



Volume 4| Issue2

May 2024

# News in Brief

Please send any information you wish to share in the July NIB by the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 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

### **President**

Carolyn Handschin

### **Vice Presidents**

Berthe De Vos-Neven

Brigitte Polonovski Vauclair

Zarin Hainsworth

### **Treasurer**

Donatella Benjamin

### **Assistant Treasurer**

Paula Daeppen

### **Executive Secretary**

Sallie Chaballier

### **Assistant Secretary**

Jo Thompson

## NGO CSW Appointees

### **Web Coordinators**

Rachel Thibodeaux

Amanda Wigfall

### **Bureau Advisor**

Stacy Dry Lara

## **President's Message**

### **Dear Committee members,**

Closing a three-year term of office at our recent Committee meeting gave us an opportunity to look back, to appreciate each other's contributions, and to remember that this has been all done in a spirit of solidarity and volunteerism. We also gave accolades to outgoing Vice President, Carol McConkie, who served the committee so generously and professionally, but is called to fill another important leadership role. We couldn't remain too long in those memories because we knew we have too much to plan for the upcoming year 2024. Three new bureau members have been elected, bringing important expertise and experience with them: Brigitte Polonovski, Sallie Chaballier and Jo Thompson. Besides our ongoing, and ever increasing advocacy with many Geneva based entities, the UNECE Beijing+30 Civil Society preparations are proceeding remarkably well. It isn't too late to join one of the 12 Working Groups before the deadline June 30, contributing to an expected historic and defining milestone for civil society and government relations.

## **The NGO CSW Geneva is pleased to announce their newly elected Executive Bureau!**

### **President:**

- Carolyn Handschin, Women's Federation for World Peace International

### **Vice Presidents:**

- Berthe De Vos-Neven, Soroptimist International
- Brigitte Polonovski Vauclair, Regards de Femmes & International Council of Women
- Zarin Hainsworth, Widow's Rights International

### **Treasurer:**

- Donatella Benjamin, Soroptimist International

### **Assistant Treasurer:**

- Paula Daeppen, Biovision Foundation & FAWCO

### **Executive Secretary:**

- Sallie Chaballier, FAWCO

### **Assistant Secretary:**

- Jo Thompson; National Alliance of Women's Organizations UK

### **Bureau Advisor:**

- Stacy Dry Lara, Graduate Women International

## Notes from the Bureau

Read the NGO CSW Geneva 2023 Annual report here:

[https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Annual-General-Report-NGO-CSW2023\\_final.pdf](https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Annual-General-Report-NGO-CSW2023_final.pdf)

### New Member:

We warmly welcome our newest member, Widows for Peace, with ECOSOC roster status since 2012. They will be represented in our committee by Margaret Owen and Alice Fookes. <https://www.widowsforpeace.org>

Visit our NGO CSW Geneva Website at <https://ngocsw-geneva.ch>

We have just added lots of good information to the resource page. In particular you may find the new post of useful information for NGOs at the UN Geneva helpful: <https://bit.ly/NGOresourcesGVA>

### Ambassador Briefing B+30 Round Table:

- May 15th, 2024: theme Health (online version at 16:00 - 17:30)
- June 12th, 2024: theme Education (in person in GVA at 8:00 - 9:30)
- July 10th, 2024: theme Environment (online version at 16:00 - 17:30)
- September 11th, 2024: theme Peace (in person in GVA at 8:00 - 9:30)
- October 9th, 2024: theme Violence (online version at 16:00 - 17:30)

**B+30 working groups on the 12 critical areas have been created. Each group is led by a chair and co-chair and are working on a text of 1000 words.**

### NGO CSW68 Forum

- **“Nourishing Equality and Peace: Addressing Poverty and Food Insecurity”**  
On February 29, 2024 NGO CSW Geneva held its Annual Consultation Day Event for CSW68. If you missed our event you can view the recording here: <https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/2024/03/08/csw68-ngo-csw-geneva-consultation-day-video-2/>.  
Read our Call to Action [here](#)  
See the Program [here](#)  
Learn about our speakers [here](#)
- **Activities of members:** <https://ngocsw-geneva.ch/2024/04/24/ngocsw-geneva-member-organizations-sponsored-co-sponsored-parallel-and-side-events-to-csw68/>

## Next Meetings of the NGO CSW Geneva

- June 12, 2024 2:00 pm CET
- August 28, 2024 2:00 pm CET

## UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68)

### CSW68 Agreed Conclusions (the advance unedited version)

The Commission adopted agreed conclusions on “Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective” on March 22, 2024.

<https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2024-03/csw-68-agreed-conclusions-advance-unedited-version-2024-03-22-en.pdf>

### UN Women on CSW68

CSW68 delivered robust commitments by UN member States to strengthen financing and institutions to eradicate women’s and girls’ poverty. Read the press release from UN Women [here](#).

## UN News and Events

The Food and Agriculture Organization’s (FAO) new publication “**The unjust climate – Measuring the impacts of climate change on rural poor, women and youth**” is available for downloading here;

<https://doi.org/10.4060/cc9680en>

### Important dates at the UNOG:

- CRC 96th session: May 6-17, 2024
- CEDAW 88th session: May 13-24, 2024
- Inter Govt’l WG on RtD 25th session: May 13-17  
<https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsiidiaries/iwg-on-development>
- WHO 77th World Health Assembly: May 27 - June 1
- ILC 112th session: June 3-14, 2024
- HRC 56th session: June 18- July 12, 2024

## Member News

### Statements:

#### Soroptimist International

Soroptimist International’s 2024 written statement to the High-Level Political Forum.

**News:****Biovision Foundation for ecological development**

At a well attended event at the UN Geneva, on March 19, 2024, Biovision launched a peer to peer outcome brief, lighthouses for food system transformation; “National Agroecology Strategies in Eastern and Southern Africa”. View the outcome brief here:

<https://www.agroecology-pool.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/NAS-brief-web.pdf>

**Latter-Day Saint Charities**

Humanitarian collaboration with UNICEF supporting two projects. Vision and hearing care for children and infants; Access to water and hygiene services for students in Peru.

<https://newsroom.churchofjesuschrist.org/article/unicef-and-the-church-collaborate-to-help-youth-in-peru>

**Soroptimist International**

The World Water Day draws attention to the obstacles in reaching every sustainable development goal that intersects with water and sanitation; in the context of CSW68, the focus on the cost of infrastructure and financing, especially for those living where more of government budgets are dedicated to interest payments than to health and education

<https://www.soroptimistinternational.org/water-as-a-driving-force-for-peace-and-stability>

**Women’s Federation for World Peace, International ([wfpw.org](http://wfpw.org))**

Our advocacy programs are preparing ten representatives for in-person presence at Summit of the Future-Nairobi, Statement was submitted; 7th Human Rights Internship graduates presented their policy papers. Past WFWPIUN Newsletter:

<http://www.calameo.com/read/006666384a78e50edf84c?wmode=opaque&trackersource=library>. Upcoming: - May 10, UN Geneva Conference on “No Peace without Women”. May 15, Side event at 25th IGWGRtD; June 7-9 Peacebuilding/Development Advocacy program in Beirut-University co-sponsorship.