

DRAFT PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR PRESENTATION:

CAYMAN ISLANDS PRESENTATION

TO CEDAW WORKSHOP

ANGUILLA

CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVE

- I. Introduction – Overview of Culture and Traditions – presented by Alexa Thomas
CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS -
 - 1 A slideshow collage of photos to include – women in public life - our Living National Hero, Mrs Sybil McLaughlin: our first Postmistress – Hope Glidden-Borden; current Speaker of the House – Mrs Mary Lawrence; our Deputy Premier – Ms Julianna O’Connor-Connolly and other lady politicians – Miss Annie Huldah Bodden (deceased), Mrs Esther Ebanks, Mrs Daphne Orrett, etc; women activists – Estella Scott Roberts (deceased); Sr Magistrate – Margaret Ramsay-Hale and other magistrates; former Magistrate and law school lecturer – Grace Donalds; Deputy Clerks of the Courts; NCVO leader Mrs Olive Miller; Freedom of Information Commissioner Mrs Jennifer Dillbert; the statue honouring women; group photos of the various civil organisations invited to provide feedback; as well as photos of our natural environment of all three islands. Music track of our National Song playing in the background. (2-3 minutes)
 - 2 Highlights of BPW’s accomplishments with mention of other civil organisations – Estella Scott-Roberts Foundation; etc (5 minutes)

- II. THE FREEDOMS THAT WE ENJOY –
HUMAN RIGHTS ENSHRINED IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS CONSTITUTION 2009 –
presentation by Julene Banks
 - 1 Review of Existing freedoms –
 - a. Right to vote - Information about the statute honouring women –
– number of women who petitioned for the right to vote- year
vote granted
 - b. Right to hold public office and exercise public functions
 - c. Right to represent country internationally
 - d. Statehood of women (nationality and domicile not dependent on
husband)
 - e. Non-?? (lowlevel??) discrimination in education, employment,
economic and social activities
 - f. Full ?? (some) equality of women in civil and business matters
 - g. Marriage

2 Overview of Part I of the Constitution

III. THE APPLICATION OF CEDAW TO THE CAYMAN ISLANDS – joint presentation by Julene Banks and Alexa Thomas (to invite feedback and discussion from other participants)

- 1 The implications of full application
- 2 Controversial issues include
 - (a) the extent of family planning – would this include the legalisation of abortion?
 - (b) Definition of marriage – does this include “same sex marriages”