



International Association of Women Judges
Advancing Human Rights and Equal Justice for All

International Association of Women Judges Urges Appointment of Woman UN Secretary-General

Washington, D.C. August 15, 2016 Gender equality is a matter of human rights.

Women are more than half of the world's population, yet are underrepresented in international organizations, courts, and monitoring organizations. This lack of diversity reduces the legitimacy of such organizations, and limits their potential and impact.

The appointment of women to international organizations incorporates a gender perspective into global decision making, highlighting and addressing issues that might otherwise would be absent from the discussion on the public agenda.

The violence, mistreatment, abuse, and discrimination that millions of women and girls suffer every day around the world, especially those living in areas of conflict and war, deserves our special attention. Therefore, the International Association of Women Judges urges the appointment of a woman with a vision for gender equality as the next Secretary-General of the United Nations.

This is an important step not just for women but for development, opportunity, respect and, ultimately, peace around the world because gender equality contributes to the betterment of all of society.


Hon. Susana Medina, IAWJ President

About The International Association of Women Judges

Founded in 1991, the International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization with more than 4700 members from over 80 countries. IAWJ creates opportunities for judicial exchange and pioneers judicial education programs to advance human rights, uproot gender bias in judicial systems, and promote access to justice for women and girls.

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