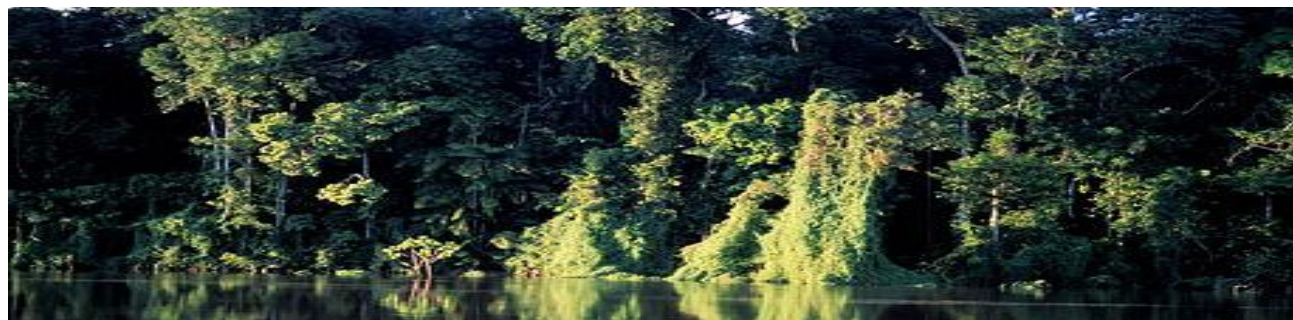




IFUW Update – 06 November 2013



IFUW news

IFUW Capacity building in Africa

True to the promise that was made at the 31st IFUW Conference in Istanbul, IFUW is focusing as a priority on capacity building for members. IFUW will be holding a Capacity building workshop to be held in Dakar in January 2014. The interactive workshop will aim to help African NFAs grow their association's membership and visibility through plenary and group work sessions and is key to the process of moving IFUW forward! We hope that many will be able to attend!

Please contact Kim Addison for more information at: ka@ifuw.org

Geneva IFUW Board meetings

The new IFUW board will have its first board meetings in Geneva in 21-25 November. The meeting will be closed to observers, and will include the Conveners of Committees. The next Board meeting will be in February 2014.

Please keep your eye on the website, as we are populating it as we go. For those of you looking for Istanbul Conference documents, selected [interdisciplinary seminar papers](#) are now available in the member's section of the website (login required).

New staff member

We are pleased to announce the arrival of Caroline Staffell, International Development Manager. Caroline joins us with two degrees and some considerable experience in the field growing membership, most recently with the International Alliance of Patients' Organisations. Her role here will be to work intensively with the Board, Memcom and the office to develop membership, both within existing NFAs and new ones, and to assist on fundraising for capacity-building projects. Caroline is delighted to be working at IFUW and looks forward to working together with all NFAs and members to strengthen IFUW. Caroline will be in contact with you soon to discuss the way forward. Join us in wishing her every success, as her success will be IFUW's success!

IFUW at CERN

IFUW attended a presentation at CERN, upon invitation by UN representative Manjit Dosanjh, about women in science and technology (STEM). The speaker, Jocelyn Bell Burnell, was very passionate about her lecture, and although most of her presentation and knowledge was about women in science just in the UK, the discussion was informative. In sum, her argument was that the shortage of women working in

STEM fields is not because women are not smart enough or don't try hard enough--rather, most scientific environments are "men's worlds." They are not welcoming to women and there is a lot of prejudice and harassment in the workplace. She provided many examples of how these deficiencies could be altered to make STEM fields more appealing to women and increase the retention rates of female scientists in the field – her recommendations included changes for both genders, such as flexible hours for both men and women, paternity leave for fathers, merit payments/bonuses to include an element for recruiting/promoting women minorities, and much more besides.

NFA news

Sierra Leone Association of University Women (SLAUW) is in the news!

IFUW's template release on international day of the girl child was adapted by SLAUW, who in turn achieved coverage for their release. <http://www.ifuw.org/posts/nfa-news/sierra-leone-ifuw-and-slauw-say-secondary-education-is-most-consistent-way-to-promote-and-protect-the-girl-child/>

Federación Mexicana de Universitarias (FEMU) is published in UN report

FEMU submitted a joint statement for stakeholder inclusions in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) human rights audit report on Mexico. FEMU representative Dr Gloria Ramirez was present in Geneva for the UPR and visited the IFUW offices.

JAUW delegation to UNGA

JAUW board member Professor emeritus Yaeko Sumi attended the Third Committee United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as part of the delegation from Japan. Having a UN women representative in the national delegation to UNGA is a proud legacy of JAUW ever since Taki Fujita, a co-founder of JAUW, attended in 1957.

University Women of Europe (UWE) calls for NFAs to write letters to their parliamentarians on the petition to increase support to victims of human trafficking (read [IFUW resolution](#) on trafficking on the website). <http://uweboard.wordpress.com>

Women Graduates Union (WGU) celebrates International Day of the Girl Child in Mumbai

Recognising the significance of this Day, WGU in Mumbai organised a programme called 'Revisiting the upbringing of the Girl Child'. The programme aimed to bring into focus the role of the girl child in the family and her contribution to society at large. <http://www.ifuw.org/posts/nfa-news/wgu-celebrates-the-international-day-of-the-girl-child/>

Advocacy

Geneva becomes the seat of the world governance

This was made official at the recent opening of the "Maison de la Paix": The Maison de la Paix is the headquarters of the Graduate Institute of Geneva and brings together all of its activities including teaching, research and events focusing on major world issues, which until now took place in several separate locations. Geneva and Bern are inviting all international organisations and all countries not yet present in Geneva to establish a presence in the canton.

The Global Gender Gap Report 2013

Benchmarks national gender gaps of 136 countries on economic, political, education and health-based criteria. The Global Gender Gap Index was developed in 2006, partially to address the need for a

consistent and comprehensive measure of gender equality that can track a country's progress over time. Thank you to Ivy Shiue for sending the link!

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GenderGap_Report_2013.pdf

UN Women's Rights Committee adopts landmark document on women and conflict

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) General Recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations was adopted on October 18th. IFUW, as part of the Geneva NGO Committee on the Status of Women, worked hard with CEDAW on this resolution, and is happy to see that the contributions of their group were taken into account and integrated in the [final text](#) (highlighted in yellow)!

http://www.ifuw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/CEDAW-2.C.CG_30.pdf

UN Security Council resolution urges women's full inclusion in peace talks and transitional justice

The United Nations Security Council has adopted a new resolution aimed at removing barriers to women's full participation in all efforts to prevent, resolve, and rebuild from conflict.

<http://www.ifuw.org/posts/uncategorized/un-security-council-resolution-urges-womens-full-inclusion-in-peace-talks-and-transitional-justice/>

[Click here to download](#) a draft letter for your use that can be modified to your national context and sent to your respective ministers of defence and foreign affairs. Do keep us informed of any outcomes in your country so that we can better tailor our services to you.

Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples visits Canada

James Anaya, Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples referred to how pleased he was to hear, throughout his visit, references by First Nations, Inuit and Métis people to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. He confirmed that Canada's 2010 endorsement of the Declaration marked an important step on the path towards reconciliation with indigenous peoples, and said that Canada should be commended for joining most the countries of the world in support of this instrument. Read more at:

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=13868&LangID=E>

Call for submissions for UN report on child marriage

The Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) will submit a report on child, early and forced marriage to the Human Rights Council (HRC) at its 26th Session in June 2014. OHCHR [is requesting relevant information](#) from NGOs for the preparation of this report. [IFUW resolution on child marriage](#) | [HRC resolution on child marriage A/HRC/RES/24/23](#)

Education for girls and women in Afghanistan

How will women's organisations cope with the NATO pullout of Afghanistan? Women's and rights organisations have grown significantly since the fall of the Taliban in 2001. Women have been attending school in increasing numbers and allowed to participate in activities outside the home, a notable achievement in a deeply conservative society where just twelve years ago women were not allowed to attend school. Many in the aid community fear these gains may be under threat with the impending full withdrawal of NATO troops next year. Read the [full article](#) | [IFUW resolution on right to safe access to education](#)

U.N.'s top post remains a boy's club

In a letter addressed to over 160 world leaders, the New York-based Impact Leadership 21 makes a strong case for a woman as the next U.N. Secretary-General when Ban Ki-Moon finishes his current term at the end of 2016. <http://www.ipsnews.net/2013/10/u-n-s-top-posts-remain-a-boys-club/>

#CSW58

IFUW will attend the 58th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York and has submitted a statement aligned with IFUW's mission of secondary and tertiary education for girls and women. The statement calls for more dedicated resources by governments for girls' and women's education, as well as for sex disaggregated data about education.

Victims of trafficking

On October 18, 2013, the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the Organization for Co-operation and Security in Europe (OSCE) called for a concerted global response to fight the transnational scourge of trafficking in persons. Read more at: "[Human beings with human rights that must be protected](#)" [European Anti-Trafficking Day](#)

Shaping a health literate Europe

Tackling chronic diseases is a key challenge for the sustainability of European health systems and health literacy is part of the solution. A new consensus paper on how to advance health literacy in Europe can be read at: <http://www.eu-patient.eu/News/News/Shaping-a-health-literate-Europe/>

Fellowships and calls for proposals

Calls for JAUW International Fellowship Programme

Funding is available to help MAs, or pre-doctoral or dissertation level students and postdoctoral researchers of a younger age to come and stay in Japan to pursue their ongoing study/research. Deadline: March 31, 2014

<http://www.ifuw.org/posts/nfa-news/calls-for-applicants-for-jauw-international-fellowship-programme/>

Keep your eye on this website, which provides a list of international scholarships for women

<http://www.scholars4dev.com/tag/scholarships-for-women/>.

The [Christiane Nuesslein-Volhard Foundation](#), based in Germany, supports talented young women with children to enable them to create the freedom and mobility required to further their scientific careers. It is aimed specifically at graduate students in the fields of experimental natural sciences and medicine. The foundation provides up to 400 €/month for assistance with household tasks or childcare. Next application deadline: December 31, 2013.

Other information and events

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| • 5-7 November | Expert Group Meeting on " Neglect, Abuse and Violence of Older Women " |
| • 5-20 November | 37th session of the General Conference of UNESCO , Paris |
| • 17 November | International Students Day |
| • 21-25 November | IFUW board meetings, Geneva |
| • 25 November | International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women |
| • 24-27 November | Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 5th session |
| • 9-13 December | Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 6th session |
| • 10 December | Human Rights Day |
| • 6-10 January 2014 | Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, 7th session |
| • 12-16 February | IFUW board meetings, Geneva |
| • 14 February | One Billion Rising - V Day |
| • 3-28 Feb/March | Human Rights Council, Geneva |
| • 10-26 March | Committee on the Status of Women (#CSW58), New York |
| • 10-27 June | Human Rights Council, Geneva |
| • 22-23 September | World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, New York |

Social Media

Share your thoughts on human rights day using #UNRightsAt20

Did you miss the #HumanRights reviews of #Nigeria and #Mexico? Follow them on Twitter #UPR17 #HRC



Follow IFUW on our social media outlets! Join the discussions on LinkedIn.

International Federation of University Women, Fédération Internationale des Femmes Diplômées des Universités

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