

OPERATION BIG EARS!

The Women's National Coalition (WNC) was set up in April this year for all South African women to draw up and adopt a charter for women's rights. SPEAK looks at what's been happening since their launch

The Women's National Coalition (WNC) wants to make sure women's rights are included in the laws and constitution of the "new" South Africa.

They call their campaign "Operation Big Ears". It has six steps.

The first step is to raise awareness among women all over the country.

"This campaign is designed to allow women to say in their own words what their needs, demands and aspirations are," said Frene Ginwala of the coalition.

"The second step is to collect views, issues and demands from women," added Ginwala.

The third step she said, would be to study all the ideas. The next step would be to send all the information back to regional and other structures for further debate.

"No matter what the outcome of the research and views collected is, it will be made public," said a WNC member.

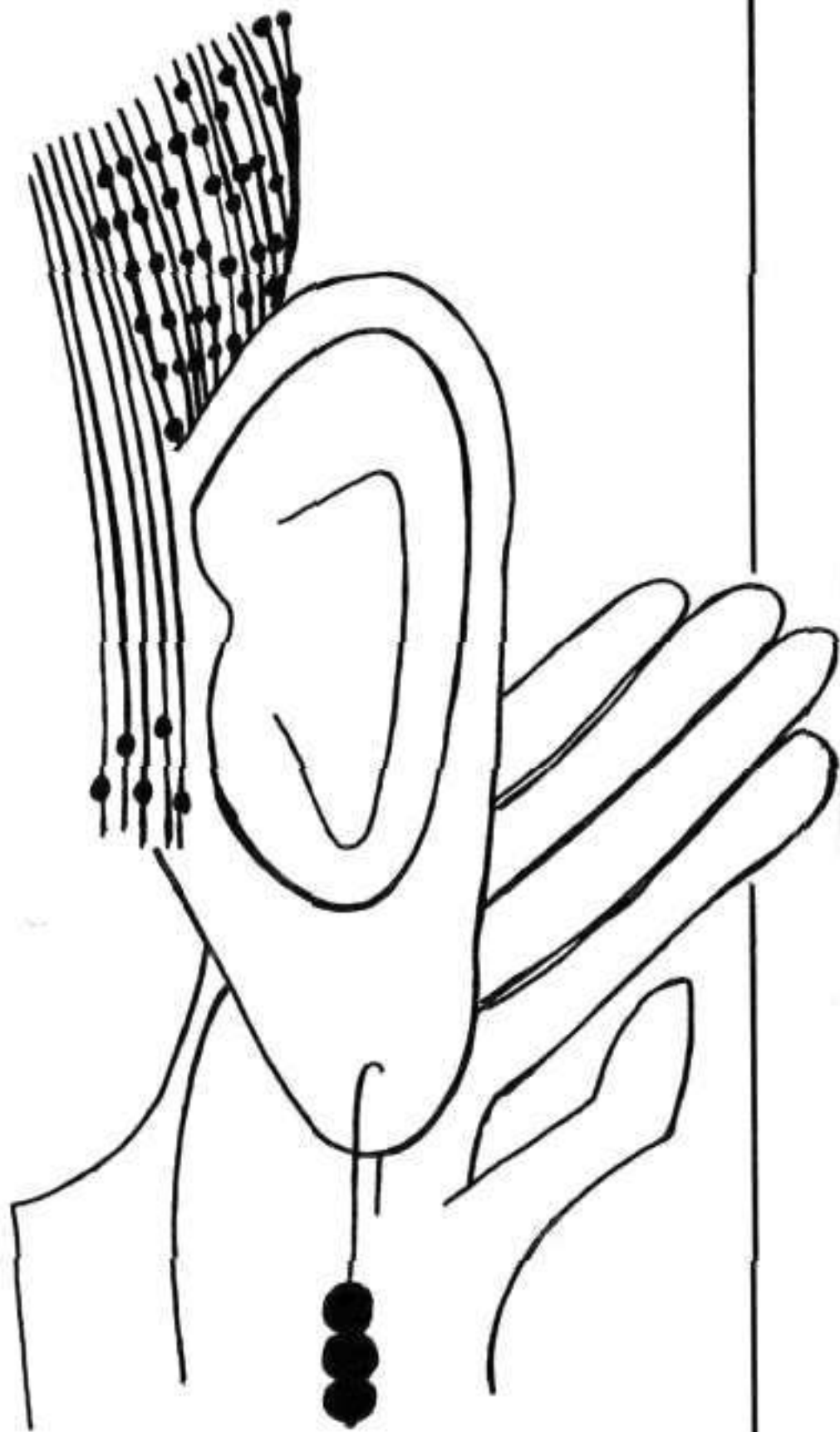
The fifth step will be to put together these views, issues and demands.

"The last step would be to round off the campaign with the adoption of the charter or whatever we call the document," said Ginwala.

More than 100 fieldworkers will be employed in the campaign. "These fieldworkers will contact women across the country. They will also collect information for a research project."

R5.5 million is needed for the whole process and WNC is trying to raise this money.

Seven regional structures have been launched since April and some have already begun to implement Operation Big Ears. ●



SPEAK will keep you informed about what is happening in the regions. Anyone who would like information about NWC structures in their region should contact:

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