

Discussion Points/Outcomes

1. Need an analysis/assessment of advantages and disadvantages to UNWomen via merger with UNFPA.
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3. Concerns re Ernest & Young proposing the merger – being paid by UNFPA raises conflict of interest, as well as whether Ernest & Young has any track-record in women's issues or comprehension of women's issues and the importance of women's representation through a body of the UN.
4. Our respective governments must be lobbied on:
 - (a) The vital importance of the UN to women and the advancement of women;
 - (b) The mantra 'women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights' to have practical, principled and philosophical relevance to advancing women's rights locally, nationally, internationally and particularly through the UN;
 - (c) Merging UNWomen so that it is no longer a 'stand alone' representative of and voice for women in the UN will inevitably downgrade women's issues, women's voices and women's importance as 50 percent of the world population;
 - (d) The UN must support UNWomen so that it can do its job effectively for women, advancing women's rights beyond Beijing which is more than 30 years old;
 - (e) Taking steps to ensure that overdue dues are paid, that arrears are paid and from now on dues are paid on the due date, particularly vis-à-vis large countries which have no excuse;
 - (f) Applying Article 19 of the UN Charter so that those countries that are in arrears are not able to speak in relation to the proposal re UNWomen or thence to vote.