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News in Brief

Please send any information you wish to share in the May NIB by the 20th of August to vicepresidents@ngocsw-geneva.ch. 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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Notes from the Bureau

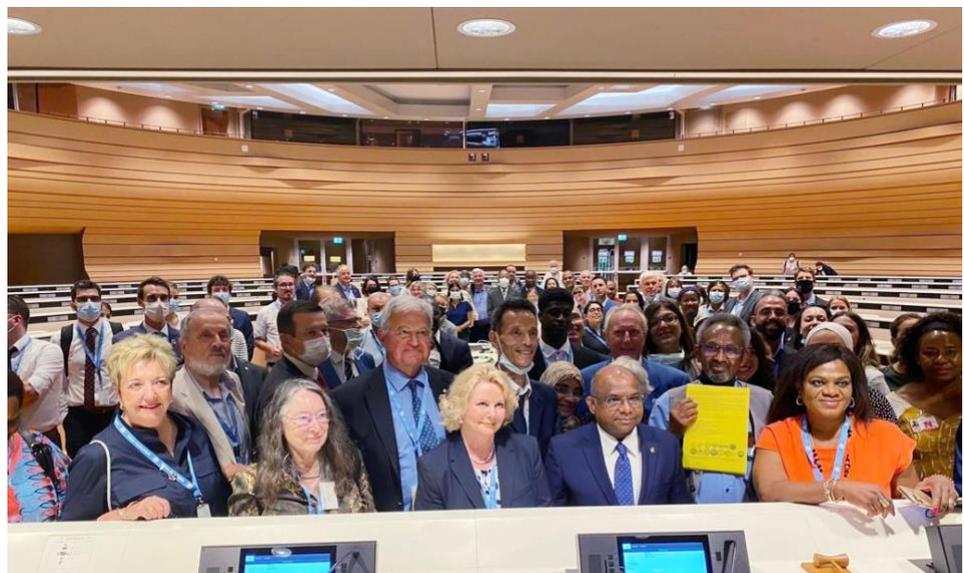
President's Message:

"Very warm greetings to all. It isn't only the temperatures that are rising. So many issues need our attention. The 50th Session of the Human Rights Council, now convening, sheds light on most of them. The war in Ukraine and the toll it takes on young soldiers, widows, social systems, even global food security has shocked us. "Do we really need to settle differences through war-here-now?", many are asking. As we saw with the rapid Covid response, so many of our member's organizations are tirelessly and creatively providing humanitarian relief, and care-giving, filling the gaps that the government cannot reach, without being asked, or paid!

A resounding thank you from the bureau and committee for the energy and expertise that Paula Daeppen has been investing as 2nd Vice President. Due to personal reasons, she has asked to step down, but will continue in her role as Parliamentarian for the committee. We are very pleased to announce that the position will be filled by Berthe de Vos (Soroptimist Intl) who also has been very active, including coordinating our advocacy activities.

The NGO CSW 66 Forum report:

Download the report to learn about the different aspects of the Forum, the planning process, outcomes, and plans to improve future NGO CSW Forums. https://ngocsw.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/NGO-CSW66-Post-Forum-Report-2.pdf?mc_cid=ba1d834c51&mc_eid=f3a1da0ff9



NGO CSW UN Geneva and International Alliance of Women (IAW)

June 15, 2022, the President of the UN General Assembly of the United Nations, Abdulla Sahid (Maldives), met with civil society representatives at the UN Geneva. A delegation from NGO CSW Geneva accepted the invitation and was present: Carolyn Handschin (WFP) Paula Daeppen (Biovision and FAWCO), Colette Somoya (Bangwe and Dialogue), Madilyn Plowman (LDS Charities), Stacy Ciulik (SI), Dr. Mohinder Watson (ICW), Dr. Esther Suter, Dr. Sibylle von Heydebrand (both IAW) and Stacy Ciulik (SI). In an oral statement, Dr Sibylle von Heydebrand appealed to put the rights of girls, in all their diversity, at the center of attention, as they are the most vulnerable.

NGO CSW Geneva donation to benefit a Ukrainian project

World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations has submitted a proposal to support a volunteer collective of teachers, school administrators, and parents for the resumption of schooling in their small village of Bohdanivka after the devastation inflicted by Russian invasion troops. The overarching long-term goal of the project is the rebuilding and re-equipping of schools in their village. The grant will fund; modifying the existing structure to serve as a temporary education hub; and begin to cover the purchase of devices for basic technology support.

Website and Social Media

Amanda Wigfall (FAWCO) has been hard at work and invested countless hours on the re-design of our website, with input from Valerie Bickelmeier, Kala Madhav and Paula Däppen. We anticipate a launch of the new site in the next week. This is still a work in progress! Visit www.ngocsw-geneva.ch 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

- September 7, 2022 14:00
- November 9, 2022 14:00
- December 14, 2022 and holiday get-together

Task Force News



Climate Change and Health

The task force submitted an oral statement on behalf of NGO CSW at the Human Rights Council (HRC50) Panel on Adverse Effects of Climate Change on Human Rights of People in Vulnerable Situations. The statement was read by Carolyn Handschin and was co-sponsored by many member organizations of NGO CSW Geneva. The oral statement can be found on the HRC Extranet listed under WFWPI.

<https://hrcmeetings.ohchr.org/HRCSessions/RegularSessions/50/Pages/Statements.aspx?SessionId=59&MeetingDate=28/06/2022%2000:00:00>

Member News

Biovision foundation for ecological development

Biovision consistently focuses on agroecology in its programs to achieve its grand vision of “Zero Hunger”. Read our recently published annual report 2021 to learn how holistic thinking can make an important and long-lasting impact on our planet.

<https://www.biovision.ch/en/publications/annual-report/>

Graduate Women International

- Investing in girls is the right thing to do; investing in their education yields significant returns. Women and girls, everywhere, must have equal rights and opportunity, and be able to live free of violence and discrimination. The Graduate Women International (GWI) new robust advocacy document provides important information on the girl child in 2022 and highlights GWI advocacy for the girl child. to read "The Girl Child in 2022". <https://bit.ly/3O3kDHSGirlchild>
- GWI Human Rights Council 50th session written statement, *“Addressing Menstrual Hygiene Insecurity (MHI) as a preventable barrier to women and girls' education worldwide and the importance of Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”* The online version can be found [HERE](#).
- Additionally, Graduate Women International published, with support of WUNRN, an infographic to mark Menstrual Hygiene Day. The infographic can be accessed [HERE](#).

Women’s Federation for World Peace

The Women's Federation for World Peace International is hosting the Youth Peace Conference - Korean Peace Accord on the 19th and 20th of August. Youth from all around the world and Korea (North and South) will be debating and negotiating a peace agreement and how to especially ensure women's rights in the region. Youth International participants and Korean participants are welcome through the following

link: <https://forms.gle/MyuxkG4tZZK8z4qC6>

Make Mothers Matter

- MMM at the ILC: To redress economic injustices resulting from caring responsibilities of mothers, employment policies must ensure that this unpaid work and its costs are more equitably shared across society. In its statement to the International Labour Conference, MMM called for a new approach to employment: a human-centered new approach to employment, where educating and caring for a child or dependent is viewed not as a barrier to women's employment, but as essential work, intertwined with paid work, benefiting the whole of society and

the economy. <https://makemothersmatter.org/unpaid-care-work-and-motherhood-mmm-calls-on-ilo-to-change-employment-approach/>

- MMM provides input consultation on Racism and the right to health: In its answer, MMM denounces the systemic racism against mothers surrounding childbirth with two key indicators: women's mortality in childbirth and obstetric violence. Such racism is prevalent in developed countries with migrant and indigenous women most at risk. More [here](#).

UN and Geneva News

The Human Rights Council

The 50th regular session of the Human Rights Council : June 13 – July 8, 2022. NGO CSW Geneva was well represented. 28 June 2022, Carolyn Handschin read the oral statement submitted by the Climate Change and Health Task Force advocating for women's voices in the planning, policies, actions and reports regarding climate change. She later shared that she was honored to begin the statement with the words, "I am delivering this statement on behalf of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women Geneva."



Resolution on Well-Being and Health Promotion

The 75th World Health Assembly has approved the first ever resolution on well-being and health promotion with well over 20 Member States co-sponsoring. This resolution gives WHO a strong mandate to work on a framework and an implementation plan and will help to put societies' well-being on Member States' agendas. The draft as it was agreed in the last consultation is available at: [Draft Resolution on Well-being and Health Promotion](#).

International Labor Organization (ILO)

- 2022 is marked by 20th anniversary the World Day Against Child Labour with the theme "Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour."
- Gilbert Houngbo, the former prime minister of Togo and currently head of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), was

elected as the next Director-General of the International Labour Organization. In September he will succeed in the British trade unionist Guy Ryder and his election marks a dramatic shift for the ILO, because since its founding in 1919, it has been led by only men from Europe or the Americas.