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# News in Brief

Please send any information you wish to share in the May NIB by the 20<sup>th</sup> of April to [vicepresidents@ngocsw-geneva.ch](mailto: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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### **Bureau Advisor**

*Stacy Lara*



CSW67 De Briefing session by NGOCSW Geneva

## Notes from the Bureau

### **Message from the President:**

Thank you to our dedicated and professional members! Within two weeks of our return from New York, a debriefing and strategy meeting was quickly arranged, with the support of UN Women in Geneva. We looked at the agreed conclusions, already planning how to improve the working methods for next year, and get an earlier start. Recommendations gleaned from the debates, the Geneva Consultation Day and our Ambassadors Breakfast Briefing have been assembled as a guide for our followup advocacy, and for members' organizations local implementation. Another important outcome is how the issues of this year's CSW have influenced collaboration with ITU, UN Women, UNECE and UNICEF Geneva, and some of our government missions, which will be carried over to our work at the Human Rights Council, Beijing +30, future Ambassador's Briefings, and our 50th Anniversary commemorations. We are all wiser for our experiences.

### **NGO CSW Geneva Celebrates 50 years!**

This year the NGO CSW Geneva will celebrate 50 years – a half century of advocacy for the advancement of human rights and the empowerment of women and girls across the globe. To mark this anniversary, the Task Force is organizing the 50th Anniversary Celebration Day, on September 21, 2023 in Geneva. The event will be a celebration of past milestones, as well as a look at our present actions and our vision and plans for the future. Watch our website for updates!

## NGO CSW Geneva Annual Report 2022

Our annual report for 2022 is online. Read about all our exciting activities of the past year. [bit.ly/3GIF8IUAnnualReport22](https://bit.ly/3GIF8IUAnnualReport22)

## Next Meetings of the NGO CSW Geneva

- June 21, 2023 1:00 pm CET

## UN News and Events

### CSW 67

#### Consultation Day Geneva:

On 28 February 2023, NGO CSW Geneva addressed the themes of CSW67 with an energizing and informative Consultation Day, “Geneva- The Heart of Human Rights.” Interactive Panels covered the CSW67 themes: Technology and education, Rural women and girls, Women’s empowerment in emerging issues. Prominent speakers included representatives of civil society and youth, academia and research, human rights bodies, governments, UNICEF, UN Women, ITU, WHO, and WTO. Watch the recording of the event here; <https://bit.ly/ConsultationDayCSW67>

#### NGO CSW Geneva at CSW67 – Strategy for Impact, Advocacy and Partnership;

View our Power point that takes a look at NGO CSW Geneva at CSW67 – our leadup, activities and finally the agreed conclusions.

<https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/CSW67-Strategy-for-Impact-Advocacy-and-Partnership.pdf>

#### NGO CSW Geneva members’ sponsored parallel and side events to CSW67 are listed on our website:

<https://bit.ly/CSW67eventsNGOCSWGva>

#### NGO CSW Geneva statements to CSW 67 are listed on our website:

<https://bit.ly/NGOCSWGvaStatementsCSW67>

See also UN Women: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw67-2023/official-documents>

#### International Women Day - March 8th, 2023 was celebrated under the theme DigitALL: Innovation & technology for gender equality:

- 22% women make up the global workforce of the artificial intelligence workers
- 73% female journalists has suffered online violence in the course of their work (survey of women journalist from 125 countries)

#### CSW68: March 2024 (Commission on the Status of Women)

##### Themes:

- Priority theme: Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with gender perspective.
- Review theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions CSW63: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw63-2019>)

**Important dates at the UNOG:**

- May 8 - 19: 85th session CEDAW (hybrid & UNOG)
- June 5-16, 2023: 111st session of ILC (hybrid & UNOG)

**Calendar UNONY:**

- July 10-19, 2023: HLPF 2023 (hybrid & UNONY)

**Member News****Welcome IARF**

We are pleased to welcome a new member; International Association for Religious Freedom (IARF). Their main representative in Geneva is Esther Suter. [www.iarf.net/](http://www.iarf.net/)

**FAWCO**

FAWCO announced the selection of its Target Project for 2023-2025 as Awesome Blossoms, a project of Safe Spaces, Nairobi, Kenya. They will be partnering with this organization to support environmentally sustainable urban farms to empower women and girls for a sustainable future. The project features organic, water-efficient urban farms with 500 gardens in each farm to support girls' education in the Mathare slum area of Nairobi. For more details, read this blog.

<https://lnkd.in/dtfb-Hkz>

**Biovision Foundation for ecological development**

Agriculture is responsible for 70% of terrestrial biodiversity loss and thus is a huge lever for addressing the sustainability challenges that the world faces. Biodiversity loss, climate change, rising fertilizer prices are global challenges influenced by food production and consumption. Agroecology addresses these challenges as shown by 3 policy briefs from the Agroecology Dialogues published by Biovision and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, available here: <https://www.agroecology-pool.org/agroecology-dialogue-series/>

**Graduate Women International World Water Day Infographic**

World Water Day (WWD), celebrated annually on 22 March, has passed but raising awareness about the right to access to fresh water and sanitation remains constant. WWD aims to accelerate change to address the water and sanitation crisis, promote sustainable management, and availability of freshwater resources. To learn more about WWD and impactful ideas for action, Graduate Women International invites you to download their infographic [HERE](#).

**Make Mothers Matter**

Make Mothers Matter has actively participated in the 61<sup>st</sup> UN Commission on Social Development, which took place in February 2023 in New York, and focused on decent work. In addition to our [written Statement on mothers and decent work](#), an [oral intervention on unpaid care work](#), we organized a [virtual side-event, 'Leave no single mother behind'](#), which presented concrete solutions from grassroots organizations across the world, to support and empower single mothers to access decent work.

### **Soroptimist International**

Despite the international resolutions and declarations that promise the advancement of gender equality, the world is currently witnessing an unprecedented paradox. International commitments to women and girls are failing and are actively being reversed. An alarming number of women and girls are experiencing outright denial of their basic human rights; their visions ignored, their voices suppressed, or even brutally silenced.

A new position paper on the critical importance of '*Defending Women's Rights against Global Suppression of their Voices*' was created.

### **Women's Federation for World Peace, International**

The 5th Human Rights Internship Program culminated on Friday, 28 April with a webinar led by the interns, representing three regions on, "UK and EU National Policies on Human Rights in Developing Countries".

After close participation in the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (EMRTD) sessions over the last two years in Geneva by WFWPI and NGO CSW Geneva, Srruthi Lehka, Geneva WFWPI representative, was invited as a speaker when the mechanism held its session at the UN in New York in April.

## **Resources**

### **Gender-Related Killings of Women and Girls (femicide/feminicide)**

Violence against women and girls is the most pervasive human rights violation rooted in gender inequality and discrimination, unequal power relations, and harmful social norms. The gender-related killing of women and girls is the most brutal and extreme manifestation of such violence. UNODC and UN Women have joined forces to produce this research paper on the global estimates of gender-related killings of women and girls in the private sphere in 2021. It can be downloaded here: <https://lnkd.in/enersMp4>

### **Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: Gender Snapshot**

This publication presents the latest evidence on gender equality across all 17 goals. The latest available SDG 5 data shows that the world is not on track to achieve gender equality by 2030. Read it here;

<https://bit.ly/3WqJs5IGendersnapshot2022>

### **Changes of the Swiss Corporate law + Anti-Money laundering Act Reform**

**CAGI** recently invited foundations and NGOs to a presentation on the impact of recent changes in the Swiss law, as from January 1st, 2023. Two changes might impact NGOs :

### **A foundation or association must register in the Register of Commerce if the following 3 cumulative conditions are reunited:**

1. Collection or distribution of funds for charitable, religious, cultural, educational or social purposes
2. Exercise of this activity as a primary activity
3. Raising or distributing funds abroad

#### Cases of exception (cumulative)

1. During the last two years, neither the annual amount of funds collected nor the amount of funds distributed exceeded CHF 100'000.-
2. The funds are distributed by a financial intermediary within the meaning of the AMLA, e.g. by a bank within the meaning of article 2 para. 2 let. a AMLA.
3. At least one representative of the association is domiciled in Switzerland.

#### **Use of electronic media for the preparation and conduct of General Assembly meetings and Board meetings Art. 701e CO**

##### Hybrid meeting:

- Decision of the supreme governing body
- Compliance with the conditions of Art. 701e CO
  - the identity of the participants is established;
  - the oral contributions at the general meeting are directly transmitted;
  - each participant can table motions and participate in the debate;
  - the result of the vote cannot be falsified;
  - data protection to be ensured

Link to full presentation : [https://www.cagi.ch/wp-content/uploads/20230405\\_Legal\\_Update\\_Full\\_ENG.pdf](https://www.cagi.ch/wp-content/uploads/20230405_Legal_Update_Full_ENG.pdf)