

23 September, 2022

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The CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago notes with tremendous sadness the passing of Ms. Hazel Brown. Hailed as a trailblazer for advocacy in gender equality and women's rights in Trinidad and Tobago, her dedication, resilience, and tenacity were admired globally.

Ms. Brown was one of thirty thousand activists who streamed into Beijing on the opening of the Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995, championing gender equality and the empowerment of all women, everywhere. At the end of the Conference, the Beijing Platform for Action was produced. Twenty-seven years later it remains one of the most progressive blueprints ever for advancing women's rights. The Platform for Action imagines a world where each woman and girl can exercise her freedoms and choices, and realize all her rights, such as the right to live free from violence, to go to school, to participate in decisions and to earn equal pay for equal work.

Ms. Brown's efforts not only earned her a Medal for the Development of Women (Gold) in 2011, and an honorary doctorate by the University of the West Indies in 2017 but the respect of thousands who were inspired by her commitment to women's empowerment and consumer rights. She left an exemplary legacy and one which will live on in everyone she impacted.

On behalf of the Executive and membership of the CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago, we extend our deepest condolences to the Brown Family.

*CCoTT adheres to the three  
principles of the CEDAW  
Convention **Equality / Non-  
Discrimination / State  
Obligation***

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