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News in Brief

Please send any information you wish to share in the March NIB by the 20th of February. Submissions should be copy ready and 75 words or less and may include links to further information.

NGO CSW Geneva Bureau

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Bureau Advisor

Stacy Lara



Notes from the Bureau

The NGO CSW Geneva held a hybrid meeting on January 19, 2022 with members participating in person and online via zoom. Some highlights:

Circles of Honor

A Circle of Honor recognizing distinguished service to the NGO CSW Geneva and dedication to the promotion of human rights and the empowerment of women and girls has been awarded to Berhane Ras-Work. She joins our other 2, so honored members, Ursula Barter-Hemmerich and Anne Herdt. A description of their contributions to the Committee can be found on our website; <https://ngoocsw-geneva.ch/about-us/circle-of-honor/>

NGO CSW Geneva Global Youth Conference

Focused on key areas concerning women and gender equality, with respect to climate change, environmental and disaster risk policies and programs. It served as a discussion platform for issues to be raised, policies to be framed and decisions made. Around 100 young participants from around the world, the majority from lower income countries, shared a common space, where innovative ideas were exchanged. The diversity and inclusivity of the participants influenced the outcome as the dialogues, and interactive sessions all contributed to the draft, unanimously “Agreed Conclusions” which are being forwarded to the CSW66 Bureau and UN Women.

NGO CSW Geneva and the UNECE

The NGO CSW Geneva has decided to create a new Task Force to strengthen relations with the UNECE. Those interested in being a part of this group should contact Carol at vicepresidents@ngocsw-geneva.ch so that a first meeting can be arranged.

Reminder to pay annual Dues for 2022

Invoices have been sent for NGO CSW Geneva membership renewal and dues are payable immediately. Instructions for payment can also be found on our website; <https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/member-organizations/becoming-a-member/>

Social Media

We need your help in increasing our social media presence. Please follow us on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ngo-csw-geneva/> and share your organization's LinkedIn post with us to reach a wider audience.

Next Meetings of the NGO CSW Geneva

April 6, 2022, 14:00 – 16:00 **** **Annual General Meeting******

June 15, 14:00- 16:00

CSW 66 Forum

NOTE – Daylight savings time in the US starts on the 2nd Sunday in March – this year March 13 and Europe only changes on the last Sunday in March. The time difference for our Consultation Day will be 6 hours, but after that and for the rest of CSW66 the difference is only 5 hours!

Consultation Day

The NGO CSW Geneva is working with the NGO CSW Vienna to organize a Consultation Day event that will be held on March 12. Titled; *Call for Global Solidarity and Partnerships for a Right to a Healthy Environment*, the event is scheduled for 18:00- 20:00 CET.

Task Force on Health and Climate

The NGO CSW Task force on Health and Climate will be hosting an event on March 22 15:00 CET; *Food on All Tables; Promoting access to food for all and its impact on women's health and rights*. The objective of the event is to discuss how climate change impacts the rights to food and health for women and girls, and how these impacts can be mitigated and addressed to ensure food on all tables.

Register for the NGO CSW66 Forum and get access to the Virtual Portal

The Forum will take place virtually from 13 to 25 March 2022, but the Virtual Portal is open now to explore! Engage with other participants in the Portal, check out samples of a Parallel Event page, an Exhibit Booth, and a Handbook Ad, and learn more about advocacy at the UN CSW. In the coming months more information and materials will continue to be uploaded for registrants. Register here:

https://ngocsw.configio.com/pd/6/?mc_cid=b551553f03&mc_eid=f3a1da0ff9

- [NGO CSW66 Forum Training](#) | Thurs, 17 Feb @ 1-3pm EST
- The [UN CSW66 schedule](#) is now available on UN Women's website
- [NGO CSW66 Forum FAQs](#)
- Learn more about UN CSW66 side events [here](#).

CSW66

NGO CSW Group's CSW66 Zero Draft Recommendations

Following collaborative research and outreach by members of the global and regional NGO Committees on the Status of Women: New York, Geneva, Vienna, Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America, Caribbean, and MENA, the following 6 Key Recommendations on behalf of women and girls were sent to the UN Secretary General, UN Women, the CSW Bureau, and other receptive member states for inclusion in the CSW66 Zero Draft.

https://mcusercontent.com/eb520eecfe82a5bf0d814ea1f/files/92d4d917-ddc9-f879-4cc5-0d30724bca98/CSW66_Recommendations_for_the_Zero_Draft_1_.pdf?mc_cid=b551553f03&mc_eid=f3a1da0ff9

Germany to lead negotiations for final conclusions of CSW66

Germany's UN Ambassador Antje Leendertse said that the government, under Chancellor Olaf Scholz, has declared it will pursue a feminist foreign policy, led by Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock. Sweden was the first country to declare such a policy; it has been followed by Canada, Mexico, France, Luxembourg and Spain.

Member News

WWSF Campaign "75% Actors 4 Good International"

Join our campaign, share your « Actions 4 Good International », to include women & children/youth (6 billion strong), claiming a seat at the table. Registered campaign members advocate for the implementation of CEDAW & CRC, Beijing Platform 4 Action & UN CSW, Resolution 1325, & UN Sustainable Development Goals Agenda 2030, and will be invited to participate in the future Geneva 75% Forums. Registration: <https://lnkd.in/g9-RRdxZ> - www.woman.ch

Graduate Women International

After weeks of collaborative research and outreach by GWI Zero Draft Task Force, comprised of GWI members from around the globe, we have identified these as **critical concerns regarding the inclusion of education** in "the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs" (CSW66 Priority Theme).

<https://graduatewomen.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/GWI-CSW66-Zero-Draft-Education-FINAL.pdf>

FAWCO's Project S.A.F.E. - the fight to eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

FAWCO has been partnering with *Hope for Girls and Women Tanzania*, to provide support for those fleeing FGM. This human rights abuse is practiced in various cultures, behind closed doors in our cities and towns. Important to ending this practice is information. FAWCO's has provided a quick reference sheet on FGM; [Female Genital Mutilation \(FGM\): The Facts](#)

27th General Assembly of CoNGO

Liberato Bautista was re-elected as the next president of CoNGO. Nineteen member organizations were also elected to the board, among them two NGO CSW Geneva members: the International Federation of Business and Professional Women and Soroptimist International. The election process was conducted by the Nominations Committee with NGO CSW Geneva member Dr. Sibylle von Heydebrand (International Alliance of Women). Several high-ranking UN officials, including Antonio Guterres, addressed the assembly with keynotes.

UN and Geneva Information

“Together, we can eliminate female genital mutilation by 2030. Doing so will have a positive ripple effect on the health, education and economic advancement of girls and women.»

*UN Secretary
General Antonio
Guterres*

The international Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation

In 2012, the UN General Assembly designated February 6th as the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) with the aim to amplify and direct the efforts on the elimination of this practice.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/female-genital-mutilation-day>

The Human Rights Council

The 49th regular session of the Human Rights Council will take place from Feb 28 – March 25, 2022.

Passblue has an online quiz to test your knowledge of the HRC, *The Human Rights Council; How well do you know the facts?*

<https://www.riddle.com/view/358017>

