



Ms. Myrna Cunningham

Myrna Cunningham is an indigenous Miskita and a former member of the National Assembly of Nicaragua where she also served in the Ministry of Health and as Governor of the autonomous North Atlantic Coast region (RAAN). She founded the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua and has served as the General Secretary of the Inter-American Indigenous Institute. In 2002, she received the Pan American Health Organization's Public Health Heroine of the Americas Award. She has extensive experience on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, also as Secretary General of the Indigenous Inter-American Institute, and she has been on the board of several organizations to promote the rights of indigenous women, including the International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI). She is currently serving as chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.