Weatherspoon also serves as a member of the UN Secretariat, Roster of Electoral Experts in the Electoral Assistance Division and has been a Technical Adviser for UNDP and UNIFEM during the latest Registration and Presidential and Parliamentary Elections in Malawi and Nigeria.

Hon. Weatherspoon served six years in the New Hampshire House of Representatives and was seconded by the US State Department to OSCE in the post-conflict of Bosnia I Hercegovina, 1997-1999. She was one of the Chief Sponsors of the CEDAW Resolution in the New Hampshire House of Representatives and the White House and Northern New England Coordinator for the Beijing Plus 5 Assessment.

Country Delegations

Nigeria



Rabi Musa Abdullahi

Programme Officer, WRAPA

Programme officer responsible for the Women's Political participation project, Mrs Abdudallahi has coordinated the activities of Women's Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative (WRAPA), Club of Madrid's AWLP partner in Nigeria, aimed at the enhancement of Women's Political participation in the seven states of the North Central Zone. Prior to 2006, Mrs Abdudallahi worked in the banking industry, being appointed Head of Foreign Operations in 1990. She has also worked with Kaduna State Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning as a Planning Officer and she has served as a Tax Inspector at the Katsina State Internal Revenue Department of the Ministry of Finance. Mrs Abdullahi holds a B.Sc Economics and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Ahamdu Bello University Zaria.



Josphine Anenih

Board of Trustees of Peoples' Democratic Party

Mrs. Josephine Anenih has been a long time female activist particularly as a one time chairman of the Federation of women Lawyers from 1994-2001 with high interest on violence against women which she championed. She has been an ardent politician with strong zeal to project women up to the highest level with her being the first National Woman Leader of the Ruling party (PDP) from 1999.

Member of many National and International Organizations and headed many of them particularly the National ones with track record of diligence and result oriented outputs. Mrs. Anenih has been a recipient of many awards for her distinguished achievements in many endeavours in life and is currently mobilizing women for a result oriented struggle for recognition and acceptance in the nation's political structure.



Henry Anoliefo

Assistant Project Officer, WRAPA

Henry Anoliefo is a lawyer by profession with 3 years post call experience as well as an Associate member of the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators. Prior joining the AWLP, he was a volunteer with the Health Information Center in 2002 and worked with an NGO called Lawyers Alert as a Research Officer from 2003 to 2006. After that, he worked as Project Officer for the Women Political Empowerment Project of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs covering the North Central Zone of Nigeria.



Oladimeji S. Bankole
Speaker, House of Representatives

Hon. Oladimeji S. Bankole is a graduate of Economics, son of former Second Republic National Party of Nigeria Chieftain. He was elected on the ticket of PDP in 2003 into the House of Representatives representing Abeokuta South Federal Constituency of Ogun State. In 2007, he won re-election into the House of Representatives representing the same constituency, and was elected speaker in November, 2007.



Yisa East Braimoh
Senator

Senator Yisa Braimoh an engineer represents Edo North Senatorial district of Edo State and a strong caucus member of the ruling party in the South South Zone of Nigeria. He became a parliamentarian in 2007. He is currently the deputy chairman of the Senate committee on Culture and Tourism and member of Women Affairs in Parliament.



Nuhu Giwa
Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development

Permanent Secretary to the Ministry on women affairs and youth development. He is an influential government official.



Amina Ibrahim
Senior Special Assistant to the President on Millenium Development Goals

Senior Special Assistant to Mr President on the MDGs for the last five years The MDGs has been working for the political empowerment of women



Jibrin Ibrahim
Director of Center for Democracy and Development

Dr. Jibrin is a renowned scholar with a high pedigree in academics and social development leading to the continuous quest for Human Rights and gender equality with particular interest in equal space for women and good governance in Nigeria. He is currently the Director of Centre for Democracy and Development, a West African NGO in Abuja.



Beni Lar

MP, Chair of Committee on Women Affairs

Honourable Beni Lar represents Langtang North Federal constituency of Plateau state. She has previously served as the Senior Special Adviser to the President on Agriculture and Food Security. In 2007, she won a seat to the House of Representatives under the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). She is the Chairwoman of the House Committee on Women Affairs and also member of Gas, Interior Affairs and Solid Minerals Committees of the House. Beni Lar is the Lead Parliamentarian for the mission’s activities in the House of Representatives and Plateau State.



Saudatu S. Mahdi

Secretary General, WRAPA

Leading women’s rights activist and a recipient of the prestigious American Ms Magazine 2004 Woman of the Year Award and the Ralph U. Stone Memorial Scholarship award for acclaimed Change Agents in Development. In the public service sector for 18 years, from 1999 to date she has served as the Secretary General of Women’s Rights Advancement and Protection Alternative (WRAPA). Under her leadership, WRAPA has become a leading voice in the advocacy and campaign against Violence Against Women and designed and coordinated projects and advocacy for increased political participation of women in Nigeria as well as other initiatives aimed at ratifying the Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Women in Africa and domesticating CEDAW.



Hamza Makarfi

News Producer representing the Director General of Nigeria Television Authority

News producer anchor representing the Director General of Nigerian Television Authority the Largest network in Africa



Sindi Medar Gould

Executive Director of BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights

Sindi Medar-Gould is a life long activist and feminist with a record of 30 years standing in women’s human rights work. She is an experienced trainer in gender, leadership, feminism, conflict resolution, gender budget analysis, Human Rights and ethics. Currently, she is the Executive Director of the Nigeria-based organization BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights, a non-profit organization working for women's human rights and legal rights under customary and religious law in Africa. BAOBAB also coordinates programs for Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) in Africa and the Middle East. Previously, Sindi was the Executive Director of WISSEA, Kano and the Coordinator of the Women and Law Program for Kano State. Additionally, Sindi serves as Chairperson of the Nigeria Coalition on the International Criminal Court (NCICC).



Oby Nwankwo

Executive Director of Civil Resource Development & Documentation Centre

Ms. Oby Nwankwo is the founder and Executive Director of the Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC) Nigeria, an independent non-government and not-for-profit organization established in 1996 for the promotion and protection of human rights, good governance, gender equality, access to justice and the strengthening of civil society. She coordinated the Legal Aid Project of the International Federation of Women Lawyers for several years before founding CIRDDOC in 1996.

She has attended major World Conferences on Women, Human Rights, United Nations Prep Coms on the International Criminal Court, UN Commission on the Status of Women annual meetings etc.



Umaru Tambuwal

Senator, Chairman of Committee on Judiciary, National Assembly

Chairman Senate Committee on Judiciary and advocate of women's rights and a partner to the struggle of women political empowerment both within and out of the legislature.



Bilkisu Yusuf

Executive Director of Citizen Communication Limited, Kaduna

Ms. Yusuf is a print Media Executive, gender advocate and former National President of the Federation of Muslim Women Organizations in Nigeria. She was a member of the Strategy Sommittee at the Gender and Development Action, 100 Group, a women's political advocacy group.

Her previous work experience involved serving at the Nigerian National Youth Service Corps, Ministry of Information, and publishing and media houses. Very active in many spheres of the Nigerian society, notably women and youth organizations, Ms. Yusuf is a consultant on media, training on development, population, conflict management and other projects.

Sierra Leone



Barbara Bangura

National Coordinator, Grassroots Movement for Self Reliance

Mrs. Barbara Bangura is the founder and National Coordinator of Grassroots Empowerment for Self Reliance (GEMS) a national NGO whose focus is on Women, Peace and Security in Sierra Leone in particular grassroots women.

She was Country Coordinator of the Women in Peace building Network (WIPNET) in 2003 and Regional (2004–06), Secretary-General of the Network on Collaborative Peace building in Sierra Leone (NCP-SL) and later Board Member of Women, Peace & Security-Africa (WIPSEN- Africa).



Abu Augustus Brima

National Coordinator, Network Movement for Justice and Development

Abu A. Brima is the founder and Executive Director of Network Movement for Justice and Development (NMJD). He represented Civil Society at the Lome Peace talks in 1999 and then served on the Commission for the Consolidation of Peace (CCP) thereafter. As a human rights activist he is Chairman of the National Forum for Human Rights (NFHR), and chaired the recruitment process and appointment of the Commissioners for the Sierra Leone Human rights Commission. As an advocate he champions the course of civil society coordination, builds network around key national issues like Mining and Extractives, Poverty Reduction Strategy, Elections and support active women participation and engagement. He's on several bodies.

Established in 1988, NMJD is one of the most engaged civil society organizations in Sierra Leone focusing on governance and accountability, economic justice, youth empowerment, peace and security and civil society coordination for effectiveness.



Mabinty Daramy

Deputy Minister of Trade and Industry

Madam Daramy has over 10 years of corporate experience in financial and banking services, corporate property management and business development strategy under her belt. She has proven ability in market and financial analysis, project development strategies and financial management strategies

She managed a corporate financial budget of over fifty million dollars in the United States of America before repatriating to Sierra Leone upon His Excellency Ernest Bai Koroma's invitation to join his administration in nation Building.



Valnora Edwin

Director, Campaign for Good Governance

Valnora Edwin, currently Director of the Campaign for Good Governance, has worked there for the last 7 years in a variety of positions, including Programme Manager for Human Rights and Head of Programmes. A fellow of both the International Centre for Transitional Justice and the Open Society Justice Initiative, Ms.

Edwin serves on the boards of a number of institutions in Sierra Leone, and has presented papers internationally on issues relating to civil society participation, women and children's rights, transitional justice, governance, elections and accountability and transparency. Ms. Edwin holds an M.A. in Human Rights from Central European University, and is pursuing a second MA in Governance and Leadership at the Institute of Public Administration and Management in Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Sembia Johnson
Freetown City Councillor

She is a Registered General Nurse with Specialisation in midwifery. She has worked for over 15 years in London and only returned home 6 years ago.

She contested the Local Council Elections in July 2008 and was elected Councillor for Constituency 108 Ward 382 under the All Peoples Congress.



Victor Chukuma Johnson
Deputy Speaker of Parliament

He is the deputy speaker of the Sierra Leone Parliament. He currently serves as chair in the Public Accounts, Committee in Parliament and a member of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee.



Eric Borbor Jumu
Member of Parliament

Mr. Jumu is member of the Parliamentary Committees on Appointment and the Public Service, Deputy Chairman- Health & Sanitation, Social Services, Labour & Industrial Relation, Economic Development.

Before entering into politics, he was a teacher, lecturer, development and social worker for over ten years. His recent past occupation was NGO Co-ordinator for Sierra Leone responsible for the registration, supervision, monitoring and evaluation of all international and local non-governmental organisation operating in the country implementing programmes/projects in education, agriculture, health micro credits, gender and child protection, human rights, and youth activities.



Victoria Saidu Kamara
Deputy Speaker ECOWAS Parliament

She is currently a member of the Sierra Leonean parliament and also the deputy speaker of the ECOWAS Parliament.

She is an advocate for free education for women and girls and empowerment projects targeting the physically challenged.



Haja Musu Kandeh

Minister of Social Welfare Gender and Children Affairs

She is presently the Minister of Social Welfare Gender and Children’s Affairs. She became actively engaged in politics in 1996 and in 2000 she was nominated Member of Parliament for Tonkolili District under the District block system however in 2007 she could not contest the Parliamentary elections because she was not assigned the party symbol. However on his assumption of office the President of Sierra Leone His Excellence Dr. Ernest Bai Koroma appointed her Minister of Social Welfare Gender and Children’s Affairs.



Bernadette Lahai

Member of Parliament

Hon.Dr. Bernadette Lahai is presently a member of the Sierra Leone Parliament. She was first elected to parliament in May 2002 and recent for a second term in July 2007. She chaired the committees of Education, Science and Technology and Agriculture, Food Security and Forestry from 2002-2007. She is currently the Chairperson for the AfricanParliamentarians Network on climate Change-Sierra Leone Chapter, Vice Chairperson for the Parliamentarians’ Network on the World Bank.



Patricia Macauley

National Coordinator, NEWMAP

Patricia Macauley has worked for 38 years in the field of Broadcasting. She has trained many of the most renowned journalists in Sierra Leone including special public speaking training for VIPs.

She is a very active women’s rights activist, founding member of the 50/50 group Sierra Leone. In the process she has trained aspirants for the 2002 and 2007 Presidential and Parliamentary elections and 2004 and 2008 Local Council elections

As coordinator of NEWMAP she has been involved in the training of members of Parliament and Ministers regularly on several issues relating to their work and the cause of gender equity in Parliament



Bernadette Macauley

AWLP Assistant Project Officer Campaign for Good Governance (CGG)

Graduated with a bachelor of Arts with Honours degree in Linguistics, Bernadette Macauley acquired a diploma in Transitional Justice by the International Centre for Transitional Justice in Cape Town. Ms. Macauley also worked on various programmes bordering on the transitional justice programme in Sierra Leone especially on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the Special Court. She has been a training coordinator under the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights implemented by CGG and the University of Bordeaux, France, and worked on programmes bordering on the empowerment of women in the area of training female ward committee members of the local council.

Nana Claris Efua Pratt

Senior Lecturer, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone

Nana Claris Efua Pratt is a founder member of the Mano River Women's Peace Network (MARWOPNET), and is currently the Focal Point for MARWOPNET, Sierra Leone Chapter. She is also the Secretary-general of the National Organisation for Women. Through MARWOPNET, she is actively engaged in civil society efforts to work with the Peacebuilding Commission and other stakeholders to consolidate peace in Sierra Leone.

She is a gender and peace activist who was been extensively involved in civil society initiatives both during and since the end of the war. As a member of the Sierra Leone Women's Forum, she was one of the civil society observers during the Lomé peace negotiations in 1999. Prior to her retirement in 2003, she was for five years head of the Chemistry Department at Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone. She is also a member of the African Union Women's Committee set up to advice the Chairperson of the African Union on gender and women's issues.

Francess Munda Rogers

Member of Parliament, Peoples Movement for Democratic Change

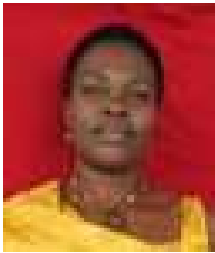


Harriett Sia Eve Turay

President, 50/50 Group Sierra Leone

Harriett Turay is a Female Activist. She is the current President of the 50/50 group in Sierra Leone, a group advocating for an increase in female participation in politics and decision making institutions. She is also a trainer in entrepreneurship and gender empowerment

Uganda



Emma Boona

Member of Parliament - Woman Representative

Has been a District Chairperson for a long time and a women's rights activist. She also serves as Vice Chairperson for the Committee on Public Service and Local Government and is a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Local Government Accounts.



Alison Byamukama

AWLP Project Officer, AWEPA

Alison A. Byamukama holds a MA in Human Rights. She worked as a Research Assistant at Pan African Movement and later as a Programme Officer for the Pan African Development Education and Advocacy Programme. She later joined the UN as a United Nations Volunteer before joining the International Federation for Health and Human Rights Organisations as a Regional Focal Point Officer. Currently she's working as a Project Officer for the Club of Madrid's African Women Leaders Project being implemented by AWEPA-Uganda.



Emmanuel Gyezaho

UPPA President

President of the Uganda Parliamentary Press Association, he holds a MA on Mass Communications. He works also a Senior Reporter for Monitor Daily Publications LTD



Lukiya Isanga

Minister of State for Gender

State Minister for Gender, Hon. Isanga is Member of Parliament - Woman Representative and strong advocate of women's rights. She has previously served as a woman MP in Mayuge (2001-2005), and as a teacher at an Ugandan education centre.



Rebecca Kadaga

Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Uganda (2001 - current)

Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga is a Lawyer by profession holding a Master's Degree. She has held a number of high profile public offices and played a leading role in women emancipation activities. She has been the Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Uganda since 2001 to date. In 1999, she was appointed a Cabinet Minister in-charge of Parliamentary Affairs, a post she held up to 2001. From 1998 to 1999 she was a Minister of State in-charge of Transport and Communication. From 1996 to 1998 she was a Minister of State, Regional Cooperation.

Other distinguished responsibilities she has ever held include: Secretary General, East African Women Parliamentary Association

in 1996; Chairperson, University Council – Mbarara University of Science and Technology; President of the International Federation of Women Lawyers – FIDA Uganda in 1986 – 1989; Elected President of the Inter Parliamentary Union Standing Committee on Democracy & Human Rights in 2003.



Ruth Kavuma

Member of Parliament - Woman Representative

Hon. Kavuma is a founder member of the Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), an organization that works on girl child education since 1997. She is a member of the Committee on Natural Resources, and also of the Committee on Tourism, Trade and Technology and the Committee on Science and Technology.



Jeniffer Kwarisiima

AWEPA Representative, Uganda

Jeniffer Kwarisiima is the Country Representative of the Association of European Parliamentarians For Africa (AWEPA). AWEPA is an international non governmental organisation that supports the well functioning of parliaments in Africa, and works to keep Africa high on the political agenda in Europe. Previously, Jeniffer worked as a Programme Officer with African Parliamentarians Network Against Corruption, (APNAC), a World Bank supported project that mobilised and coordinated African parliaments in their fight against corruption. Prior to this, Jeniffer worked with Compassion International in Uganda, and ISIS-WICCE as a Programme Officer. Jeniffer holds a bachelors degree in Sociology, an MA in Gender and Developmental Studies and a diploma in project planning and development from Makerere University.



Muberak Mabuya

Principal Gender Officer, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

Hon. Mabuya holds an MA on Human Rights, and is a Member of the Social Sciences and Humanities Specialized Technical Committee (SS&H) of the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST). He is also a member of the Poverty Eradication Group and Poverty Monitoring Network of the Government of Uganda, and of the Technical Subcommittee on Gender and Poverty.



Patricia Munabi Babiha

Director, Forum for Women in Democracy

A Bachelor of Laws Degree, Mrs. Munabi has held different positions within the Forum for Women in Democracy, including Research Officer, Head of Training Programme, and Ag. Director.



Ruth Nankabirwa

State Minister for Defence, Ministry of Defence

Member of Parliament - Woman Representative, Hon. Nankabirwa is a great supporter of women's rights agenda. She has previously served as Minister of State for Luwero Triangle – OPM (1998-2001), and as an MP (1996-2001). She is currently involved in an MA on Peace & Conflict Studies.



Sarah Nyombi

Member of Parliament, Ntejeru County North

Hon. Nyombi is a Member of Parliament since 2001. She is the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Roundtable on Reproductive Health.



Dison Okumu

Director Planning and Development Coordination, Parliament

Mr. Okumu is in charge of coordinating Parliamentary projects implemented by civil society organizations. He holds a master degree on statistics by the London School of Economics, and has been a member of parliament since 2004. He worked for UNDP in Banjul, Gambia, from 1989 to 1993.



Elijah Okupa

Member of Parliament

Hon. Okupa is one of the key male supporters of women's rights in parliament. He has been an MP from 2001 to 2006, and he is a member of the Committee on Physical Infrastructure and of the Committee on Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises. Hon. Okupa holds an MA on Economic Policy and Planning.



Mary Tuunde

Member of Parliament - Workers Representative

A gender activist holding a Diploma in Gender & Development Studies, Mrs. Tuunde is a member of the Committee on Rules, Discipline and Privileges, and also a member of the Committee on Public Service and Local Government and on Equal Opportunities.

Other Discussion Leaders

Annicq Bergmans

Lieutenant-Colonel, Chairperson of the Committee of Women, NATO Forces



Antoinette Habinshuti

Policy Assistant, The Initiative for Inclusive Security (Hunt Alternatives)

A native of Rwanda, Antoinette Habinshuti is policy assistant at the Washington DC based Initiative for Inclusive Security, a program of Hunt Alternatives Fund which advocates for the full participation of all stakeholders, particularly women, in leadership and peace processes. Ms. Habinshuti focuses on enhancing women's political participation and conflict resolution in Liberia, coordinating the Women Waging Peace Network, and developing the Initiative's partnerships. Prior to joining Inclusive Security, she helped coordinate a USAID-funded program in support of the Rwandan Parliament. Ms Habinshuti holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and Administration from the Independent University of Kigali in Rwanda and a Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Vermont in the United States of America.



Kristin Haffert

Director of Women Participation Programs, National Democratic Institute (NDI)

Kristin Haffert has directed women's programs at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) since 2002. Ms. Haffert advises NDI staff and conducts in-country training and consultations on political party, election, civic and legislative programs for women in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia. She has assisted with the development and implementation of regional programs in the Middle East and Asia and has initiated and managed major global women's initiatives for NDI.

Prior to joining NDI, Ms. Haffert's experience included several years of campaign and public outreach experience with an emphasis on encouraging women's participation in politics. In 1997, Ms. Haffert collaborated with women's NGOs in South Africa to inform women of their legal rights following adoption of South Africa's new constitution. Ms. Haffert founded a local chapter and served on a state board of the National Women's Political Caucus in the US, and won an award from the Center for American Women and Politics for working to increase women's political participation.



Miki Jacevik

Sub-Director, The Initiative for Inclusive Security (Hunt Alternatives)

Mirsad “Miki” Jacevic is deputy director at the Initiative for Inclusive Security, a program of Hunt Alternatives Fund which advocates for the inclusion of all stakeholders, particularly women, in peace processes. Mr. Jacevic is a human rights activist and peace program specialist from Sarajevo, Bosnia Herzegovina. During the war, he was involved in numerous projects to ease the suffering of youth and the elderly. He holds a Master of Science degree in Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University. Mr. Jacevic is married to Guatemalan human rights activist Eva Morales, and they live with their two children in the Washington, DC area.



Stefano Manservigi

Director General for Development, European Commission

Stefano Manservigi has been Director General for Development of the European Commission since November 2004. In this capacity, he contributes to the formulation, by the Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, of the European Union’s development cooperation policy around the world, and oversees the programming of European Union development assistance in the 78 partner countries in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific as well as in the 20 overseas countries and territories.

He has been working in the field of development for more than 15 years, first as an administrator in DG Development and then as member of cabinet with special responsibility for development issues to Vice-President Filippo Maria Pandolfi, Commissioner Raniero Vanni d’A rchirafi, Commissioner Mario Monti and lastly President Romano Prodi. From June 2001 to November 2004, Stefano Manservigi was the Head of cabinet to President Prodi.



Pere Rusiñol Costa

Journalist, El País (Spain)

Pere Rusiñol was born in Artés (Barcelona) in 1972. Graduated in Journalism at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, he began his journalistic career as a writer for “El Periódico de Catalunya”. From 1998 Pere Rusiñol writes for “El País”, where he has worked as Political correspondent and Chief of Society section, among other functions. As a special envoy, he travelled to several African countries: Zimbabwe, South Africa, Sudan (including Darfur and Southern Sudan), Democratic Republic of Congo (including the Kivus), Rwanda and Uganda (including the Northern part of the country).



Anita Vandenberg

Coordinator iKNOW Politics

Anita Vandenberg brings over twenty years of political and international development experience to the Network, specializing in parliamentary institution-building. Anita is committed to enhancing women’s political participation—she previously volunteered as Chapter Development Chair for Equal Voice, a Canadian multi-partisan organization to promote women in politics.

Anita’s professional experience includes Director of Parliamentary Affairs in the Office of the Leader of the Government in the House of

Commons and Minister responsible for Democratic Reform (Canada), where she oversaw the development and implementation of the Government of Canada's Democratic Reform Action Plan.

Anita's international experience includes Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of the Central Assembly and Political Parties Section of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Mission in Kosovo.

Club of Madrid Staff



Sean Carroll
Director of Programs

Sean C. Carroll has been Director of Programs at the Club of Madrid since January 2004. Previously, Mr Carroll was senior fellow and director of legislative programs for the Washington-based Inter-American Dialogue (2001-2004). Prior to that he was a professional staff member of the International Relations Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Carroll's democracy assistance experience comes principally through 13 years (1986-1999) working for the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs where he was a project director, senior program officer, executive officer, and chief of mission in the West Bank & Gaza. Mr. Carroll holds degrees from Georgetown University and the Johns Hopkins University's Nitze School of Advanced International Studies



Orla de Díez

Orla de Díez has been working for the African Women Leaders Project with the Club of Madrid since July 2008. Previously, she was executive officer at United Cities and Local Governments based in Barcelona (2007-2008). Previous assignments with the Club of Madrid (CdM) include the general coordination of democratic development projects in Ecuador and Bolivia (2005-2006). International programming and research experience also includes constitutional reform research at Catholic University of Bolivia (2004-2005) and co-ordination of a health provider performance factor study in Bolivia for IntraHealth (University of North Carolina, 2003-2004). Orla worked extensively with Médecins Sans Frontières (1993-2002) as head of mission in Zimbabwe and Bolivia and logistics co-ordinator in Bolivia, Croatia, Kenya and Somalia. She holds degrees from Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Geography and History) and Universidad Católica Boliviana (Public Policy and Management).



Sara de la Peña
Program Assistant, Club of Madrid

Sara de la Peña has worked at the Club of Madrid since 2004, first as a content designer for the International Summit of Democracy, Terrorism and Security held in March 2005, and then with the Programs Department on several Club of Madrid activities and projects, with a focus on gender and women's political participation initiatives. Sara previously worked at the European Commission's Cooperation Office, where she researched on gender mainstreaming, and in two development NGOs in Spain. She holds a BSc in Politics and a MA in Development and International Aid, both from the *Universidad Complutense de Madrid*, and several diplomas on international relations (Sciences-Po), gender and development.



Sophie Huguenet
Assistant to Director of Brussels Office

Sophie Huguenet has been working with the Brussels Office of the Club of Madrid since January 2007. She is in charge of monitoring activities, gathering intelligence, and contributes to identify networking and partnership opportunities at the EU level in relations to the Club of Madrid's projects and programs, including the African Women Leaders project. She also supports the funding opportunities

research of the Brussels Office.

Before joining the Club of Madrid, Sophie Huguenet gained experience with the Coalition for the International Criminal Court Brussels Office, and by assisting Research Professors in the field of legal philosophy. A French citizen, Sophie holds a diploma in political science from Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Strasbourg, and a European Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation completed both in Italy and Belgium. She is also involved in promoting economic and social rights with the association ATD Fourth World.



Rosemary Kaduru

African Women Leaders Project Coordinator

Rosemary Kaduru joined Club Of Madrid as Coordinator of the AWLP in April 2007. She previously worked with Oxfam GB in a number of countries, including Kenya, Uganda, Liberia and Nigeria, managing both development and humanitarian programmes. She has been involved in promoting women leaders and other vulnerable groups for many years. She worked with the Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV) in Uganda for 5 years promoting and strengthening Civil Society organisations at local and national levels. She is a graduate of Law from the University of Nairobi and the Kenya School of Law. She studied at the University of Wales, Centre for Development Studies at Swansea in the UK.



Silvia Pescador

Communications Officer

Silvia Pescador has worked at the Club of Madrid since 2006. She holds a degree in Journalism by the Complutense University of Madrid and Università degli Studi di Siena (Italia), postgraduate studies in International Information and South Countries and she is currently studying her PhD in International Relations at the *Universidad Complutense de Madrid*. Prior to joining the Club of Madrid, she had worked as a journalist in different Spanish media. Her work focuses on communications in non-profit organisations. Since 2006 she has also been dedicated to communications and publications at the *Universidad Complutense de Madrid's* University Institute for Development and Cooperation (IUDC).



María Romero

Events Manager

María Romero leads the Club of Madrid's in-house event planning team. Focusing on event management and logistics throughout her career, Maria holds degrees in Tourism and Business Administration and Sales from the Universities of *Carlos III*, Madrid and *Complutense*, Madrid. Prior to joining the Club of Madrid in 2008, she worked with various large Spanish travel and events agencies, including Ultramar Express (TUI Travel Plc) and My travel PLC. While there, she managed the organization of conferences, meetings and corporate incentives for groups of 50-2000 people for both public and private companies. This conference is the second large event Maria has managed for the Club of Madrid, and she hopes you will enjoy it.



Nicolas Rougy
Director of Brussels Office

Nicolas Rougy has been Director of the Brussels Office since October 2006. Previously, Mr. Rougy worked in the banking sector before joining Altran (2000-2005), the European leader in innovation and technology consulting, as a business development manager in the fields of aeronautics, space, defense and energy. Mr. Rougy took part in the development of projects with regional governments and actors to strengthen small and medium sized enterprises in Belgium. After two years, he founded the permanent representation office of the Altran Group in Brussels, with the objective of positioning the consulting company as a key actor in innovation in Europe and organizing its public sector activities. He then joined the Club of Madrid as Policy Officer (2005) to help develop the relationship with key partners, the funding strategy with the EC, reorganize the intelligence gathering of the office and assist the director in the management. A French national, Mr. Rougy was born in Lyon and has lived and studied in several European countries. He holds a Master Degree in Administration from Clermont-Ferrand Business School (France) and a European Master of Business Science and European Affairs from Herriot Watt University in Edinburgh (Scotland). He specialized in Human Resources Management and International Affairs, and in Corporate Strategy and Economics of the European Union and Transition economies. Mr. Rougy is a specialist in networking and funding, and has worked intensively in contributions to EU policies and increasing visibility for organizations. He is fluent in French, English and Spanish, and proficient in German.

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