

**2009 Speaker
Spotlight:
Government
Executives**



Michelle Bachelet Jeria
President
Chile



**Michèle Duvivier
Pierre-Louis**
Prime Minister
Haiti

**GLOBEWOMEN SPECIAL EDITION:
2009 Global Summit of Women Update**

With the last four special editions, *GlobeWomen* has introduced to you some of the top business leaders, women and men, who will be presenting and participating in the exciting dialogue that the **Global Summit of Women** provides each year. From its start 19 years ago, the Summit has deliberately invited a mix of government, business and civil society leaders at each forum. These are the three necessary “legs” of lasting, sustainable change that are pivotal in advancing women’s economic opportunities worldwide – the Summit’s ongoing focus from the outset.

There are 30 women government ministers already slated to participate in the pre-Summit **Ministerial Roundtable on May 14th**, and they will spend the day in exchanges of best practices in **“Public/Private Sector Partnerships Advancing Women and Girls’ Economic Opportunities.”** As in prior Summits, three exemplary programs selected by the ministers will be awarded mini-grants to recognize their work.

Leading government officials at the Summit are three extraordinary women who lead countries and parliaments. Let us introduce them to you.

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Inaugurated on March 11, 2006, **Michelle Bachelet Jeria** is the **President of Chile**—the first woman to hold this position in the country’s history. While three other women have won presidential elections in the Americas (Janet Jagan of Guyana, Mireya Moscoso of Panama, and Violeta Chamorro of Nicaragua), President Bachelet was the first to win a seat without first becoming known through a husband’s prominence. A pediatrician and epidemiologist with studies in military strategy, she served as Health Minister and Defense Minister under President Ricardo Lagos. As Minister of Defense, she was the first woman in Chile and in all of Latin America to serve in this capacity. In 2008, *Forbes* magazine ranked her as 25th in the list of the **“100 Most Powerful Women in the World.”** The same year, *TIME* magazine ranked her 15th in its list of the world’s **“100 Most Influential People.”**

Michèle Duvivier Pierre-Louis became Prime Minister of Haiti in September 2008. For the past 35 years, Prime Minister Pierre-Louis has actively worked towards the development of her country. Paying particular attention to literacy and adult education, she has taught civics and moral values to the nation’s poor, trained grass-roots organizations in small project management, formed associations for women in rural areas and has made education her top priority. Since 1995, Prime Minister Pierre-Louis has served as Executive Director of the Foundation for Knowledge and Liberty, which is involved in community, cultural and economic development projects.



**Gertrude Ibengwe
Mongella**
President
Pan-African Parliament

Gertrude Ibengwe Mongella, recipient of the Global Summit of Women's 2003 *Global Women's Leadership Award*, is the President of the Pan-African Parliament. A former Parliamentary member from Tanzania, Ms. Mongella held various ministerial portfolios in her country -- Minister of State within the Prime Minister's office, Minister of Lands, Tourism and Natural Resources, and finally, Minister Without Portfolio within the President's Office. Her international work includes serving as UN Assistant Secretary General and Secretary General for the 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing, China in 1995. From 1996 to 1997, Mrs. Mongella was UN Under-Secretary and Special Envoy to the Secretary-General on Women's Issues and Development. In 1998, she became a member of the Organization for African Union later becoming the President of the Pan African Parliament in 2004.

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