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The White House

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

March 08, 2011

Statement by the President on the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day

On this 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day, we celebrate the extraordinary gains made by women over the past century—and the women pioneers who made them possible—and we reaffirm our unwavering support for the rights, security, dignity and opportunity of all women around the world. Today reminds us that across countries and cultures, people everywhere, women and men, share rights and aspirations that are universal, among them the freedom to chart their own destiny, to raise their children free from violence and to live in societies that value their voice and respect their will.

History shows that when women and girls have access to opportunity, societies are more just, economies are more likely to prosper and governments are more likely to serve the needs of all their people. That is why my administration has stood up for gender equality and women's empowerment around the world and demanded an end to sexual and gender-based violence. It's why we're developing a plan to promote women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention and resolution in war torn societies. And it's why we are working to advance these goals and our national interests by strengthening the role of women in every aspect of our foreign policy. In the United States and around the world, we will not rest until our mothers, sisters and daughters assume their rightful place as full and equal members of a secure, prosperous and just world.

BLOG POSTS ON THIS ISSUE

March 10, 2011 10:53 AM EST

[Promoting Interfaith Dialogue and Cooperation](#)

Jannah Scott, Deputy Director at the DHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnership office provided the keynote address at the 6th Annual

Intercultural Dialogue event in Denver. As a result, an interfaith/intercultural team of volunteers will be created to promote emergency preparedness and support first responders when a crisis incident occurs.

March 10, 2011 10:21 AM EST

[My White House Experience](#)

Tine Fletcher, a Fall 2010 White House Intern, talks about her experience, and encourages others to apply. The deadline for applications is March 13.

March 10, 2011 8:43 AM EST

[9:00AM EST: The Vice President, Live from Moscow](#)

At 5:00 PM local time in Moscow, 9:00 AM EST, the Vice President will deliver a major speech on U.S.-Russia relations hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia at Moscow State University. Watch it live.

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