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Jessica Neuwirth
Honorary President
Equality Now Africa Regional Office
PO Box 2018
00202
Nairobi, Kenya

Dear Ms. Neuwirth,

I will first like to start off by saying thank you. Thank you for creating such an important campaign and helping women that have lost their voice. As you well know, Female Genital Mutilation is occurring throughout many parts of the world. I have chosen to, like yourself, advocate for these women and focusing in the region of Africa. There have been efforts made to try and combat this practice however I have pin pointed the problem to be in the lack of awareness of the issue. With a more global understanding of what is Female Genital Mutilation and what it causes, there would be a higher support for campaigns like Equality Now. Take time to read my report for ways on how to increase awareness and some ways to possibly start to eradicate the practice.

Enclosed is a report that addresses the problem from multiple lenses. I have written about the problem through the eyes of those who are never heard from, the women. I have integrated a woman's story that sheds a new light into what it actually means to be "cut" and the repercussions it has caused her life. Enclosed are also facts on the different regions in Africa that Female Genital Mutilation occurs and the prevalence of it. This could be our road map to seeing which countries need the quickest and most urgent help from Equality Now. Lastly, in the end of my document, you will find a set plan of action I have proposed that helps our mission of banning of Female Genital Mutilation to take effect.

Your help as a leader in anti-FGM campaigns would make these ideas go further and reach a larger population. I have selected you as a possible ally because I feel we see eye to eye in the cause and have parallel objectives in the stopping of FGM. Again, I would like to thank you for all the effort you have done to stop FGM and know that there are people who do want to see change and be allies in the common goal of FGM eradication. I look forward to hearing back from you and our future collaboration in this mutual goal of ours.

Sincerely,

Beatriz Penilla

