



THE PRESIDENCY

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04 February 2008

Mme Storey Morutoa

Chair Person

Joint Monitoring Committee on the Improvement of Quality of Life and
Status of Women (JMC)

Parliament of the Republic of South Africa

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Dear Mme. Morutoa

Invitation to participate in the 52nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW); New York, 25 February – 07 March 2008

This letter serves to invite your office to participate in the South African delegation to the upcoming 52nd session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW) scheduled for the 25 February – 07 March 2008 in the UN Headquarters, New York.

The 52nd session of the CSW will consider the following thematic areas:

1. "Financing for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women," which will take the form of a high-level round table and panel discussion, the outcome of which will be negotiated in the form of agreed conclusions.
2. "Women's participation in Armed Conflict" which was negotiated on in the form of agreed conclusions in the 49th session of the CSW, in 2004, and

is being reviewed in the upcoming session, the outcome of which will be the chair's summary.

3. "Gender Perspective on Climate Change" as an emerging issue for the 52nd Session of the CSW.

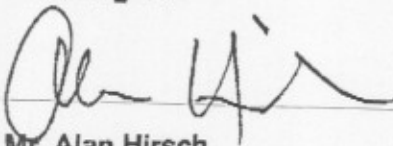
The National Office on the Status of women (OSW), which is the key coordinating structure for Government's national gender programme, is coordinating the participation of South Africa's national delegation to the upcoming UN CSW. The national delegation will comprise government and civil society institutions whose work is in the sector which this year's themes address.

We will only be able to accommodate one representative from the JMC into the national delegation of 15 officials.

Once the JMC has confirmed its participation, your nominee will be advised of the details of a briefing session for the delegation. Please advise the OSW of the JMC's participation, as well as the details of the nominee to Ms Ranji Reddy, at ranji@po.gov.za or tel: (012) 300 5496 or fax: (012) 300 5434.

Kindly note that JMC will be responsible for the total cost of the delegate's participation. The delegate will also have to make her/his own arrangements for an official passport and the relevant visa. The South African Permanent Mission in New York will, if required to, assist with the logistical arrangements for the delegation.

Kind Regards



Mr. Alan Hirsch
Deputy Director-General
PCAS