



## **BOARD REPORT TO THE 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

18 June 2022

### **Recognition Agreement and Joint Partner Plan**

UN Women Aotearoa NZ is one of 13 National Committees that exist under the authority of a Recognition Agreement with UN Women - the UN global entity for gender equality and women's empowerment.

As a pre-requisite for the RA each National Committee has to prepare a detailed Joint Partner Plan setting out the objectives for the following two years. National Committees are expected to implement these plans and provide detailed reporting. This plan is fundamental to our work as UNWANZ.

The Board will shortly commence the development of the 2023-2024 Plan.

### **Empowerment Partners**

UN Women Aotearoa NZ extends special thanks to our Empowerment Partners - ANZ Bank and Trilogy Natural Products - who support us with annual donations. UN Women Aotearoa NZ simply cannot do this important work without their ongoing support and we cannot thank them enough for their generosity. A key focus of UNWANZ for the remainder of 2022 is exploring ways in which we might strengthen our collaborations with ANZ and Trilogy moving forward.

ANZ and Trilogy's partnership with UN Women is a public demonstration of their organisation's passion for gender equality and the empowerment of women.

## **Advocacy Partners**

UN Women Aotearoa NZ also extends special thanks to our Advocacy Partners - Everblue, Women Leaders Institute and Dunedin Venues. Advocacy Partners make a significant contribution to enabling UN Women Aotearoa NZ to fulfil its many operational functions and we thank them for being at the forefront alongside UN Women working to empower women and ensure gender equality in over 100 countries including in our own neighbourhood, the Pacific and around the world.

UNWANZ is pleased to partner with the Women Leaders Institute for the first time in 2022. The "[Women in Leadership Summit](#)" will take place on the 24th and 25th of August with an incredible line-up of inspirational speakers, which you can view [here](#). You can Join this exciting event where 10% of event proceeds will be donated to support UN Women's programmes in our neighbouring Pacific countries and around the world, ensuring all women and girls have equal opportunities.

UN Women Aotearoa is also pleased to partner with Dunedin Venues for their "[Women You Can Bank On](#)" event, returning for its sixth year, on Thursday 15th September. This year's theme is the IWD theme of Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow. A portion of each ticket price will be donated to UNWANZ.

## **KEY ACTIVITIES**

### **International Women's Day 2022**

Due to COVID-19, and uncertainty in New Zealand alert levels, the decision was made to host UN Women Aotearoa NZ and Zonta Wellington's flagship International Women's Day event completely online. This provided opportunity to reach a wider audience but meant constraints on the amount of money that could be raised through the event.

The online Parliamentary Breakfast for International Women's Day was well received by those that attended and there were participants from across the globe joining in to hear the key speakers:

**Her Excellency, The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro, GNZM, QSO**

Governor-General of New Zealand

**Hon Jan Tinetti**

Minister of Internal Affairs, and Minister for Women

**Sophie Handford**

Kapiti Coast District Councillor, and Climate Change Activist

**Ranjna Patel, ONZM, QSM**

Founder of Tamaki Health & Gandhi Nivas

The Board of UN Women Aotearoa NZ would like to extend special thanks to the IWD Organising Committee for their efforts in organising another highly successful event.

**16 Days of Activism to End Violence Against Women**

The [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#) is an annual international campaign that kicks off on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. It was started by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership Institute in 1991 and continues to be coordinated each year by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership.

In support of this civil society initiative, the [United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence against Women campaign](#) (UNiTE campaign)

calls for global actions to increase awareness, galvanize advocacy efforts, and share knowledge and innovations.

2021 saw a historical world first where Board members and Empowerment Volunteers successfully campaigned to “[Orange the Parliament](#)” encouraging MP’s to wear orange in support of the Elimination of Violence against Women.

### **Film Fundraiser – Breaking Bread - Wellington**

The Wellington Film Fundraiser was a fun, engaging event, selling 94 tickets and raising funds for the Kiribati Women & Children Support Centre, a UN Women project in the Pacific.

The Board of UN Women Aotearoa NZ would like to extend special thanks to the wonderful Board members and incredible Empowerment Volunteers who made this and all the 16 Days activities and events a huge success – Anne Joseph, Emily Edwards, Kiran Pannu, Mahsheed Mahjormah, Mira Karunanidhi, Rhea Dias, Sontary Un, Rebecca Ashby, Yulim Kim, Emma Riach, Zahra Amiri and Laura Jurgeleit.



## **Women's Empowerment Principles**

Continuing to develop and expand the UN Women's Empowerment Principles remains a high priority for UNWANZ. Covid-19 has taken its toll on planned events and activities during 2021 and the start of 2022. It is pleasing to be able to report that the awards are on track for 2022 in a virtual format.

Special acknowledgement and thanks were given to Vicky Mee for her years of work as Chair of the Committee and also to Souella Cumming for her commitment and contributions.

## **Sport for Generation Equality**

The board would like to extend special thanks to Colenso BBDO, and Cassie Roma for their huge efforts in designing this campaign.

## **Auckland Committee**

The Auckland Committee of UNWANZ has grown steadily to include a flexible committee of up to 20 members who meet regularly. New expressions of interest continue to be received and new members incorporate themselves with the activities of the committee as their calendars permit.

The Auckland Committee is pleased to welcome back Katy Wilkinson as Chair of the Committee after a short leave of absence and would like to thank Bonnie Henare for commitment and leadership in the role of Acting Chair in Katy's absence.

Committee members have been actively involved in the 2021 16 Days of Activism campaign supporting localised initiatives in their communities; supported the 2021 live Zoom event for International Women's Day; volunteered their time to support and participate in the 2021 Women in Leadership Symposium; and have volunteered time and resources to assist with the planning of the 2022 UNWANZ AGM in-person event.

## **Interns**

In September 2020, Victoria University invited UN Women Aotearoa NZ to take on an Intern through one of their degree programmes. Students are required to work with an NGO for 75 hours to complete their studies.

This has proved to be a wonderful ongoing opportunity for UNWANZ, and we extend our gratitude to Apoorvi Mishra (India), Rhea Dias and Zahra Amiri for their contributions in 2021.

## **Empowerment Volunteers**

We have seen a significant increase in the number of diverse young women wishing to contribute their passion and commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women.

We are delighted to have a number of Empowerment Volunteers now meeting regularly under the guidance of Board members Suzanne McNabb and Riki Woods, beginning work on a variety of projects from social media, content design, HeForShe, 16 Days of Activism and IWD.

More recent volunteers include Liv Roe, Lidia Leal, Emilia Nowack, Marika England, Ruby Levido, Saana Judd, Nicole Marion and Miria Jacobs. It is really wonderful to have the energy and passion of these fantastic young women.

## **FUNDRAISING**

### **Monthly Giving**

Regular monthly giving is fundamental to UN Women's fundraising and is regarded as a priority task for all National Committees.

The Board of UN Women Aotearoa NZ is pleased to be embarking on its first Telemarketing campaign to expand its regular giving community, in collaboration with UN Women Australia.

Regular donations make a significant difference in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women, and we cannot thank our generous donors enough for their enormous contribution to UN Women's work on the ground in over 100 countries.

Special thanks to some of our previous Board members who continue to make regular monthly donations.

## **Special Fundraising Appeals**

The Board has launched a number of appeals in 2021 and 2022, notably around the emergencies in both Afghanistan and Ukraine.

Conflicts such as these are reversing the important progress made on gender equality and women's rights. UN Women is committed to stay on the ground and deliver, and we thank our generous donors for being there with us.

## **Conscious Step Socks**

In 2020 The Board embarked on an exciting fundraising endeavour to support the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women – Conscious Step Socks.

Every purchase of these socks raises funds to end violence against women.

We encourage all members to view the [website](#) and purchase with purpose!

## **Communications and social media**

There has been a concerted effort to consolidate communications and social media to amplify UN Women communications and messages. This has meant a deliberate approach to our member newsletter and gathering pertinent information for it via our UN Women Aotearoa channels.

Social media has become increasingly important for our members and wider audience engagement. Through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter we reach thousands of people not only in Aotearoa but also across the world.

## **Board Membership**

Following the AGM in May 2021 the Board welcomed Loretta Daunakamakama as President. Sadly due to unforeseen circumstances Loretta tendered her resignation from the Board in August 2021. The Board would like to extend its gratitude to Loretta, for her time spent contributing to the mission of UN Women Aotearoa NZ.

The Board resolved to elect Tara Singh as interim President of UN Women Aotearoa in August 2021 until the AGM in June 2022 and extends its thanks to Tara for stepping into this role and successfully driving forward UN Women's goals in line with the JPP.

Riki Woods, elected as Board member at the 2021 AGM has proven a wonderful addition to the Board, partnering with Suzanne McNabb to coordinate a successful 16 Days of Activism campaign and UN Women Aotearoa NZ's wonderful group of Empowerment Volunteers.

The Board co-opted both Arron Peacock and Catherine van der Meulen during 2021, and their skills and expertise have contributed greatly to the success of the Board in 2021 and 2022, particularly in relation to fundraising and corporate partnerships.

The Board would like to acknowledge the immense contribution of Suzanne McNabb in her role as Immediate Past President in 2021-2022. Suzanne has worked tirelessly to support the mission of UNWAZ and is a committed advocate for women and girls.

The Board would also like to thank Anna Cameron who will be stepping down from the Board at the 2022 AGM but will remain a committed member of the Auckland Regional Committee.

We look forward to welcoming a full complement of experienced, and inspiring women and men as new Board members for the coming year.

Tena koutou, tēnā koutou tēnā koutou katoa.

**On Behalf of the Board of UN Women Aotearoa NZ**

**Tara Singh, President**