

MEDIA RELEASE

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Regulated flexibility: Creating secure jobs for all, especially women

economic Security4Women (eS4W) is calling for 'regulated flexibility' at the National Community Summit: Creating Secure Jobs & a Better Society hosted by ACTU in Canberra today. The summit has been designed to be the next step in building an ongoing alliance of community groups, academics, think tanks and unions to work towards security in employment.

"We are happy to explore this alliance as a means of taking forward issues raised by women at forums hosted by eS4W in Melbourne and Adelaide in the latter part of 2012" said Ms Sandra Cook, Chairperson of eS4W.

"'Regulated flexibility' and the extension of the National Employment Standards to casual workers were key asks from the forums" said Ms Sally Jope, Acting Executive Officer of eS4W. "The purpose of the forums was to take forward issues raised by the 'ACTU Inquiry into Insecure Work in Australia' and to feed back into this summit".

"Our feedback is based on a consideration of the gender implications of insecure employment in relation to workplace gender equality objectives, relevant public policies including education and income support, industrial relations and the representation of women within the union movement and other organisations".

Having the union movement commit to a deeper and broader engagement with civil society organisations was one of the recommendations of the Independent Inquiry into Insecure Work in Australia, chaired by former Deputy Prime Minister Brian Howe. A National Conference of civil society organisations, hosted by the ACTU, is a key step toward collaboration and keenly supported by eS4W.

About economic Security4Women

eS4W is one of six national women's alliances and is made up of 19 women's organisations that cover a range of different interests but who are united in the belief that lifelong economic wellbeing is a high priority for Australian women.

Through their member organisations, eS4W engages with Australian women to identify the issues they face and establish those of primary importance. eS4W then contributes to national policy reform relevant to the lifelong economic wellbeing for women.

For more information visit: www.security4women.org.au

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