Thank you for your leadership, care, creativity & kindness.
Dearest Marisa,

Querida Marisa,

Habibti Marisa,

We are celebrating you for everything you’ve been to each of us, to our collective, to our networks of friends and accomplices, to younger South feminist movement building. We will miss you terribly at RESURJ but we look forward to your next adventures and to our moments of connection and collaboration.

With all our love.
Marisa querida:

As I was preparing this goodbye-for-now-note, I realized I don’t have any photos with you. That made me a bit sad as I realized we actually shared very little time physically together. But I also laughed because that has meant nothing for how much I admire and value you.

Let me confess a secret: before we interacted more closely as I became an advisor for RESURJ I was a bit intimidated by you. You were/are one of those young/er activists that I always was so glad to have come into the movement because I always thought you were far wiser, better prepared and more honest than those of my generation. That was a relief and a joy but also a bit intimidating.

That, until I got to know you a bit better.

Because what I had not realized was that along with all those amazing features, you had a huge dose of compassion – the genuine one, the one that is born of understanding and trusting life and living beings, along with one’s own limitations and those of others. Now I think that my be the most beautiful of all your beautiful features.

Thank you for – along with others of your generation – teaching me about these other, more holistic and kinder, ways of being feminist in this world.

All the best for the next stage/s in your journey and I very much wish our paths cross again, many times.
Obrigada Marisa pela sua dedicação à Resurj e por ter feito e fazer a diferença, ao longo desses anos. Em todos os espaços você atua sempre de forma colaborativa, inclusiva e com respeito. Você é uma feminista que, na prática e não apenas no discurso, age e honra os princípios feministas. Por isso, obrigada.

Obrigada também por transmitir apoio e por cuidar, de forma tão carinhosa de todas, na Resurj. Você é uma inspiração para todas nós e lhe desejo um lindo caminho. Não tenho dúvidas de que ele será iluminado porque vc é pura luz. Muito amor.
Marisinha: It takes true commitment, courage, and love to stay for a decade building a diverse network of bad ass younger feminists. Grateful for your leadership, care, and work. May there only be good times ahead! So happy for you and see where you go next. Much love, Alex
Dear Marisa,

You’re one in a million sis! Thank you for all you do for the young feminist movement and for always having my back when looking for resources...... I’m glad you came to Fiji during the Pacific Feminist Forum and experienced the Bula Spirit with us, I hope we will see each other soon physically and not virtually

Take care and may the universe protect and guide you in your next journey.

Vinaka Vakalevu
Hola Marisa,

Cuando te conocí, no imaginé que te convertirías en un referente para mí. Gracias por haber sido una compañera y una líder excepcional, te admiro un montón, admiro tu trabajo, tu capacidad reflexiva, de análisis, de construcción horizontal, de resolución de conflictos, siempre tan amorosa y con firmeza.

Deseo con el corazón que la vida te lleve por nuevos buenos caminos, con alegría, con energías buenas, con amor, con solidaridad, con amistad, con transparencia. ¡Por un nuevo y feliz comienzo!

Abrazos,

Andre
Dear Marisa,

Congratulations on everything you have achieved at RESURJ and thank you for always so generously sharing your knowledge and ideas. It has been amazing to get to know you & learn from your feminist politics. Looking forward to continuing to collaborate with you & hope our paths cross in-person!

Bethan
Marisa,

Enquanto ajudava a organizar esse projeto (que agora não é mais secreto), pude perceber quantas vidas e histórias você tocou e mudou, inclusive a minha. Então, que alegria e honra poder fazer parte do seu caminho também. Entre tantas palavras que passam pela minha cabeça, a que mais se destaca é: gratidão. Sou grata ao universo por ter me proporcionado nosso encontro e sou grata a você por ter me acolhido quando eu era apenas uma jovem latino-americana descobrindo o mundo (algo que ainda estou fazendo) e, um tempo depois, acreditado no meu potencial de trabalho e me incluído nessa grande aventura chamada Resurj. Então querida – amiga, companheira de luta, ex-chefe -, eu desejoo que nossos caminhos continuem indo para o mesmo lado, seja lá qual for o caminho do bem e que a gente se encontre em algum canto desse mundo. Que a vida lhe seja leve porque o fardo dos direitos humanos é pesado, mas que você sempre encontre a alegria da vida adulta. Ah! E que você saiba que enquanto eu estiver em SP, existirá amor aqui.

Um beijo e um cheiro!
While helping to organize this project (which is now no longer secret), I could see how many lives and stories you touched and changed, including mine. So what a joy and honor to be able to be part of your path too. Among so many words that go through my head, the one that stands out the most is: gratitude. I am grateful to the universe for allowing me to meet and I am grateful to you for having welcomed me when I was just a young Latin American discovering the world (something I am still doing) and, a while later, believing in my work potential. and included me in this great adventure called Resurj. So dear – friend, comrade-in-arms, ex-boss –, I wish that our paths keep going the same way, whatever the good path is and that we meet in some corner of this world. May life be light for you because the burden of human rights is heavy, but may you always find the joy of adulthood. Oh! And let you know that as long as I'm in SP, there will be love here.

A kiss and a smell!
Dear Marisa,

Thanks for the smiles, the sisterhood and the solidarity. I am so glad our paths crossed and we got to make some good trouble together. It was always great to feel like someone else understood the anger and the need to make our voices heard in those spaces.

Watching you lead RESURJ was a reminder that I could lead with boldness and kindness as well. I hope you are proud of your footprint and legacy! You are seen, loved and appreciated Marisa. I hope our paths continue to cross and that you continue to find reasons to smile and build solidarity. Obrigado Marisa!
Querida Marisa,

Tu camino por RESURJ va de la mano con nuestra amistad, y así he podido ser testigo del increíble trabajo que hiciste para sobrellevar diferentes retos en la organización y para fortalecer el liderazgo feminista en Latinoamérica y alrededor del mundo. Tantos recuerdos y tantas memorias de viajes, talleres, reuniones, conferencias, cenas, largas pláticas en esta década de amistad. Gracias por todo lo compartido y por estar ahí, aun en la distancia de la pandemia. Te quiero mucho y se que nuestros caminos seguirán cruzándose en nuestro andar por la justicia. Un abrazo amiga. Cecilia Espinoza
Chantal

Marisa, you are an inspiration to me. I learnt a lot from you. Your extensive knowledge, skills and most of all calmness even when the tide is high, that I have never mastered is amazing. Your organic passion to thrive for goodness and revolutions amid chaos can't be put in a few words., not even a book. You are a kind and tough soul at the same time. You and I are similar in many different ways. (excluding the temporary "extrovert" part of me lol). I wish you all the best in your next chapter in life. Holla at me any time, any day forparenthood related tips and other sexy stuff :)
Dear Marisa,

Huge congratulations on bringing an amazing cycle of work to a close with Resurj. No doubt you will continue to stay close as I have felt you close to AWID even after your time with us came to an end. Thank you for the brilliance that you bring to any space, I can't wait to see what you do next and hope we'll have a chance to work together again. I could only find grainy photos from intense Forum back-room sessions in Istanbul and then from small team strategizing meetings ... nothing that does justice to your sharpness, but am sharing with lots of love and appreciation! (and I thought you would just enjoy seeing YFA linked to "fora Temer" :)

Cindy
THANK YOU FOR THE LOVE, WISDOM, INSPIRATION, AND PASSION YOU HAS BROUGHT TO MY LIFE
To Marisa,

I still remember when I met you for the very first time on “The Space” of CSW62 in New York. I was a new comer from very little-heard place called West Papua. All the oppression and discrimination that I felt made me feel inferior. Yet, when I came to The Space and met you along with other powerful feminists like Noelene, Nana, and Viva, I could feel that “this is the space the I belong to”. You warmly welcomed me with your super friendly personality and it made me feel safe to talk or to share my feminist journey. Your sense of humour and humble personality are your strength that inspire others. I learned that You full of life and you definitely know what is the purpose of your life. You are a feminist who never scared of raising her voice. You know exactly what you want, who is your enemy and who is your friend. And when I found out that you are from Amazon, somehow I feel the connection, perhaps because I am an indigenous feminist that also experienced all kinds of systemic oppression. I hope you can inspire more young feminist like me, especially the indigenous feminists to find and use their voices. God Bless You Marisa.

Love and Hugs from Me, who is still fighting against all the systemic oppression here in West Papua.
Dearest Marisa,

What a treat it has been getting to experience your energy over the past years from our very meeting in Accra, Ghana to you guiding me into YFA Manager position to the corridors of CSW in New York, co-conspirations in Mexico City & dancing in Bahia. You are love, you are loved and you forever remain an inspiration and sister-friend. I wish you nothing but the very best in your next adventures.

Big HUGS, Felogene
Dearest Marisa,

What an incredible journey at RESURJ. There are so many memories I could reflect on, but an early one particularly stands out, given the state of the world we live in.

We met at CSW in 2016. It was my first CSW, and a few days into it, I felt completely overwhelmed and upset. That's when you told me to take a break, take the day off, do something else. In the past two years, I have wished, many times, there was someone there to tell me to take a break. But I think of you and honor you every time I say it to one of my team members. This is the legacy, these are the seeds you have left us with.

I hope our paths cross again, and until then I send you much love.

Ghiwa
Marisa, como uma brisa, chegou e nos tocou. 
Nos tocou em um momento em que a desesperança tentava nos invadir. 
Em tempos de distanciamento o toque tornou-se uma raridade. 
Mas não uma exclusividade da presença física. 
Seu toque, com sorriso, ternura e através das telas, nos disse sem nenhuma palavra: é possível e necessário continuar (re)existindo. 
E assim tem sido. 
Nossa relação, Marisa, tem sido de leveza e profundidade. Sempre com afeto, respeito e muitas inspirações. 
E são esses sentimentos que desejo a você nessa nova caminhada. 
Entre despedidas, até logos e adeus há um mundo que lhe espera. E esse mundo será sempre mais feliz com sua presença. 
Por aqui, ainda a partir das telas, mas com muito afeto, também espero te tocar, abraçar e inspirar força para essa nova jornada. 
Um grande abraço,
Marisa,

It is one of the beautiful synchronicities of my life to have been able to get to know you and your inspiring leadership of Resurj. You bring brilliance, integrity, heart, and that even more rare quality of spirit - into the politics, community and activism, and I'm grateful to have been able to share a small part of this with you and the Resurj network. I always love that we share small parts of our spaces with each other everytime we speak, and make the time for rivers and blossoming trees, even as we figure out how to articulate pathways of change. And I've definitely never been to a retreat where I got to be part of supporting the hard work of organising, and be guided to meet our personal spirit animals all in the same space and time. It's been really, very cool. Wishing you expansiveness and creativity, rest and re-twinings in the pathways ahead. And trusting the magic of synchronicities.

With deep respect and big love,
jac.
Querida Vecina Marisa

¡Que tu camino este lleno de mucho amor, placer y aventuras de muchos colores.!

Desde Guatemala te mandamos cariños.
Ingrid y Dante
Stop Forced disappearances in Mexico
Dear Marisa,

Thank you so much for all that you have given to RESURJ, the movement, the work, and your colleagues! You are simply a delight to engage with, collaborate with, dream with, etc. You have been a breath of fresh air in these difficult times.

I wish you the best in your next chapter. I hope you find joy and experience growth. And I hope you stay in touch.

Good luck and much love,

Jaime
You were an excellent mentor and friend. I learned so much from you over these last 3 years of knowing you. You are more like a sister to me. Thanks a ton for being there Marisa
Marisa, I have incredible memories of sitting with you in a coffee shop near the UN and talking with you and others late into the night at the AWID Forum in Brazil and being just bowled over by your wisdom and vision. I have been so impressed by the way you weave together all the strands of your life coming from the Amazon to leading discussions at the CSW and beyond. Thank you for sharing your leadership with RESURJ and with the world!
Hello Marisa

We’ve first met in Ghana in 2015 and the space you helped us co-create became the Young African Feminist Dialogues— a sisterhood bound and network that sustained my feminist personal journey and professional paths and that helped me grow my activism.

Thank you so much Marisa for the love, dedication and leadership you’ve committed to feminist movement building and especially to young feminist movement— you’re definitely an accomplice with so much generosity.

Thank you for your continued support in holding spaces for feminists to grow, to learn, to connect and to co-create, to rebuild better, to heal, to reshape feminist narratives for our collective Journey, to create good memories...

To that nice, kind, inspiring person I’ve had the chance to meet 6 years ago— Merci pour tout!

Wish you all the best and joy in your future endeavours.

With solidarity and love from Lana-Madagascar

Lana
Good memories from Ghana-Rwanda-Brazil-Malaysia
Lucía

Marisa, sos siempre una gran inspiración. Orgullosa de ser compañeras en la felicidad y en la lucha. Abrazo,
Lucía
My fellow Aquarius, I am forever grateful to Resurj for bringing such a beautiful and thoughtful friend into my life. I am so excited for your new adventures!
— Lynn
Conheci a Marisa em 2016, no encontro regional da YAFD. Eu estava representando o MOVFEMME e a Marisa era a única falante de português além de mim. Fui lá sem saber falar inglês, no máximo só sabia saudações, mas já havia saído do meu país (Moçambique) e já havia ensaiado as palavras-chaves do nosso trabalho, pois a discussão era em torno dos DSDR’s e a própria saúde sexual. Eu já conhecia os códigos e as siglas, mas ia me perdendo por causa do meu nervosismo. Mas, a Marisa estava lá para me orientar. Foi tão engraçado que eu falava algumas palavras em inglês e fazia algumas misturas com português e eu a confundia. Nesse primeiro contato senti que ela era uma pessoa muito amável, simples, humilde, compreensiva e com uma visão muito holística de uma vida melhor para as mulheres, principalmente mulheres jovens e raparigas, nessa questão da saúde sexual e reprodutiva. Eu já trabalhava fazia 10 anos nisso, mas nunca tinha aprofundado muito a questão da justiça reprodutiva. E, com a Resurj junto com a YAFD, fui fortalecendo os meus propósitos no campo dos direitos humanos das mulheres. E, hoje, parte daquilo que eu sou, que eu espelho, que eu procuro ser é reflexo do muito aprendizado que tive sobre a metodologia de trabalho, como fazer um trabalho comunitário de forma mais política. E essas dinâmicas aprendi com a Resurj, aprendi com a YAFT, aprendi com o MOVFEMME e a Marisa sempre esteve lá para tirar minhas dúvidas. Tornei Marisa uma mentora, uma professora sem que ela soubesse e foi super fantástico e tem sido até hoje, porque sempre que eu tenho uma dúvida de como agir, de como viver o feminismo na integra, como me tornar uma feminista ou como ser uma feminista que não carrega julgamento, não carrega discriminação – ela tem me orientado nisso – e de forma direta ou indireta, ela tem feito. Nos finais de 2019 ou 2020, eu meventurei em fazer uma pesquisa e Marisa foi mais receptiva do que
eu esperava junto com a Marie Claire. Tive alguns desafios que, por um acaso, não me sentia muito a vontade em partilhar, pois eram desafios pessoais para poder fechar a pesquisa, porém com todo o apoio que ela e a equipe da Resurj me deram, consegui fechar a pesquisa e depois passei para a fase de gráficos, que foi muito difícil já que eu tinha o produto, mas eu sentia que não era aquilo que eu deveria enviar – não era, não era!! – e acabei conseguindo fazer.

Falar da Marisa é falar de uma inspiração perfeita. É como se estivéssemos no escuro, como se tivéssemos que assistir como nos filmes, quando o personagem principal se encontra no meio de uma solidão, num ambiente muito escuro e no fundo estão lá os vagalumes trazendo uma luz que vem e vai – ela vem e vai –
mas é exatamente essa luz que vem e vai que leva ao alcance da verdadeira luz e ela é muito fantástica. Falar dela, eu levaria o ano todo, são vários elementos que a definem, mas elementos positivos. Neste momento, que vem a calhar, é muito difícil as pessoas falaram sobre os aspectos negativos sobre alguém e é o que acontece comigo: não consigo ver o lado negativo. Ela é uma profissional humana, o que dificilmente temos. Poderíamos defini-la assim: uma profissional humana. Temos muitas mulheres profissionais, mas com uma atenção em termos de humanismo e, temos muita gente humana, que também não consegue ser profissional. Então ela é uma profissional humana e ela na verdade foi, e sempre será, aquele vagalume que vai me dando direção e é incrível; o vagalume não deixa que você o alcance, mas vai te dando luz até você chegar até onde quer ir e a Marisa deixa que você alcance, mas se torna esse vagalume que vai te conduzindo. Ela é muito fantástica e eu a comemoro todos os dias, como comemoro várias outras mulheres do meu país, do meu continente. E dizer que a amo muito, como profissional e como humana. Ela me ensinou e continua a ensinar bastante. E desejo muitos sucessos, luz e que ela continue sendo esse vagalume que nós precisamos em todo o mundo. Sem me esquecer que ela me salvou de uma intoxicação na Malásia por causa da mistura do camarão e do café e até hoje aprendi que não posso fazer essas misturas. Ela é fantástica! Brincalhona, mas muito fantástica. É um vagalume no meio de tanto escuro, tanta escuridão que nós mulheres jovens vivemos no mundo, mas ela é o vagalume certo. Abraços!
My dear friend and sister. What a ride it has been. I think about us at the Mexico retreat at the start of this crazy journey together, and our little team of us 2 ready to take on all the amazing things, dramas, highs and lows that were to come. Your strength, wisdom, loyalty, fierceness and care for the work and the collective, your leadership and thoughtfulness, have made you the best thing to happen that happened to RESURJ. I love you like a sister, and we have argued and loved like sisters :) I am so excited for your new journey, I miss you so much and will miss you even more now, but I hope we will continue together our little team in some form or another (auntie :)

love you Maria Clara xxxxxx
Marisol

Marisa meant so much to me during my experience at RESURJ, she is the lived example of a feminist leader and colleague. She was patient, caring, decisive and inspiring. She made sure that the collective was at the center of any decision and that the systemic perspective was always there. I personally felt extremely cared for and listened to by Marisa and very much admire her strategic mind and enormous heart - Marisol Ruiz
Chère Marisa, merci pour la Douce et Révolutionnaire Féministe que tu es. Rien que dans un moment de proximité avec toi, tu transmets de quoi renforcer la lutte féministe. Tu es et reste une grande inspiration pour nous. Bon vent à toi et Merci d’exister.

Merveille from DR Congo.
Nana

Habibti Marisa,

I love writing letters, and here is the second one I write to you. The first letter was during our annual retreat in Malaysia in 2018, and I always think it must have paid off me snoring and talking in my sleep all night and disrupting your rest in the room we shared.

I want to verbalize for you some of my appreciation of your leadership and feminist accompaniment. I had always thought no one would take me seriously in those advocacy spaces where we met. I was SO angry. I learnt one of the ways one messes with those very rigid organizing spaces and get younger feminists on
board, is by echoing the words of a newcomer in these spaces; by echoing their interventions. A practical way of transmitting confidence and sharing power, and getting them to feel they make sense. You might not be aware that these are the ways you showed up for me, but you did and I really appreciate those nods and the echo you deliberately and unconsciously made.

You are always fun to work with. Sometimes I take myself so seriously and your spontaneous interjections (sometimes silly) were very refreshing and good reminders that we can still be ourselves when working on very serious issues. Thank you for that!

I’ll always appreciate how you messaged back and forth to help me craft demands and paras while I was in the company of older more experienced feminists. For me, you weren’t just doing your job and passing on our Action Agenda; you surely backed me up very carefully when I wasn’t sure how to say things I know. I felt more confident in those meeting rooms thanks to your support and humbleness, and I picked up tools and information on the way. I learnt also how to show up to other overwhelmed feminists in those spaces, so thank you for that.

It’s difficult to think of our CCs and future cross regional dialogues without you. However, I’m very confident we will stay in touch and continue to plot our feminist world domination together. I wish this new chapter brings you clarity, comfort, financial security, health, and more love. I love you so much, Marisa.

Yours,

Nana
Marisa querida,

From AWID, Resurj, New York hangs and beyond, I hope to keep working with you in the international feminist landscape. I wish you rest and pleasure and grounding until we meet again on your next adventure.

Beijos, Nelly
Noelene and Shirley

Marisa dear, you're been such an accomplice and South/global feminist leader, and we appreciate you so much, here at DIVA for Equality. You have listened to our needs and responded from a place of feminist care so many times. I personally look forward to working more with you, or just keeping in touch wherever your life takes you now.

Much love, Noelene, Shirley, Jade, and everyone here at DIVA for Equality (who have their own messages, I'm sure!)
Oriana

Marisa,

I love RESURJ for making me meet my niuyorkeira sister. With you I have grown knowing that the depth of my roots allows me to grow taller, otherwise any wind could make me fall. With you I have cried and laughed as hard as possible. I have learned a lot from you, from your toughness and from your tenderness, from your reliable heart and wisdom. Your Aquarian vision has led us in the right path and in the right form. You are a caring leader and a collective builder. Your strong humility and kind toughness are remarkable. I’m sure you will keep on lighting the minds and hearts of many others. But you know I’m not writing as the end of anything, I’m just taking the opportunity to honor you. You are my sister forever, I’ll keep growing close to your branches’ shadow.

I love you. Besos, Oriana.
FÓRUM SOCIAL DE LA SOCIEDAD CIVIL

[Images of a group of people taking selfies at an event]
Dear Marisa,

The commitment to your work has been and is deeply appreciated. I'm wishing you absolute joy as you traverse into a new season of life. I hope it is an easeful and blessed journey and that in the coming months you bestow upon yourself all the self-care, love, and attention your body and spirit need. Abraços!

- Tonya

Marisa - oh my goodness, time has flown by!!!! Where to even begin. I'm reflecting on how much warmth, focus, and authenticity you bring to the world and the work. It meant a lot to me that so quickly, our check-in spaces became ones of deep mutual respect that really allowed me to fully lean into what support, capacity building, and thought partnership look like in practice. Your trust and vulnerability was key in that. Thanks for letting me be your cheerleader, and I can't wait to connect in the future for visits, laughter, and tarot readings.

All my best!

- Blair
Marisa, I can't believe it's been nearly five years of working together. I am so deeply proud of you and beyond excited for your next chapter and journey as a parent. Sending all my love and hoping we can get together in New York sometime soon. With utmost appreciation and in partnership always,
Ariel

Dear Marisa,
So sad to hear that you are leaving. It was so nice working with you. Thank you for all your hard work and I wish you the best in your new journey. Congratulations on your bundle of joy!!!
Best, Yeshi

It was nice meeting you and getting to work with you! Wishing you all the best in whatever future endeavors you choose to take on!
- Ali
Rachel

Dear Marisa,

I am not great with photo keeping hence I can’t find picture of us together 😅 but I would like to thank you for your grace, support and trust.

Almost 15 years ago, you trusted and enabled girls who don’t speak English for speaking in the UN. That experience really taught me to give space and foster feminist sisterhood with everyone—regardless their sexuality, education, background, etc.

Thank you for responding to my message when I am lost, and unable to find my voice. I believe that RESURJ grows beautifully because of your authentic leadership that always put forward acceptance. I am excited for your future journey and hope to be in touch soon!
Rima

Marisa Viana!

What a pleasure to celebrate you in this way! I have so enjoyed getting to know you, and what guides and grounds the vision, dedication, and bright heart you bring to our movement spaces and places.

I felt it as soon as I walked into that meeting room at the Aloft hotel in KL: a desire to stay connected and see you again—and I'm oh-so-glad we've made that happen!

THANK YOU, for the shared dreaming and collaborations, the dancing and songs, the moonlight swimming—and the couch to sleep on! Here's to many more adventures, with a little one in tow!

Love Rima
My dearest Mariiiisa,

This is not an end, it’s the start of another cycle, and my heart is breaking but also racing in excitement (or stress. Maybe both). I’ll never be able to put into words (yes even me, with all my words) how much you mean to me but from our shared love of geeky things (yay to methods of work, making sure the font is the same when writing and co-writing) to our kindred spirits to our shared love of jungles and dry jokes to our dramatic fights and even more dramatic makeup’s to our unwavering trust and faith in each other, this relationship and love we have built together over the years is only just starting. Thank you for making me and so many others want to – and try to – be better, kinder and more accountable feminists, leaders, friends and humans. I love you so much and I can’t wait for the rest of this love story.

Sachiiiiini (Isuri and Socks also send hugs. Mostly Isuri)
I met Marisa in a city that Alicia Keys in one of her songs refers to as a concrete jungle. A city that is famous as a movie scene and indeed most of our interactions no matter how small and simple during UN intergovernmental negotiations often felt like we were in a movie scene. Feministing the global processes was always the main plot of the movie, where we were both the stars and the makers of it all. We did operate behind the scenes and front, right and centre. And so it is no coincidence that Marisa has ended up remaining in my life long after I left New York. The jungle that is New York, mean as the streets can be, the noise, the sirens and the quick steps from human feet and yet it gave me a sister and lifelong feminist aunt to my daughter Nefertiti.

Writing this message has been a reflective process for me, looking back at times especially during CSW or SDGs negotiations when we spent such long hours along the corridors of the UN. We had many moments to celebrate and others when the cloud of patriarchy around the UN had hung too close and too low leaving us desperately fighting for our voices. It is amazing how food was always at the center of our get-togethers. We went to some of the precious hidden gems of New York where the aromas coming out of the kitchen brought our senses back to life. We had great margarita and coffee moments in New York. Marisa herself is quite the mixologist and I remember one afternoon she hosted a number of us in her flat and made a margarita for everyone who came to the party. If you are reading this and you have been along the corridors of UN, where things can often get intense and hostile to feminists then you can appreciate that sitting somewhere on 3rd Avenue and 41st Street on an evening after it all, sipping a cocktail can be
such a bonding moment. I smile as I write this because I was often the one sending messages to Marisa to ask her to spell out the train I would need to get to our rendezvous. The map should have been enough, I trusted her so I still asked.

My reflection of what it has meant to know Marisa would be incomplete if I did not mention the role Marisa played in my daughter's life. She gave her first lego set when my daughter turned six. I remember panicking that I was going to be away in Addis Ababa for close to 3 weeks. I was literally in a finch and no matter how hard I planned to have a full time nanny for that time I just couldn't figure out how it would work out. I mentioned this to Marisa and her response was "that should not worry you. I am here. Let me know how I can help". I remember sending her a long list of what to do from food to hair to baths and yes....homework and train trips to and from school. Of course, she still had work and meetings to attend to. At the middle of negotiations in Addis Ababa, getting a smiling photo of my daughter who had lost one of her front teeth was the sweetest thing to receive from Marisa. This appreciation of life and the friendship that Marisa offered me at a time I needed it so much, exemplifies why feminism is a lifestyle. To me Marisa continues to be and will always be sisterhood personified.
My Dearest Marisa,

I feel blessed that I got a chance to learn so much from you through the years. You have brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to the global feminist space and have always done so with dignity and grace. I know we are going to keep finding wonderful ways to collaborate until then, be happy, free and fulfilled.

my friend.

Love,

your birthday twin —

Sheena xxx
HOLA MARÍSA: SIEMPRE APRENDÍ MUCHO DE VOS, DE TUS FORMAS PARA ABDORAR LAS SITUACIONES Y SOBRE TODO DE TU SERENIDAD Y ALEGRIA
GRACIAS, SHI
Marisa, now every time i think of you, i am reminded of the photo of you in the river from your village. You looked like you are in peace and clam. I wish you are able to bring the same peace and calmness whenever you need it in your life. I have noticed you are a good listener and also speak out your mind clearly, yet gently. I am really glad we got to know one another a little closer here at Resurj though it will only be for a short time. I hope we will get more space to meet and talk and share in future too. My best wishes for your next professional endeavor.

Lots of love,

Shubha
Dear Marisa, I was excited to join Resurj, not only because of the work we do but also because of the energy you brought in the space. All this while, my understanding was that you are transition out of the secretariat but not Resurj. Imagine the reality check! I absolutely admire how you navigate discussions, even the most difficult and uncomfortable ones and will definitely miss your aura within Resurj. I wish you nothing but the best as you move into your next chapter and thank you for connecting me to so many amazing people.
Marisa,

Entrei em RESURJ sem saber quem eu era. Desconfiava muito que aquele coletivo não era pra mim, não queria ser uma fraude ocupando espaço entre mulheres-fúria. Mas algo sempre me acolhia. Eu sempre soube que você era parte central da tecelagem desse abraço. Mas primeiro, confesso, achei que fosse pelo nosso encontro: me enchia de orgulho de nos sentirmos irmãs. Depois testemunhei sua liderança, e entendi melhor.

Você semeia as pessoas. Você é uma líder-semeadora. Você busca sementes conosco, e nossa lanterna é a beleza de imaginar a nós mesmas e a todas as nossas gentes vivas, nutridas, vibrantes. Daí você nos ajuda a achar pedaços muito férteis de nós. Acho que você faz isso pelo exemplo da sua própria fertilidade: você lidera com graça, com uma habilidade deliciosa de rir - especialmente de si mesma - e com uma sabedoria de estar presente sem pretender saber tudo, sem fingir infalibilidade. E aí a gente sente que pode brotar com leveza. E que, brotando juntas, nossas cores brilham mais e nossas raízes rompem asfaltos.

Tenho enorme admiração e gratidão pelos sonhos e ideias que você semeou na RESURJ, e sinto paz de imaginar que sua jornada de semeadora seguirá vida afora, em outras terras e com seus próprios frutos. Espero que possamos colher juntas, onde quer que estejamos, o apocalipse cuíer da Tatiana Nascimento.

Com amor,
Sinara Gumieri
Sonaksha

dear MARISA

thank you for your leadership, care, creativity & kindness.
Dear Marisa,

In the little time that I have known you and worked with you, I have been fangirling over the many things that you are! Your reflections on things come from a deep sense of empathy and kindness, which reflects in your words, work, and the way you interact with others. Someone who I consider a mentor in my life once told me “there is no activism without kindness” and that is what I see when I look at you. Over the years, there have been a few people who have solidified my understanding of and dedication to be connected to the roots of the movement we are all working for, and I am so grateful to be able to count you as one of those. I am so grateful that I got to meet you and learn from you. I really hope we can connect someday in person. Sending you lots of love!

- Suman
Thank you Marisa for your leadership - for leading with your heart and always creating space to have uncomfortable conversations. Wishing you all the best in your next adventure!
Women's Major Group

#What Women Want

Recognize Gender Equality as a cross-cutting issue

We are strong with you
Dear Marisa, thanks for all the support, solidarity and friendship you have given us. To newer journeys and better futures.

Best Wishes,
The YP Foundation Team