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Legislator Martinez Participates as a Panelist at the United Nations on “Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development” Discussion

On May 2, 2014 Legislator Martinez participated as a panelist to discuss Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development at the United Nations under the auspices of Carlos Garcia, Ambassador of El Salvador. Among the panelists were NYS Assemblyman Phil Ramos, Assistant Deputy Suffolk County Executive Luis Montes, Professor Dawn Digrius of the Steven’s Institute of Technology, Executive Director for the Center for Community and Founder/President of the Youth Council of Hip Hop, Charles Fisher.

According to Ambassador Garcia, the objective of the event was to create partnerships at the local, national and global levels to jointly cope with the immigrant population and address global developments. "Our main goal is to promote different forms of cooperation and strengthen opportunities for decent employment, technology, innovation and research," stated Garcia.

Legislator Martinez’s agenda is fully aligned with the UN’s goals at the local level especially with the 3rd goal which is to promote gender equality and empower women. Legislator Martinez discussed work being done at the County level regarding the disparity of wages among women to men. Legislator Martinez passed Resolution 1315 declaring April 8, 2014 as “Equal Pay Day for Women” in Suffolk County.

“Women make up approximately 52% of the Suffolk County population. Women who work full time earn on average 77 cents for each dollar earned by a male counterpart, performing comparable work under comparable conditions, including comparable background, expertise, and experience,” stated Legislator Martinez. “The figures are even worse for women of color; African-American women earn only 64 cents and Latina women earn 55 cents for each dollar earned by a white male worker,” concluded Martinez.

Legislator Martinez addressed the audience with respect to many issues that are youth are facing. There are few recreational facilities for our youth to engage in extracurricular activities. “I am working to secure funding for new facilities to keep our kids busy and active within their communities in order to prevent an increase in our juvenile delinquent population,” concluded Martinez.



Photo from left to right: Charles Fisher, Luis Montes, Assemblyman Phil Ramos, Dawn Digrius and Legislator Martinez