





### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

# UNISA-SAWID, UN WOMEN WOMEN'S MONTH DIALOGUE

"Reclaiming African Women's Dignity as a Human Right: In Memory of the 1956 Women's March"

ATTENTION: EDITORS, PRODUCERS, EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL REPORTERS

DATE: 07 / AUGUST / 2017

This year mark the 61<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the Women's Month celebration. The National Woman's Day celebration pays tributes to women of character, substance and their role in the liberation struggle. To commemorate the month, the University of South Africa (UNISA), through the UNISA Women's Forum and UNISA's Institute for Gender Studies, in collaboration with the South African Women in Dialogue (SAWID) and UN Women's South Africa Multi Country Office will host a collaborative Women's Month dialogue to reinvigorate the role of African Women Leading Change.

The purpose of this event is to collaboratively explore an urgent and transformational women's agenda with the focus on policy change towards the restoration of women's and human dignity, including looking at the issue of the family, inter-generational healing, climate change, economic transformation and the dismantling of vestiges of racial and gender inequality.

The event is taking place as follow:

Date: Thursday, 10th August 2017

Time : 10:00

Venue: ZK Matthews Great Hall, Unisa Main Campus. Pretoria

The objective of the dialogue is to:

- Explore the conditions that threaten women's and human dignity in the country
- Showcase South African women's perspectives towards the solving of human development challenges
- Discuss evidence-based models to embed human dignity, peace and development at family level

- Highlight the role of education as a key driver of dignity, self-worth, poverty eradication and family empowerment
- Coordinate efforts towards the attainment of the National Development Plan, the SADC Gender Protocol, AU Agenda 2063, UN Resolution 1325 and the Sustainable Development Goals
- Define an Agenda and Programme Of Action towards women's leadership in society and urgent policy change towards women's and human dignity

The Key notes speakers and knowledge holders include:

- Adv. Thuli Madonsela Chief Patron of the Thuli Madonsela Foundation and former Public Protector SA.
- Prof. Sharlene Swartz Human Science Research Council (HSRC)
- Ms. Anne Githuku Shongwe Representative UN Women South Africa Multi Country Office
- Shaeera Kalla Former Wits SRC President

"The dialogues, seek to address the incredible amount of brutal gender based violence in the country, racism and gender equality, the fight against the exploitation of sex workers, conversations around radical economic transformation, issues of women and migration, women and climate change, women refugees and xenophobia, and other processes which seek to reclaim the dignity of women in the home, at work, in communities, in society and in the economy" said Professor Mandla Makhanya, Unisa Principal and Vice Chancellor

Members of Media are invited to attend the event

#### END!!

For RSVP and interview requests, please contact Tommy Huma, on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 6390 and Edgar Rathelele on 082 059 9243 / 012 429 6930

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