



Pacific Women's Watch - NZ

also known as NZ Women's Watch

Auckland - a City for CEDAW?

**CEDAW: UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of
Discrimination against Women**

Wednesday, 3rd May 2017

***Discussion & Planning Meeting to
develop an action plan for Auckland
City to become a CEDAW City***

Location:

**St Columba Centre
40 Vermont St
Ponsonby
Auckland**

Access and good parking at rear

Open Invitation

***Doors open at 6.30pm
for 7.00pm start***

Refreshments provided

***No Charge – Koha to support action
welcome***

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**Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand) Inc. is a registered Charity: CC #40721
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Background:

In late 2015 PWW-NZ presented a proposal to the Auckland City Council that the city should become a City for CEDAW*/ aka a CEDAW City which involves implementing CEDAW** concepts at the local level.

The council supported this proposal which was to be further investigated by one of the sub-committees.

PWW-NZ President and several Board members met with Council staff to discuss what steps need to be taken to ensure that CEDAW was implemented within all aspects of the City Council work.

Unfortunately, Council's 2016 focus shifted to the local body elections and CEDAW was side-lined / forgotten. However, there is now a new Mayor and a new Council, therefore we need to revive the CEDAW City concept. It is now timely to revisit the City for CEDAW proposal and re-present it to the current Council.

This will be in conjunction with details and actions required for Auckland to meet criteria for the principles of CEDAW to be an integral part of Auckland City's ethos, structure, 'culture' and activities.

Initially we must identify issues that are of significance/importance for women in Auckland; then develop actions and solutions to address these issues and present these to Council. Alongside this there will be an education campaign about CEDAW for the wider community.

* [Cities for CEDAW: see: citiesforcedaw.org/](http://citiesforcedaw.org/)

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Pertinent, quotable extracts from 'Cities for CEDAW' Beijing + 20 Report to CEDAW Committee, Geneva, 13 November, 2015:

The '**Cities for CEDAW**' campaign uses **CEDAW**, which is a comprehensive international women's human rights treaty, as an overarching framework for advancing political and economic equality for women [in the United States] at the local level;

Popular catch phrase or maxim: 'Global to Local'

A City for CEDAW adopts a local ordinance reflecting the principles of CEDAW ; San Francisco was the first city to do so – 1998, followed by over 50 more in US by 2015 – Beijing +20....

'The concept is simple': If we can weave women's human rights into the urban sustainable development agenda, we can change the course of development, not just for women but also for the whole world!

Why is this important?

First: the world is increasingly urban, by 2015 nearly 80% of the world's women and girls will live in urban areas.

Second: cities have the ability to innovate even when the national government cannot – or will not – take action.

Above all, cities are increasingly becoming the epicentre of political, economic and cultural growth and innovation. Industrialised countries have a critical role to play in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 3 on Gender Equality and Goal 13 on Urban Settlements...

'**Cities for CEDAW**' is a bottom-up, horizontal organisation as well as a creative political space. In US each city group has found different means to reach municipal allies; 'Cities for CEDAW' has attracted the support of far-sighted officials; UN Women has expressed strong support for 'Cities for CEDAW' a key ally! Also: CEDAW Committee is very aware of and supportive of this campaign – they hope that: 'this campaign will be a breakthrough in making CEDAW a living, life-changing reality in countries that have ratified CEDAW as well as those who have not done so!

Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand) is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC since 2010

