



GRUBER
FOUNDATION

+1 (202) 309-2263

EMBARGOED - 9:00AM US EDT, JUNE 23, 2011

**2011 GRUBER WOMEN'S RIGHTS PRIZE WILL GO TO
AVEGA AGAHOZO FOR SERVICE TO
GENOCIDE SURVIVORS**

June 23, 2011, New York, NY – Left without the legal protection of husbands after the ugly bloodletting of



AVEGA Agahozo

-more-





GRUBER
F O U N D A T I O N

2011 Gruber Women's Rights

(A complete organizational profile is available at <http://www.gruberprizes.org>.)

* * *

Additional Information

The Women's Rights Prize of The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation

The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation proudly presents the 2011 Women's Rights Prize to AVEGA Agahozo, an association of genocide widows in Rwanda which has, through strategies of advocacy, legal aid, health care, housing, trauma counseling and income generation, restored the dignity of thousands of women survivors.

AVEGA, founded by 50 genocide survivors in 1995, has fought successfully for legal reforms raising the penalties for rape and sexual violence and enabling widows to inherit their husbands' property. They have counseled survivors to testify against genocide perpetrators in the traditional courts, achieving perhaps their greatest victory when the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda made the historic ruling that rape was an act of genocide.

-more-





2011 Gruber Women's Rights Prize...3

Members of the committee that selected the 2011 Women's Rights Prize recipients:

Sakiko Fukuda-Parr,

Cecilia Medina Quiroga
Sakena Yacoobi,

Françoise Girard

Akua Kuenyehia,
Thandabantu Nhlapo

Pinar Ilkkaracan,

Laureates of the Gruber Women's Rights Prize:

- 2010: CLADEM,
- 2009: Leymah Gbowee,
Women's Legal Centre,
- 2008: Ms. Yanar Mohammed –

Ms. Sapana Pradhan Malla –

Dr. Nadera Shaloub-Kevorkian –
- 2007: Ms. Pinar Ilkkaracan –

rights
Women for Women's Human Rights –

The Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies –
- 2006: Unión Nacional de Mujeres Guatemaltecas (UNMG) –

Sweatshop Watch –
Judge Cecilia Medina Quiroga –
- 2005: Shan Women's Action Network –

The Women's League of Burma –
- 2004: Professor Sakena Yacoobi –

Afghan Institute of Learning (AIL) –
- 2003: Judge Navanethem Pillay –

Pro-Femmes Twese Hamwe –

-more-





GRUBER
FOUNDATION

2011 Gruber Women's Rights Prize...4

The Gruber International Prize Program

The Peter and Patricia Gruber Foundation

details, see the press release at

**

