

Asha-Rose Migiro Appointed Deputy Secretary-General to the United Nations

The members of the AABWA Board of Directors salute Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro of the United Republic of Tanzania upon her appointment by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as his Deputy Secretary-General. Secretary-General Ki-moon has announced his intention “to delegate much of the management and administrative work of the Secretariat as well as socio-economic affairs and development issues, under a clear line of authority to ensure that the Secretariat will function in a more effective and efficient manner.” Dr. Migiro currently serves as her country’s Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the first woman to hold such a position in her country. Among her main priorities as Foreign Minister has been attaining peace, security and development in the Great Lakes Region. Dr. Migiro was previously the Minister for Community Development, Gender and Children. She has also served as a member of the United Nation’s Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). She holds a law degree from the University of Dar es Salaam and the University of Konstanz, and has been a Senior Lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam.

The post of Deputy Secretary-General was established by the General Assembly at the end of 1997 as part of the reform of the United Nations, to help manage Secretariat operations and to ensure coherence of activities and programmes. The purpose was also to elevate the Organization's profile and leadership in the economic and social spheres. Responsibilities delegated by the Secretary-General, to the Deputy Secretary-General included the following:

- (a)** To assist the Secretary-General in managing the operations of the Secretariat;
- (b)** To act for the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters in the absence of the Secretary-General and in other cases as may be decided by the Secretary-General;
- (c)** To support the Secretary-General in ensuring inter-sectoral and inter-institutional coherence of activities and programmes and to support the Secretary-General in elevating the profile and leadership of the United Nations in the economic and social spheres, including further efforts to strengthen the United Nations as a leading centre for development policy and development assistance;
- (d)** To represent the Secretary-General at conferences, official functions and ceremonial and other occasions as may be decided by the Secretary-General;
- (e)** To undertake such assignments as may be determined by the Secretary-General;

Louise Fréchette was the first Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations. A Canadian citizen, she assumed her duties on 2 March 1998, after having been appointed by Secretary-General Kofi Annan. She remained at her post until 31 March 2006. On 3 March 2006, **Mark Malloch Brown** was appointed as Deputy Secretary-General. He assumed his new functions on 1 April following the departure of his predecessor Louise Fréchette. He remained in his post until the end of December 2006. **Dr. Asha-Rose Migiro** will become the third Deputy Secretary General to the United Nations.