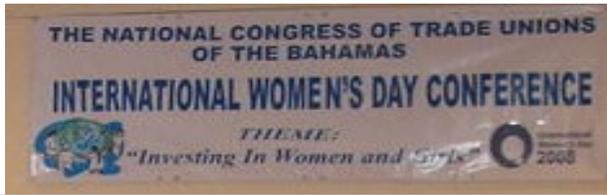


**NATIONAL CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS OF THE BAHAMAS
WOMEN'S BRANCH**



Press Release

The National Congress of Trade Unions Bahamas (NCTUB) Women's Committee, hosted its third annual International Women's Day Conference, on Thursday March 6, 2008.

Under the theme "Investing in Women and Girls" The conference was held at Workers' House on Harold Road, and was attended by delegates from the member unions, as well as local and international guests. The keynote speaker for the opening of the conference was the *Hon. Loretta Butler-Turner, Minister of State for Social Development.*



She encouraged women to work together and continue to build on the legacies left behind by remarkable women such as Dame Dr. Doris Johnson, Dame Dr. Ivy Dumont , the Hon. Janet Bostwick and so many



others. She implored women not to allow divisions to separate them.

Speaking at the conference were other dynamic women who addressed issues that are pertinent to our society today.

Senior Nursing Officer Gina Dean underscored the need for healthy women and positive preparation in the area of teen sexuality. She also noted the prevalence of obesity and its impact on the health of many women in The Bahamas.



Inspector Sandra Miller explored the effects of "Domestic Violence" and its long term and deleterious consequences on the family and hence the society.

The notable, Michael Halkatis, the importance of themselves financially, but also for



male speaker, Michael Halkatis, reminded women of the importance of preparing themselves not just for today but for the future.

Distinguished guests attending the conference were the *Hon. Janet Bostwick*, first female Secretary General BPSU , *Mrs. Idena Burrows*, Second female President of BCPOU , *Dr. Barbara Graham* (Jamacia), *Madam Juieth* (Senagal, West Africa) wife of the Director General of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), *Ms. Lynn Symonette* (The Bureau Of Women's Affair), Mr. Alton Garrett (African American Health Institute-California) and Mr. Terrance Stone (Young Visionaries Youth Leadership Academy- California).



The Participants were entertained by students from the "Center for the Deaf" and a member of The Bahamas Musicians & Entertainers Union "BMEU."



International Women's Day" is celebrated in countries all over the world on 8th March every year , having first been ratified in the year 1911 in Copenhagen, Denmark. It is a major day of global celebration for the economic, political and social achievements of women.