Dr Tres-Ann Kremer, Head of Good Offices for Peace and Political Adviser for the Caribbean Region
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The Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent and equal sovereign states. Its members are bound together by respect for all states and peoples; by shared values and principles; and by concern for the vulnerable. The Commonwealth Secretariat is pleased to:

- Have **supported the creation of the Caribbean Institute for Women in Leadership (CIWiL)** organisation in 2003.
- The Secretariat **remains committed to supporting CIWiL and will continue to support the strengthening of its capacity** including through our many South-South exchanges and engagements with national mechanisms and regional mechanisms.
- Have hosted the **Caribbean Regional Women’s Colloquium on Women Leaders as Agents of Change in 2011** – the joint declaration from that forum under the auspices of the then Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, was a key moment in Caribbean activism and was instrumental in influencing subsequent legislative and incremental regional norm changes.
Commonwealth Focus

Commonwealth support in the Commonwealth Caribbean

1. Improving electoral processes and institutions through inclusive and constructive dialogue and improved women’s political participation, leadership and political representation. Dr Tres-Ann Kremer, Head of Good Offices for Peace and Political Adviser Caribbean- t.kremer@commonwealth.int

2. Economic Cost of Violence against Women and Girls - led by the Gender Unit at the Commonwealth Secretariat. Amelia Kinahoi Siamomua, Head of Unit - a.siamomua@commonwealth.int

3. Judicial Bench Books on Violence Against Women and Girls support from the Commonwealth Office of Civil and Criminal Justice Reform - led by the Human Rights and Rule of Law Units at the Commonwealth Secretariat - led by the Human Rights Unit and the Rule of Law Division at the Commonwealth Secretariat. Head of Human Rights - Karen McKenzie, k.mckenzie@commonwealth.int Head of the Office of Civil and Criminal Justice Reform - Stephen Malby, s.malby@commonwealth.int
Partnerships

- **Member states and Commonwealth Accredited Organisations**: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), Commonwealth Foundation, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, Commonwealth Youth Council (CYC), Commonwealth Youth and Peace Network (CYPAN), Commonwealth Judges and Magistrates Association (CJMA).
- CARICOM, CIWil, UN Women, UNOSSC, ParlAmericas.
- The upcoming **2019 Commonwealth Women’s Affairs Meeting** which will be hosted by Kenya in September 2019.
- **Commonwealth Ministerial Meetings** such as Health/Education/Trade/Finance/Youth/Law/Small States - Resilience and Vulnerability (including work on the Commonwealth Blue Charter agreed by Commonwealth Heads)
- Deepening support to the objectives of the Commonwealth Caribbean. In September 2018, the Commonwealth Secretariat welcomed and opened the doors of the Commonwealth Small States Office in New York to also host the CARICOM UN Office.