



KVINNA TILL KVINNA

Seminar in connection with the International Compact with Iraq held in Stockholm:

Iraqi women demand participation in Iraq's future

In conjunction with the International Compact with Iraq (ICI) to be held in Stockholm, a seminar will be arranged on the situation of women in Iraq. Since representatives from civil society are not invited to the ICI, this seminar gives them a platform to address delegates. Four representatives from the Iraqi women's movement, coming from different parts of Iraq, will give their view on the security situation in Iraq and what needs to be done to improve it and build a sustainable peace. The Iraqi representatives will be: **Asmaa Jameel Abunadr, Basma Al-Khateeb, Hanaa Edwar Busha, and Bakhshan Zangana.**

At the International Compact with Iraq government representatives and the UN will discuss what the international community can do to support the rebuilding of Iraq, including strengthening the respect for human rights and democracy. **The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation's** seminar, which is supported by the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, will broaden that discussion further with valuable information and experience from inside Iraq on the situation for women, as well as what civil society can do for democracy and the respect of human rights in Iraq.

The Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation Gunilla Carlsson and **the UN Special Representative for Iraq, Staffan de Mistura**, attending the ICI, will take part in the panel giving their perspectives on the situation in Iraq. **Dina Zorba, UNIFEM gender advisor in Iraq** will also participate.

Participants:

Gunilla Carlsson	Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation
Staffan de Mistura	UN Special Representative for Iraq
Asmaa Jameel Abunadr	Scholar on sociology and a researcher in Iraq
Basma Al-Khateeb	Representative of the Iraqi women's movement
Hanaa Edwar Busha	Activist and one of the founders of Iraqi Women Network
Bakhshan Zangana	Activist and head of the Women's Defence Rights Commission in the local Kurdistan Parliament
Dina Zorba	UNIFEM Gender Advisor for Iraq
Lena Ag	Secretary General the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

Moderator: Ambassador for Democracy in Development Cooperation, **Maria Leissner**

Date: 28th May 2008

Time: 10.00-11.30h

Location: The Library at the Swedish Foreign Ministry, Malmtorgsgatan 3, Stockholm

Following the seminar there will be a press briefing with the participants.

Please RSVP to Ida Udovic, ida.udovic@kvinnatillkvinna.se 26th May latest.

For further questions please contact Ida Udovic +46 73 724 71 57, or Annika Flensburg +46 70 642 92 25