



**Louisa Wall MP**

**CHAIRPERSON OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION NEW ZEALAND GROUP**

6 April 2021

Twelve Plus Group  
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Dear Colleagues

I am writing to ask you to support my candidacy to the Twelve Plus position on the **Bureau of Women Parliamentarians**, for one year to complete the term of our former Deputy Speaker Hon Anne Tolley. I was fortunate to work very closely with Hon. Tolley on a number of initiatives including the inquiry into bullying, sexism, and harassment in Parliament, which has resulted in significant change.

I served for eight years as Co-Chairperson of our cross parliamentary women's group advocating for legislative reform, including to end all forms of female genital mutilation in New Zealand - achieved in August 2020.

I am a passionate member and advocate for the LGBTIQ+ Rainbow community. One of my proudest moments was helping achieve marriage equality in New Zealand with the Marriage Amendment Act in 2013, and I continue to work with and for our community to ensure LGBTIQ rights are upheld in New Zealand and globally.

One of my goals for my time as the New Zealand permanent representative to the Inter-Parliamentary Union is advancing the role of parliamentarians in championing human rights defenders, protecting and realising human rights for LGBTIQ+ citizens, indigenous peoples and women with relevant stakeholders.

I will bring to the Bureau my passion for positive change in women's representation, advancing protections for the most vulnerable, and improving the lives of women and girls.

It would be a privilege to serve on the Bureau and I hold the support of the New Zealand IPU to carry out this mandate.

Yours sincerely

**Louisa Wall MP**  
**NEW ZEALAND**