

## Africa Rising: The Role of the Diaspora African Woman

Robin Marsh  
September 24, 2014



South African Superstar and Legendary Singer, YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA who is also UNICEF & Roll Back Malaria Ambassador and Founder of Princess of Africa Foundation will be a Keynote Speaker at a 'Africa Rising: The Role of the Diaspora African Woman' Conference on 2nd October from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm, together with Justina Mutale, who is African Woman of the Year 2012, International Women's Think Tank Global Envoy and World Leaders Forum Advisory Board Member.

The Conference will be hosted by the Rt. Hon. Baroness Verma, Under Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, to discuss the role of women in the rise of Africa, with special focus on the need for the Diaspora African Woman to constructively engage with the current exciting and transformative moment in Africa's history. The Conference aims to provide delegates an opportunity to gain insight and join discussions about the obligations, obstacles and opportunities for the Diaspora African Woman in Africa Rising. It is hoped that this Conference can provide an avenue for understanding and paving a way for African women, including those in the Diaspora, to play an integral part in the rise of the continent in the wake of Africa's changing political, environmental; economic and social landscape; and the United Nations Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The Conference will be followed by the Private Screening of Yvonne's Film: *"A MOTHERLAND TOUR: A Journey of African Women with Yvonne Chaka Chaka"* at the Courthouse Hotel London Theatre, 91-21 Great Malborough Street, London W1F 7HL.

We hope you can make it!

Cheers,

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### Press Release:

#### YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA TO SPEAK AT AFRICA RISING CONFERENCE IN LONDON

South African Superstar and Legendary Singer, YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA will be in London next week. Ms Chaka Chaka, who is a UNICEF & Roll Back Malaria Goodwill Ambassador and Founder of Princess of Africa Foundation will hold the London premiere of her film: *"A MOTHERLAND TOUR: A Journey of African Women with Yvonne Chaka Chaka"* which will be screened in the wings of the 58th BFI London Film Festival.

Ms Chaka Chaka will also be a Keynote Speaker at the Conference on *"AFRICA RISING: THE ROLE OF THE DIASPORA AFRICAN WOMAN"*, which will be hosted by the Rt. Hon. Baroness Verma, Under Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change at the House of Lords, Westminster Houses of Parliament on Thursday 2nd October 2014. The Women's Conference will discuss the role of women in the rise of Africa, with special focus on the need for the Diaspora African Woman to constructively engage with the current exciting and transformative moment in Africa's history. The Conference aims to

provide delegates an opportunity to gain insight and join discussions about the realities, obligations, obstacles and opportunities for the Diaspora African Woman in Africa Rising. The Conference has been convened by members of the "POWER 14", who include Justina Mutale, Founder & CEO of POSITIVE RUNWAY, who is also African Woman of the Year 2012 and Gender Equality Ambassador & Spokesperson for the International Women's Think Tank; Jacqueline Onalo, Human Rights and Immigration Lawyer at R. Spio & Company Solicitors and a trustee of Community Development Initiatives (CDI); and Deborah Owlin, Gender Equality Specialist and Founder of Made Equal, a vision to engage, educate and empower people in their 20s and 30s in the campaign to eradicate gender inequality.

**CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
**AFRICA RISING: THE ROLE OF THE DIASPORA AFRICAN WOMAN**  
 A CONFERENCE WITH UNITED NATIONS ENVOY FOR AFRICA  
**YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA**  
*Hosted by the UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION in association with*



**The Rt. Hon. BENEDETTA YELINA**  
 Under Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth  
**YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA**  
 South African Representative & Legislative Counsel  
 United Nations Envoy for Africa  
**JUSTINA MUTALE**  
 AUSA Women of the Year  
 International Women's Think Tank Spokesperson  
**JACQUELINE ONALO**  
 Human Rights Lawyer & Legal Trainer  
 Director for Community Development Initiatives  
**DEBORAH OWLIN**  
 Founder & CEO, Made Equal  
 Gender Equality Campaign

**SPEAKERS INCLUDE:**



**LIJEWANA BUKARI**  
 TV Presenter & Press Anchor  
 BBC World News  
**ELIZABETH ABERNETHY**  
 Member of the Board of Governors  
 Commonwealth Education Council  
**CHRISTINA GEMBLETON**  
 Social Media Strategist  
 Freelance Editor, Writer (UK)  
**MELISSA PIPPY-REIDINGER**  
 Chairperson  
 South African Chapter of Commonwealth UK  
**YETIPIA AGGOMUNYANI**  
 TV Presenter Africa Today Programme  
 PETA TV  
**SHERRY DOWEN**  
 Founding Director  
 Women on the Move  
**DR ANNA VANDERKAPPE**  
 USA Africa Business Representative  
 (NAPSA) Business Group UK Chapter  
**KATE UNLUK**  
 Founder, Forum for African Women in Politics  
 Former Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield  
**PERAS OGBURNG**  
 Founder & CEO  
 Deborah Communities Africa  
**DR. YETIPIA BAZIMBO**  
 Director Africa Development and Partnership  
 Member of UN Women International Group

**THURSDAY 2 OCTOBER 2014**  
 1.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.  
**AFRICA RISING: THE ROLE OF THE DIASPORA AFRICAN WOMAN**  
 House of Lords, House of Parliament, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA  
 6.00 p.m. – 7.00 p.m.  
**FILM PREMIERE**  
**A MOTHERLAND TOUR: A JOURNEY OF AFRICAN WOMEN WITH YVONNE CHAKA CHAKA**  
 Courthouse Hotel London Theatre, 19-21 Great Marlborough Street, London, W1F 1HL  
 MORE INFORMATION: [www.africarising.com/wheretobefirst](http://www.africarising.com/wheretobefirst)



Organized by members of the "POWER 14", a consortium of African Diaspora Women Leaders part of the Diaspora ChangeMakers Network

*Members of the "POWER 14" consortium of Diaspora Women Leaders in association with the Universal Peace Federation*

*“It is hoped that this Conference can provide an avenue for understanding and paving a way for African women, including those in the Diaspora, to play an integral part in the rise of the continent in the wake of Africa’s changing political, environmental; economic and social landscape; as well as in the United Nations Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda”* says Justina Mutale.

The Conference will be moderated by International Broadcaster, Vuyiswa Ngqobongwana who presents the Africa Today Programme on PRESS TV. Other Speakers include Lukwesa Burak, TV Presenter and News Anchor, SKY World News; Melissa Powys-Rodrigues, Chairperson, South African Chamber of Commerce UK; Anna Vanderpuye, CEO of African Business Roundtable; Chief Kate Anolue, former Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield and Founder of the Forum for African Women in Politics; Sherry Ann Dixon, Founder & CEO of Women on the Crossroads; Chioma Agwuegbo, Social Media Strategist and Founding Editor at Naija2015; Perez Ochieng, Founder & CEO of Sahara Communities Abroad (SACOMA); and Dr Titilola Banjoko, Healthcare Manager and Director, AfricaRecruit and FindaJobinAfrica.com.

*“African women have to continue to increase their input into policy development and large scale businesses across Africa and in the Diaspora as the outputs have a direct impact on societies. This means breaking out from traditional preconceived areas of engagement such as gender development, micro business etc to mainstream areas such as macroeconomics and health”.* says Dr Titilola Banjoko

The Conference will be followed by the Private Screening of Yvonne’s Film, *which is* based on women’s health and empowerment. The film tells the inspirational story of African women who are making a positive impact on the health of their communities. In the film, Yvonne travels through Africa meeting courageous women who are changing lives. As each story unfolds, so does a powerful message: *“Health is not a luxury of the few, but an inalienable right for all”*. By following Yvonne on this journey, audiences will hear the voices of the marginalised women and communities empowered by hope, which may not only lift viewers’ spirits but also raise voices against the disparities that still exist around the world. This film is a call to action for nations to honour their commitments to improve the health of all Africans, especially women and children in meeting the Health Millennium Development Goals.

The Conference is organised by members of the *“POWER 14”* in association with the Universal Peace Federation. The *“POWER 14”* is a consortium of African Diaspora Women Leaders selected for their phenomenal leadership qualities and achievements in community development. The *“POWER 14”* are part of the top 100 Diaspora ChangeMakers Network, a project by the Royal Society of Arts with support from DfID’s Common Grounds Initiative, Comic Relief and Unbound Philanthropy, that seeks to identify and bring together the UK’s most promising individuals of African origin with a desire to support African communities in the UK and Africa.

The Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is a global network of individuals and organizations dedicated to building a world of peace centered on universal spiritual and moral values. It is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. It supports and promotes the work of the United Nations and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and advocates renewal of the United Nations, including a proposal that the United Nations create an inter-religious council within its structures. UPF implements its programs through a global network of Ambassadors for Peace.