

UN WOMEN UPDATE:

ON-LINE REGISTRATION:

As of yesterday (25/01/16) there are 900 NGO Organizations registered and 6000 Individuals registered. This is less than last year (5 year review - 20th anniversary of BPfA) but considerable more than a normal CSW year.

UN Women encouraged NGOs to finalize their delegations because the deadline to sign up or make changes is 27 January, 2016; there will be no extensions or changes after that date. Registration is on-line through the CSONet and if you do not know how to use the system there are online tutorials in english, french & spanish.

ON-SITE REGISTRATION:

Once again UN Women reiterated that there will not be secondary passes. Annual UN Passes or temporary CSW passes will be all you need to attend most meetings. Individuals with annual passes should wait to check in for times that are less busy at the pass office. On-site registration will begin on Friday, 11/03 and will be open the entire weekend and then throughout CSW. Check UN Women's website for specific times and watch for the alerts from UN Women as we get closer to CSW 60.

OPENING SESSION AND MINISTERIAL ROUNDTABLE (1ST Day):

There will be a separate event pass for the opening session, it will be one per organization as long as the supply lasts (not a guarantee you will get a ticket), these tickets will be given out in the General Assembly (GA) Lobby most likely 1 to 2 hours before the planned session. It has not been decided if the ministerial roundtables will also be by special event ticket. Watch for UN Women alerts....

SIDE EVENTS (ON UN PREMISES):

This year there has been an increase in requests to host side events, they are fully booked with 230 side events.

ORAL STATEMENTS:

UN Women has moved the dates to sign up for an oral statement back because the Bureau has not finalized the focal areas of the panels yet. The new dates will be a week later 2 - 22 February, 2016. Please note that NGOs can sign up to give an oral statement during the general discussion sessions BUT can also sign up to respond to panel discussions. It is NOT one or the other, you can sign up for as many panels as you want as well as the general discussion. The difference is that the general discussion is a prepared statement and the panel MUST be directly related to what the speakers on the panel have said.

PLEASE NOTE THAT PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE A COLLECTIVE, COALITION OR COLLABORATIVE OF NGOS rather than a single NGO.

WRITTEN STATEMENTS:

180 NGO Statements have been approved by the editorial group at the UN. At this point 160 NGO Statements have been edited and have been published on the UN Women Web-site, there are still 20 more statements to complete the process and then be posted on the website... if your NGO is not there it might still be in editing...

A question was asked by what they mean when they say editing. Johannes explained that they are not editing for content but rather format. There are guidelines for format including the cover, no footnotes allowed. At times something may not be comprehensible so the NGO will be directly contacted and asked to clarify. You will see an asterisk where language was changed after consultation. Another point was since the editors also are responsible to translate the statements into the 6 official UN languages, they need to check that the way a sentence is written if it can be translated and still have the same meaning, so they will go back to the NGO for better language. The editing is not content control but format control. Although, historically they used to change content but no longer.

NGO PARTICIPANTS:

Once CSW begins you will be able to see which NGOs are participating in CSW by going to CSO Net but only those who are actually participating and a have been processed on-site will be listed.

NGO REPS on OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS:

UN Women & NGO CSW/NY is interested in knowing if you are attending CSW 60 as an official delegate on your government Delegation, please let us know at info@ngocsw.org

NGO CSW FORUM UPDATE:

HANDBOOK ADS:

There are only a few printed ad pages available for the handbook ads, the deadline is 31 January. On-line ads can be purchased until 7 March but we will be releasing the handbook online and via the handbook app in advance of CSW. Get your message out early so purchase your ad now.

CONSULTATION DAY (SUNDAY, 13 MARCH at the historic 92nd Street Y):

Consultation day is shaping up to be really special this year, Ambassador Patriota (Brazil) Bureau Chair and Phumizile Mlambo NgCuka (USG & Exec Director UN Women) will have an interactive dialogue, breakout sessions in the afternoon where groups will discuss best practices in relationship to the SDGs, each panel will address SDG 5 (Gender) and at least one other SDG; we will also offer advocacy training. There are still some tickets available to purchase go to the NGO CSW/NY website to register (www.ngocsw.org).

NGO CSW RECEPTION (TUESDAY, 15 MARCH at NYU Kimmel Center):

We will be having the reception this year at a beautiful venue on the top floor overlooking Washington Square Park, 5th Avenue, the Empire State Building & other city landmark. Be sure purchase your ticket to join us for an evening of networking with old and new friends.

To register for either event go to www.ngocsw.org, the cutoff for registering is 7 March but may be sooner if we reach capacity. If you are an up to date paid member of NGO CSW/NY there is a reduced fee to attend the events (check this out on our website).

NGO RALLY (FRIDAY, 18 MARCH):

This year NGOs will have the chance to let member states and others around the UN know what is important to women, to hear our demands for Gender Equality, for Sustainable Development and other key points. We have received our permit and we will be there rain or shine. Be sure to join us.

ARTISAN FAIR (THURSDAY, 17 MARCH):

Back by popular demand in the Church Center is the Artisan Fair, We have reached capacity so no more tables are available... but everyone should make sure to stop by to support the artisans from across the world who will be selling their handmade crafts. All vendors selected are organizations that work directly with the women in their countries who make these crafts and the money is to support local grassroots women's organizations.

PARALLEL EVENTS:

BY now all NGOs that have applied for Parallel events should have received a note from NGO CSW/NY either with the logistics of your event or that we were unable to accommodate your request. The deadline to confirm or reject your space was last Friday, 22 January. Like UN Women, this year we had an unprecedented number of requests. Unfortunately, we were unable to provide space for all that requested space or on days you might have listed as a preference. We attempted to be as fair as possible when assigning slots, assigning only one time slot per NGO but even doing this we were did not have enough space for the demand. Most people requested Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday of the first week. We have now been able to reassign some slots based on the confirmations and rejections and we tried to honor as many of the change requests as possible. Salvation Army has even come to our rescue and opened their doors to us on Saturday 19 March to give us additional space. We have notified all NGOs today of the changes and we were able to begin to approve a few 2nd requests for NGOs during the second week. Please understand we have a limited number of rooms but the demand is primarily for Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday and we just cannot accommodate that demand. This year we have added the additional day of Saturday, the 19th but remember based on your evaluations we did not book space at the Armenian Convention Center so we have less rooms. We did try our best to have a variety of topics, regional representation and as many different NGOs as possible. While we understand your disappointment, if you did not get exactly what you requested but we ask that you please DO NOT YELL or ABUSE Laura (our office coordinator) & our Interns, when voicing your concerns. Please address all concerns to info@ngocsw.org.

OTHER KEY EVENTS & DATES:

CoNGO sponsored Membership meeting for NGO CSW Committees (Wednesday, 16 March at 4:30 pm). This is an opportunity to learn about the NGO CSW committee in your region, to speak with executive committee members & representatives of NGO CSW/Africa; NGO CSW/ Arab/MENA; NGO/Asia/Pacific; NGO CSW/LAC, NGO CSW/Geneva; NGO CSW/Vienna and NGO CSW/NY. Learn about what each of the committees are working on, the benefits of being a member and a chance to mingle.

ADVOCACY TRAINING:

Again this year we will be offering on-site advocacy training. The training is for the first timers to the most experienced. There will be an overview of the UN how it works, what to expect and this year the substantive session will be related to the 2030 agenda (SDGs). We are offering several different opportunities to participate (see schedule below - mark your calendars now):

Consultation Day: There will be a shorter version available during the breakout time, as one option (there is a fee to attend consultation day).

Lunchtime Training (no fee):

We will once again offer an abbreviated version as we did last year and it will be available both weeks Monday thru Thursday at this training will be held at 12:30 pm in the CCUN Drew room. Plan ahead because this is a very popular event and the room is small. We will once again have special language and youth sessions.

Regional Training (no fee):

In response to your feedback, we will not combine the trainings with the caucus meetings but instead will offer stand alone Regional Trainings that will be conducted by the Global Trainer & the Regional Trainer. They will be a 3 hour time blocks of time and interpretation services will be provided in the Arab/MENA; Africa & LAC regional trainings.

LAC Region:	Monday, 14 March	-	10:30 am	-	2:00 pm
NA/EUR Region:	Monday, 14 March	-	4:30 pm	-	7:30 pm
Arab/MENA Region:	Tuesday, 15 March	-	10:30 am	-	2:00 pm
Asia/Pacific Region:	Tuesday, 15 March	-	2:30 pm	-	6:00 pm

Africa Region: Tuesday, 15 March - 4:30 to 7:30 pm

CAUCUS MEETINGS

A space to come together with other reps from your region, to give updates, to hear from NGO official government delegation members, to strategize a plan of action with other likeminded colleagues.

Caucus Meetings:

We have scheduled 1 meeting the first week and 2 the second week, remember this year there will be agreed conclusions and the negotiations will mostly take place the second week. Make sure to put these dates on your calendars, don't miss this opportunity.

Africa:

Thursday, 17 March - 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Monday, 21 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Thursday, 24 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Arab/MENA:

Wednesday, 16 March - 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Monday, 21 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Wednesday, 23 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Asia/Pacific:

Wednesday, 16 March - 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Monday, 21 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Wednesday, 23 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Latin America/Caribbean:

Wednesday, 16 March - 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Monday, 21 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

Wednesday, 23 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm

North America/Europe:

Thursday, 17 March - 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Monday, 21 March - 6:15pm - 7:45 pm

Wednesday, 23 March - 6:15 pm - 7:45 pm