

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

CHANGE MAKERS: WOMEN IN SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SECTORS

These visitors are invited to the United States under the auspices of the Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program. Their program is arranged by the Institute of International Education.

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Accompanied by: Ms. Gloria L. Scott, U.S. Department of State Contract International Visitor Liaison

June 5 – 23, 2017

PROFESSIONAL OBJECTIVES

The Department of State has outlined the following specific objectives for the project:

- Examine the U.S. political system and the participation of women leaders at the local, state, and national levels;
- Explore programs and initiatives that encourage young women to get involved in civic activities, including politics, running for office, and conducting effective campaigns;
- Introduce the role that women's organizations take in shaping political dialogue and provide an understanding of effective interaction and support among women across various sectors;
- Highlight legislation and programs that promote equal pay and fair treatment for women in the workplace and promote the value of women's contributions in the home and as caregivers for the young and the elderly; and

- Underscore initiatives and legislation that address women's needs in the social arena, including health care and education.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Ireland	Ms. Louise GLENNON Women in Leadership Coordinator National Women's Council of Ireland
Kenya	Ms. Stella NJAGI Head of Protocol Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Libya	Ms. Esra ELBAKOUSH Project Officer United Nations Mission to Libya
Malaysia	Ms. Sing Pei TAN Parliamentary Researcher Barisan Nasional
Norway	Ms. Khamshajiny GUNARATNAM Deputy Mayor City of Oslo
Tunisia	Ms. Samah DOULA Projects Director U.S Middle East Partnership Initiative Program

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Ireland

Name: **Ms. Louise GLENNON**

Present Position: Women in Leadership Coordinator, National Women's Council of Ireland (NCWI)

Previous Positions: Advocacy Officer, Amnesty International Ireland
Communications Manager, Haven
Account Executive, MKC Communications
Political Assistant, Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament

Education/Training: Master's Degree, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Griffith College, Dublin, 2013
Master's Degree, Public Affairs and Political Communications, Dublin Institute of Technology, 2007
Bachelor's Degree, Anthropology and Sociology, National University of Ireland, 2006

Publications: *Better Boards, Better Business, Better Society: Handbook to Increase the Number of Women on Boards in Ireland*

Address: Ireland
Email: louise.glennon@gmail.com

Languages: English

U.S. Travel: Illinois, New York

Other Travel: Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom

Professional Background: NCWI is a leading national women's organization in Ireland and represents 170 member groups, as well as a wide range of individual members with diverse backgrounds. NCWI's mission is to be a catalyst for change in the achievement of equality between men and women. In her role with the organization, Ms. Glennon has campaigned and lobbied for fuller participation of women in politics, as well as on boards of directors.

Kenya

Name: **Ms. Stella NJAGI**

Present Position: Head of Protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Previous Positions: Chief Immigration Officer, Department of Immigration Services, 2005 – 2013

Education/Training: Bachelor's Degree, University of Nairobi, 2001
Immigration Induction Course, 2005

Address: Kenya
Email: jeanmunya@yahoo.com

Languages: Kikuyu (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Belgium, China, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda

Professional Background: In her post at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Njagi works closely on Kenyan immigration laws and regulatory and policy updates. She has served as a key liaison between the U.S. embassy in Kenya and Kenyan immigration officials.

Libya

Name: **Ms. Esra ELBAKOUSH**

Present Position: Project Officer, United Nations Support Mission to Libya (UNSMIL)

Previous Positions: National Professional Officer, Women's Empowerment Section, UNSMIL, 2013 – 2015
Translation Officer, UNSMIL, 2012 – 2013
Project Officer, 1Libya, 2011 – 2012

Education/Training: Bachelor's Degree, Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Tripoli, 2010

Address: Tunis, Tunisia
Email: esra.al-bakoush@unwomen.org

Languages: Arabic (primary), English

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. Travel

Other Travel: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates

Professional Background: Ms. Elbakoush has experience working with civil society and women's issues in Libya. With UNSMIL, she supported women's participation in the transitional period after the Libyan revolution. At the regional office for UN Women, Ms. Elbakoush works on a project that promotes the role of Libyan women as agents of peace. She has also worked on projects that aim to develop women's capacity to engage in the political process, to be active in civil society, and to participate in the security sector.

Malaysia

- Name:* **Ms. Sing Pei TAN**
- Present Position:* Parliamentary Researcher, Barisan Nasional
- Previous Positions:* Political Secretary to the President, Malaysian Chinese Association, 2011 – 2014
Senior Marketing Officer, Ministry of Trade and Industry, 2006 – 2010
- Education/Training:* Master's Degree, Business Administration, University of Sunderland, 2015
Bachelor's Degree, Business and Marketing, Nanyang Technological University, 2006
- Address:* Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Email: tansingpei@gmail.com
- Languages:* Chinese (Cantonese) (primary), English, Malay
- U.S. Travel:* Some previous U.S. travel
- Other Travel:* Azerbaijan, Taiwan, Thailand
- Professional Background:* Ms. Tan is the first female leader of the youth wing of the Malaysian Chinese Association in the state of Johor and, in this role, helps to increase the participation of women in politics. In her position with the parliament, she analyzes political data, prepares speeches for members of parliament, and assists with the policy drafting process.

Norway

Name: **Ms. Khamshajiny GUNARATNAM**

Present Position: Deputy Mayor, City of Oslo

Concurrent Positions: Representative, Oslo City Council

Previous Positions: Adviser, The Savings Bank Foundation DNB, 2015
Adviser, TV-Aksjonen, 2014
Adviser, The Norwegian Labor Party, 2013 – 2014

Education/Training: Bachelor's Degree (anticipated), Human Geography, University of Oslo

Address: Oslo, Norway
Email: kamzy@oslobystyre.no

Languages: Norwegian (primary), English, Tamil

U.S. Travel: California, New York, Washington D.C.

Other Travel: Canada, Iceland, Israel, Palestine, Poland, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom

Professional Background: As the Deputy Mayor of Oslo, Ms. Gunaratman plays an active role in running the Oslo City Council. She also serves on the Council's Public Health Committee, works to encourage more public debate on Oslo's health system, and helps to educate recently-arrived immigrants and refugees on immunization programs. She also serves as Vice President for the Oslo Labor Party and supports efforts to integrate minority populations within Oslo. As an immigrant from Sri Lanka, she also volunteers with organizations such as Tamil Youth and Youth Against Racism.

Tunisia

Name: **Ms. Samah DOULA**

Present Position: Projects Director, U.S Middle East Partnership Initiative Program

Previous Positions: Project Manager, United Nations for Development Program, 2014 – 2015
Project Manager, USAID project funded by Development Alternatives International, 2013
Regional Coordinator, Santé Sud, 2013 – 2014
English Trainer, British Council, 2012 – 2014

Education/Training: Diploma, Management, 2011
Certificate, Business English, 2012
Fundamental License, English, University of Art and Human Science of Sousse, 2010
Bachelor's Degree, 2006

Memberships: Academy of Youth in Turkeu
Tunisian Association without Borders
Tunisia for Citizenship

Address: Tunisia
Email: samahdoula@hotmail.com

Languages: Arabic (primary), English, French

U.S. Travel: No previous U.S. travel

Other Travel: Turkey

Professional Background: Ms. Doula is currently running a non-governmental organization in Gafsa which encourages women to be part of political life. She seeks to empower young women in Tunisia, and advocates for women's participation in presidential elections. In her project management work with international organizations, she has been responsible for developing grant proposals, project implementation, evaluation and monitoring, budget oversight, writing narrative reports, and moderating dialogues.