



Honorable Zoe Bakoko Bakoru

Honorable is the former Cabinet Minister of Gender, Labor and Social Development 2001-2006 and a Member of Parliament 1996-2006 in Uganda. Her Cabinet portfolio included the departments of Gender, Culture and Community Development; Youth and Children Affairs; Elderly, Disability and Functional Literacy; Equal Opportunities, Poverty Eradication and Microfinance; and Labor, Employment and Industrial Relations; including the oversight for the National Social Security Fund.

Hon. Zoe is a Global Health, Public Policy, Peace and Conflict and Community Development expert. She is also a public speaker, author and consultant. She is a survivor of war and the 2005 UN Peace Award Winner and Somali Peace Facilitator, awarded by HE Kofi Annan for engendering the Somali peace process which allowed women to be full participants and partners of the political process and paved the way for the formation of the transitional government. To date Hon. Bakoko is an advocate, a voice for peace, justice and democracy, with focus on the plight of women and children trapped in war and conflict zones including the victims of human and labor trafficking, a modern-day

slavery. She participated in peace missions in Uganda, Great Lakes Region, Africa and globally. She led country delegations and presented country status reports to the Committees on the Rights of Children and Status of Women in the UN New York and Geneva; at regional level in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She is well travelled to over 50 countries in the world.

As a public health nurse administrator, she recruited and trained community health workers, coordinated immunization and family planning programs, and developed health outreach programs to underserved communities. She worked with MSF France in Zaire now DR Congo serving in the Uganda refugee health program 1981-1985 and later as a coordinator for the South Sudanese Health Program in West Nile Region 1993-1996.

Hon. Bakoko has a Master's Degree in International Health from Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh, Scotland UK 1994, and is a Public Health RN from the Kampala Institute of Public Health Studies 1988; RN Midwife from Mulago School of Nursing and Midwifery 1979; and RN Psychiatry from Butabika School of Psychiatric Nursing 1975 all in Uganda.

Hon. Zoe is featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show "Moms Around the World 2006" and fostered over one hundred children orphaned by war and HIV/AIDs. Today her children have all graduated with different disciplines and continue to live their dreams and are responsible citizens changing lives and communities all over the world.

As a volunteer and a first responder of Delaware Medical Reserve Corps, Hon. Zoe is a certified and licensed coach who teaches Diabetes Self-Management; Chronic Diseases Self-Management; Chronic Pain Self-Management and Cancer Thriving and Surviving Self-Management; and Matter of Balance and Parenting Classes and Human Trafficking classes to empower communities in Delaware including Osher Dover OLLI. Hon Zoe is the UN Representative of To Love Children, a non-profit organization, and a Board Member and Speaker

for SAFE Coalition tackling human trafficking globally.