



Peace Matters Panel Discussion
Tuesday, October 20th, 2009, 17:00
Cairo Marriott, Zamalek

President of Finland to discuss Women's Participation and Empowerment for Peace and Security in Peace Matters Lecture Series

On the occasion of the official visit of **H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland** to Egypt, The Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement (SWIPM) in cooperation with the Embassy of Finland is hosting a panel discussion entitled "**Women's Participation and Empowerment for Peace and Security**" on Tuesday, October 20th, 2009 at 17:00 at the Cairo Marriott Hotel in Zamalek.

The discussion, held under the auspices and in the presence of **Her Excellency Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak**, President and Founder of the Peace Movement, is part of the Movement's **Peace Matters Lecture Series** and will be attended by representatives of international organizations, civil society, diplomatic missions, Friends of the Movement and members of the SMWIPM Youth Network.

The Peace Matters lecture series features internationally recognized and prominent speakers who have contributed to enhancing global understanding and harmony. According to H.E. Mrs. Mubarak, the lectures are designed to raise awareness of peace issues and motivate audiences to engage with their communities in building a culture of peace. "The quest for peace has been with us for a long time," Her Excellency said. "Our commitment must consistently be reinforced to spark the change we want to happen."

The President of Finland is recognized internationally for her activism and staunch support of women's leadership and participation. She is a prominent lobbyist for the promotion of women's empowerment, economically and through education. President Halonen was appointed as the new Chair of the Council of Women World Leaders in March 2009 and in her recent address at the opening session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2009, she called for the full participation of women on the issue of Climate Change.

Her Excellency Mrs. Mubarak will deliver welcoming and introductory remarks, followed by the President of Finland's presentation and an open discussion.

About the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement:

Founded in 2003, the Suzanne Mubarak Women's International Peace Movement is a non-profit, non-governmental international organization whose principal goal is to advocate and work towards peace and human security, and to empower women and youth to participate as key influencers, change agents and active partners in peace processes. For more information, visit

www.womenforpeaceinternational.org