

Who we are

The NGO CSW Geneva is a network of about 40 international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative relationship with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), representing networks of millions of women throughout the world.

Executive Bureau

President: Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda (World YWCA)

Vice President: FAWCO (Sara von Moos)

Vice President: MMM Intl. (Valerie Bichelmeier)

Treasurer: Salvation Army (Sylvette Huguenin)

Secretary: SGI (Hayley Ramsey-Jones)

Secretary: IAC (Adebisi Adebayo)

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Bahá'í International Community (BIC) • Bangwe & Dialogue
• Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) • Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) • Global Fund for Women • Inter-African Committee (IAC) • International Alliance of Women (IAW) • International Council of Jewish Women (ICJW) • International Council of Women (ICW-CIF) • International Federation of Business and Professional Women International (IFBPW) • International Federation of University Women (IFUW) • International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) • IUS Primi Viri International (IPV) • Latter-Day Saint Charities • Make Mothers Matter International (MMM) • Medical Care Development International (MCDI) • Mothers Legacy Project (MLP) • OCAPROCE • Pan Pacific & South East Asia Women's Association International (PPSEAWA) • Salvation Army • Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) • Soka Gakkai International (SGI) • Solar Cookers International (SCI) • Soroptimist International • Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) • Women's UN Reports Network (WUNRN) • Women's World Summit Foundation (WWSF) • World Council of Churches (WCC) • World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA) • ZONTA International

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NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva

*Connecting Women of the World
to the United Nations*

act, advance, achieve women's rights

www.ngocsw-geneva.ch



United Nations Geneva

History

Formally established in 1973, on the eve of the first United Nations World Conference of Women in Mexico in 1975, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, Geneva (NGO CSW Geneva) had already been an active working group within the Conference of NGOs since 1947.

The NGO CSW Geneva has a long history of working on women's rights, gender equality and peace: it was an active participant at all 4 UN World Conferences on Women, and a key contributor to the 1995 Beijing Conference and its landmark outcome document, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Over the years, NGO CSW Geneva members have been actively involved in the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies in Geneva, including the UN Treaty Bodies System (in particular, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women – CEDAW), the Commission on Human Rights and its successor the Human Rights Council, as well as the International Labour Organization. The Committee has been an active partner of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in mainstreaming gender equality and women's rights within the UN system.

The NGO CSW Geneva has also been collaborating with its sister NGO Committees in New York and Vienna, particularly, in supporting the work of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and more generally, the UN development and peace agenda.



NGO CSW Geneva members meeting with UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka on 15 January 2014

What we do

Objectives

The principal aim of the NGO CSW Geneva is gender equality in all spheres of life. Its objectives are

- To work in partnership with the United Nations and its specialized agencies to monitor women's rights and ensure that governments respect the commitments they have made at world conferences and through international human rights treaties and principles
- To influence international decision-making and maintain a global momentum for the advancement of women's rights, gender equality, peace and development.

Thematic Priorities

The NGO CSW Geneva works through five thematic priorities:

- Women's Rights, Peace & Justice
- Women Economic Empowerment & Employment
- Displacement & Migration
- Women's Health & Education
- Violence Against Women & Girls

Regular members' meetings and communications provide a platform for networking, sharing of information, monitoring, and strategizing on joint advocacy projects. These notably include the elaboration of joint oral or written statements, and the organization of side-events at the Human Rights Council and other UN conferences.

Current activities

- Preparation for the Geneva NGO Forum with a view to the Beijing+20 Review in collaboration with the UN ECE, 3-5 November 2014, and active support for a 5th World Conference on Women
- Publication of a series of Advocacy Briefs on violence against women, with focus on sexual violence, domestic violence, crimes in the name of "honor", workplace violence, elder abuse, child early and forced marriage, trafficking of women, harmful traditional practices, etc.
- Advocacy on recognition, reduction and redistribution of women's unpaid care work, as a key step for women's economic empowerment
- Research and advocacy strategizing on the rising issues of women's migration and displacement
- Active participation in the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Draft UN Declaration on the Right to Peace