



**Pacific  
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## **Press Release - International Women's Day 2022**

International Women's Day 2022 is the time when we pay homage to the work being done around the world and especially in the Pacific by women and girls with disabilities in climate change.

This year's International Women's Day aptly brings to light the major role women and girls take in driving change in our society by speaking out and leading the change for a sustainable and climate resilient Pacific Society.

With the theme - "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow", the Pacific Disability Forum recognizes and applauds the work of Pacific women particularly in climate change, disaster risk and reduction, economic empowerment and also calls on all climate change actors to ensure that persons with disabilities are not overlooked. Female Co-Chair Villaney Remengesau is calling on all Pacific women and girls with disabilities to ensure that they play an active part in climate change.

"We've had enough. We need to pressure and fight. We need your passion and commitment as we face these human rights challenges, from climate change to conflict. A change starts now. Gender equality is now. All women and girls, including girls and women with disabilities, must have equal rights and opportunities, now. Girls and women, including girls and women with disabilities, are fearless and competent leaders. We are leaders in climate action. Without our leadership and full participation, we will never have real change for persons with disabilities. Our beautiful Pacific will never achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

When climate-change induced disasters hit, women and girls' lives and livelihoods are disproportionately affected. This is due to barriers such as the lack of information, mobility, decision-making and access to resources. Women and girls play a crucial role in tackling and solving the current climate crisis. In addition, when women make decisions, they not only think of themselves, but consider their communities and families as well.

The Pacific Disability Forum wishes everyone a happy international women's day 2022.

*Should you have any queries, do not hesitate to contact Communications Officer - Paradise Tabucala (+679 8990134)*