

Issue 24 - June, 2018

Welcome to the WASO News for 2018

As we go to print we are preparing for the first of our Sub-Regional Equity & Diversity Workshops in Apia, Samoa. Under the tagline 'Stepping Up', we are endeavouring to make system and cultural changes which will encourage more women to stand for positions of leadership either in their NOC or sport.

Two further workshops are planned for Melanesia and Micronesia this year if funding is available.

I look forward to meeting many of you in Apia throughout the week of ONOC meetings.

Warmest regards,

Helen Brownlee
Chair, WASO

2018 Oceania Events

11 June 2018, WASO Executive Meeting, Apia, Samoa.

12/13 June 2018 Polynesian Workshop 'Stepping Up', Apia, Samoa.

Date & venue tbc
Micronesian Workshop 'Stepping Up'

Date & venue tbc
Melanesian Workshop 'Stepping Up'

1 – 10 October, 2018 YOG, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

11 October, 2017
International Day of the Girl

Our Golden Girl from the Commonwealth Games



Eileen Cikamatana (FIJ) received a traditional welcoming ceremony at Taviya village on her return after winning gold (weightlifting 90kgs) at the recent Commonwealth Games, Gold Coast, AUS. Eileen attributes her success to a supportive family, seen here at the celebrations.

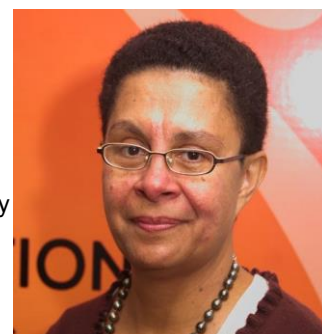
Eileen was recognised as the 2017 Fiji Sportswoman of the Year, and the Best Junior Weightlifter by the International Weightlifting Federation. She has received an Olympic Solidarity Scholarship to assist in her preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Congratulations Eileen! We wish you every success in the qualification process. (Photo: Manhar Lai, courtesy Fiji Sun)

Fiji Women Making a Difference



Temaleti Bulanavanua, at just 15 yrs of age has emerged as a rising star of rugby union's refereeing ranks in Fiji. She is a wonderful example of girls and women empowered through sport!

Oceania Rugby appoints First Female Representative to the World Rugby Council, which now sees 35% women on its Board.



Kathy Wong's appointment underscores the World Rugby Council's commitment to furthering gender equality at all levels of the organisation. Rugby's popularity makes it an ideal platform to raise awareness and support innovative solutions to promote gender equality.

From Competitor to Coach – A Passion for Sport

Evelyn Ikelau Otto from Palau started swimming at 10 yrs of age, with early morning training and afternoon sessions, supported by her family. Her love of the sport saw a competitive career which took her to Spain, China, Greece, Hawaii and Fiji.

After gaining her under-grad degree in environmental studies at the University of Honolulu, she is now graduating with a Master's Degree in Science from the University of Ryukyus (JAP) and will return to Palau to continue as a researcher at the Palau International Coral Reef Centre.



Evelyn has hung up her cap and goggles, but now finds fulfillment in sharing her experience and love of the sport by coaching other young people. (Pictured right)

'Swimming has taught me valuable life lessons – to keep pushing on, there are victories in the struggle and nothing comes easily' she said.



COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION, COMMUNICATION

We invite you to join our closed FACEBOOK page: **WASO – Women and Sport Oceania** where you can share ideas and get up to date information on what is happening in Oceania for women and girls in sport. As well as the WASO News, we intend to upload news on the website as it becomes available.

Women on NOC Executive Boards

National Olympic Committee	No of Women	2017	30%	2012
American Samoa	1/8	12%		25%
Australia	4/13	31%		14%
Cook Islands	1/2	50%		30%
FSM	2/7	28%		22%
Fiji	4/9	44%		50%
Guam	1/8	12%		0%
Kiribati	2/6	33%		16%
Nauru	3/9	33%		42%
New Zealand	5/10	50%		66%
Marshall Islands	1/7	14%		16%
Palau	5/9	55%		50%
P.N.G	5/10	50%		50%
Samoa	4/9	44%		18%
Solomon Islands	3/10	30%		16%
Tonga	2/8	25%		25%
Tuvalu	1/5	20%		20%
Vanuatu	4/9	44%		22%
ONOC Executive	5 W/12	42%		20%

An analysis of women on Oceania NOC Executive Boards shows a steady increase in numbers, with only three NOCs below 20%, and 11 over 30%.

The IOC request that all NOCs review their electoral processes with a view to developing strategies for gender-balanced representation in their governance bodies

WASO CONTACTS

WOMEN & SPORT, OCEANIA EXECUTIVE

Helen Brownlee - Chair

helen.brownlee@olympics.com.au

Liz Dawson

liz@forsythmorison.com

Carol Ngiraidis

aliibelau@gmail.com

Nynette Sass

nynette.sass@gmail.com

Emma Waiwai

emzwhy2@gmail.com

Edith Nicholas (Athletes Comm.)

enicholas669@gmail.com

