

UN Commission on the Status of Women

****Parallel Event Announcement****

Shelter from the Storm: Securing Women's Housing, Land and Property Rights in the Struggle Against HIV and AIDS

When: 3:00 pm- 4:30 pm on Thursday, 28 February 2008

**Where: Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium, United Nations
Headquarters (NYC)**

We would like to invite you to join us for a panel discussion on women's housing, land and property rights within the context of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic

We now know that when women's housing rights are respected and protected – including when women and girls are able to inherit and control housing, land and property – women and girls are better able to cope with the detrimental effects of HIV/AIDS. Because housing and land security leads to better living conditions, access to livelihood and access to education, women and girls are often better able to mitigate the negative personal and financial impact of HIV/AIDS.

This panel event will draw clear connections between women's housing, land and property rights and the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and will focus on creative strategies that are being used on the ground to protect and promote women's housing and land rights within the context of HIV/AIDS. Specific ideas for financing of housing and land rights programs for women in the context of HIV/AIDS will be discussed, as will strategies for the way forward. Beyond raising the relevant issues, the event will serve as an opportunity for allies to further concretize recommendations for future action and follow through advocacy.

PLEASE JOIN US!

We are pleased to announce the following speakers for the event

Panellists:

Elizabeth Mataka

UN Special Envoy for HIV and AIDS in Africa

Joanne Sandler

Acting Executive Director, UNIFEM

Sunita Menon

Breakthrough (India)

Chigozie Udemezue

Int'l Federation of Women Lawyers (Nigeria)

Esther Mwaura

GROOTS Kenya

Patricia Chavez

Northeast Women's Center (Brazil)

Moderator:

Mayra Gómez

Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions
(COHRE)

Co-Sponsoring organizations

Action Aid International

Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions
(COHRE)

FAO

Global Coalition on Women and AIDS

Huairou Commission

Human Rights Watch

International Center for Research on Women

UNDP

UNIFEM