

**Linking Beijing +30 and Beijing +35
and the
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
In-Person Event 12, 13 & 14 October 2026**

Background

The Fourth World Conference for Women took place in Beijing in 1995. The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action listed 12 Critical Areas of Concern. In keeping with UN practice, there is a review every five years of significant Conventions and major agreements. The five year consultations to assess progress take place at the UN regional levels prior to the global summit that takes place in New York. For B+35 this will probably be the UN Commission on the Status of Women 2030. The mandate of CSW is to monitor the implementation of the BPfA as well as highlight emerging issues and ensure CSW maintains its catalytic role in gender mainstreaming across the UN system and ensure system-wide coherence. CSW is also mandated to ensure public awareness of the themes of the BPfA. According to the Methods of Work Resolution from CSW, the UN is encouraged to consult with Civil Society especially in regard to emerging issues and for the five-year review.

For the two UN regions of Western Europe and Other States and Eastern Europe, the regional consultation is organised by UNECE.

The NGO Committee on the Status of Women Geneva organised women from its membership to attend the conference in Beijing and organised the Civil Society consultations with UNECE for B+5, +10, +15, +20 and +30. For B+25, WMG organised the Civil Society Consultation.

With the Agenda 2030 process also coming to an end in 2030, it is timely for women and girls to consult on the existing processes and the learning that has accrued in order to contribute meaningfully to the discourse on what should follow. The current process moving to 2030 and the events in October 2026 aim to enable this full inclusion in the consultation process.

Consultation Process

The formal Member States analysis of B+35 will take place through the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2030. The Preparatory Committee for UNECE will take place in Geneva in October 2029 hosted by UNECE. The result of this consultation on the achievements, gaps and challenges for our region will be shared with UN Women and will be included in the global report on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Civil Society will hold a two day event prior to this. Civil Society engagement is vital and NGO CSW Geneva will consult widely to find the most inclusive manner for Civil Society engagement. Building on best practice from past consultations, NGO CSW Geneva has created a consultation process with **four pillars**. Every effort will be made, in all aspects of the endeavour, to ensure inclusivity and reach out to

Eastern European women and girls and those whose voices are not yet heard including rural women, widows, disabled women, indigenous women.

In response to requests from civil society we will also be holding events on 12, 13 & 14 October 2026 called Moving Forwards from B+30 - B+35 and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

1. Analysing achievements, gaps and challenges

In order to ensure full participation, all interested civil society organisations have been invited to participate in online working groups for each of the critical areas of concern. The work began in April 2026 with Working Group co-chairs confirmed and with the first meeting of the WGs taking place in May 2026. The WGs are looking at B+35 but also the intersection with the SDGs.

The results of these working groups will be in a number of phases. The first phase is to prepare an outcome document for October 2026. This will be a 1000 word outcome document or statement of intent, three action points and, if desired, a resource paper.

The invitations to join the groups will be widely disseminated to ensure inclusion from across the whole of the UNECE region. The process is on-going with outcomes in 2026 being taken forward and developed over time and completed by 2029.

As each area covers a range of issues, some groups will have sub-groups. There will be a cap of three sub-groups. There is a Working Group drafting the Chapeau statement that will take into consideration the intersection between all themes with additional proposals to understand well the intersectionalities and ensure robust representation of these issues.

In addition, there are two emerging issue groups: Women and Water and Women and AI & Technology.

The statements and recommendations of the 15 Working Groups will be formatted into one document that will serve as a signpost to civil society concerns.

Moving Forwards - In-Person Events Geneva October 2026

Vision

- To provide a face to face space for meaningful engagement of women and girls, together with men who are advocates of equality, to enable all the elements of synergy that come from an in-person meeting.
- To provide an inspiring and substantive experience that energises all participants in their ongoing work for equality and the advancement of women and girls.
- To create a unified space where all feel welcome and valued, and where they participate to their desired extent and can see how their contributions will be used productively.
- To progress the discourse in each of the areas of concern, linking them with other current processes such as Agenda 2030 and Summit of the Future, in addition to remaining innovative and aware of emerging concerns.
- To explore how best to realise the goals outlined in the statements of the 15 Working Groups; in terms of working with Member States in their implementation in the international and national

Secretariat, NGO CSW Geneva / co WFWPI

Rue Anne Torcapel 10, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland +41 (0)21 7288812

www.ngocsw-geneva.ch

secretariat@ngocsw-geneva.ch

+41 (0)79 250 3477

c.handschin@wfpw.org

spheres; in terms of national strategies for collaboration and implementation; and in terms of an advocacy tool for use at the local and national levels for NGOs and other stakeholders.

- To provide an environment where civil society can engage in a fruitful consultation on how to do things better and make optimum use of the tremendous capacities, abilities and skills of all protagonists.
- To provide networking spaces for the arrangement of events at future CSW and HRC meetings.
- To model a different way of interaction that result in practical outcomes at the same time as a kind, uniting and inspirational process.
- To strengthen the sense of sisterhood and fellowship of our women's movement.
- To ensure participation of unheard voices and marginalised women and girls.

Draft Programme

Monday 12 October - Training/Workshops/Briefings - at CAGI

13.00 - 14.00: Lunch – Bring your own

Room 1 – Grand Salon

10.00 - 11.00: Networking

11.00 - 12.00: Workshop - Human Rights of women and girls: Lori Mortensen & Jocelyne Scutt

12.00 - 13.00: Workshop on AI & Technology - Tania Gomez Herazo & Sarah Barnbrook (online)

14.00 - 15.00: Workshop - Women and Poverty: Fabienne Moulin & Derya Akinci Briand

15.00 - 16.00: Workshop - "No Peace Without Women": Carolyn Handschin & Patricia Elias

Room 2 – Library

11.00 - 12.00 - Briefing on Women and Water: Janet Schempf

12.00 - 13.00 - Briefing on Women in Power and Decision-Making: Betty Axtell & Gaia Paradiso

14.00 - 15.00 - Workshop on Non-state Torture: Linda MacDonald & Jeanne Sarson

15.00 - 16.00 - Workshop on Education & Training: Dina Paris, Nilsa Thorsos & Alice Pome

Room 3 – Blue room

11.00 - 12.00 - Open

12.00 - 13.00 - Open

14.00 - 15.00 - Institutional Mechanisms: Vanessa Rosser

15.00 - 16.00 - Open

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Room 4

Open space – Networking

Tuesday 13 October - ILO (room IX)

10.00 - 10.15 - Welcome and introduction —Carolyn Handschin, President NGO CSW Geneva

10.15 - 10.35 - Member State

10.35 - 11.05 - UN Women

11.05 - 11.35 - UNECE

11.35 - 12.05 - IPU

12.05 - 12.25 - Civil Society

12.25 - 12.30 - Photo taking - inside

12.30 - 13.30 – Lunch – not included but ILO public cafeteria nearby

13.30 - 14.00 - CEDAW

14.00 - 14.20 - Member State

14.20 - 14.50 - ILO

14.50 - 15.10 - Civil Society

15.10 - 15.40 - OHCHR

15.40 - 16.00 - Member State

16.00 - 16.30 - WHO

16.30 - 16.50 - Closing NGO CSW Geneva: Vice President

16.50 - 17.00 - Photo taking - outside

Wednesday 14 October UNOG - S4

10.00 - 10.15: Opening NGO CSW Geneva and NAWO

10.15 - 12.15: Presentations of 6 working groups:

- Women and Poverty Working Group
- Education and Training of Women Working Group
- Women and Health Working Group
- Violence Against Women and Girls Working Group
- Women and Armed Conflict Working Group
- Women and the Economy Working Group

12.15 - 12.45: Q&A

12.45 - 12.50: Photo

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12.50 - 14.00: Lunch not included but UN public cafeteria nearby

14.00 - 15.20: Presentations of 4 working groups:

- Women in Power and Decision-Making Working Group
- Institutional Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women Working Group
- Human Rights of Women Working Group
- Women and the Media Working Group

15.20 - 15.50: Q&A

15.50 - 17.10: Presentations of 4 working groups:

- Women and the Environment Working Group
- The Girl Child Working Group
- Women and Water Working Group
- Women in Technology and AI Working Group

17.10 - 17.40: Q&A

17.40 - 18.00: Closing NGO CSW GVA and Photo

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1klv80knJ_8EorihQHCGXhhGMci8Ss05eeLIYzORTJwc/

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