



Book Launch Program

CITY OF BRUGES, BELGIUM

OLD ST. JOHN SITE | CONGRESS AND EVENT CENTRE

05/10/2023

5 - 7 PM

PG 1 OF 2

The IDWF cordially invites you to an event you cannot miss:

THE LAUNCH OF THE BIOGRAPHY OF OUR BELOVED FOUNDING PRESIDENT, MYRTLE WITBOOI.



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The event features high level panels to reflect on her life and the path of our movement going forward. It includes moving interventions from leaders in the movement, sisters in the struggle, and Myrtle's family and friends.

After the launch, join us for some light refreshments in honor of Myrtle Witbooi.





I/ INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME:

- Welcome Address Carmen Britez, President of the IDWF
- Host organization speech Pia Stalpaert, President of ACV-CSC

II/ LOOKING BACK: MOTHER OF THE MOVEMENT

- Keynote Jacqui Michals, Myrtle Witbooi's daughter, General Secretary of South African Domestic Service and Allied Workers Union (SADSAWU)
- **Book presentation** Jennifer Fish, Myrtle Witbooi's biographer and friend, Gender Studies Professor at Old Dominion University, USA
- **Guest Speaker** Stiene Billen, FOS, Belgium
- Poem: Myrtle Witbooi Tim Seibles, American poet, professor and the former Poet Laureate of Virginia, USA.

III/ LOOKING FORWARD: THE MOVEMENT

This part reflects on the leadership and vision it takes to mount a federation and hold a movement together. The footsteps of our foremothers and the road ahead.

IDWF Panel:

Vicky Kanyoka, Africa Regional Coordinator for the IDWF Shirley Pryce, member of Jamaica Household Workers Union and the **IDWF Executive Committee**

Video message from Elizabeth Tang, first General Secretary of the IDWF, founding mother.

IV/Q&A

- Journalist, allies, attendees are invited to ask questions to all participants.
- Video
 - Remembering Myrtle

We will then end our program on a small mixer including drinks and bites.



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