



IFUW Update – 11 September 2013



IFUW Triennial Conference

Conclusions from the triennial conference where some four hundred women from 53 countries gathered in Istanbul, Turkey, stated that the advance of women has stalled in many countries. Members called for further integrated policy and legislation in favour of secondary and higher education and the implementation of women's human rights. The conference participants recommend that secondary, higher and lifelong education, and women's rights be considered as indispensable in order to improve girls' and women's socio-economic, cultural and health status, thereby in turn improving the status of their children and families.

IFUW has therefore resolved that early and forced marriage is a form of human and children's rights violation, and children should be protected from incest, forced marriage and children's rights violations, and be entitled to violence-free family life. Women should be protected against violence, trafficking and exploitation, and all girls and women should have the right to safe access to education. For more information visit: www.ifuw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2013_08_29_IFUW_Conference_press_release-1.pdf

Selected speeches and presentations from the conference can be found at:
ifuw.org/members_new/conference-speeches-and-presentations

LEGAL LITERACY PROJECT - Chitra Ghosh Award was awarded to the 'Legal Literacy Project' at the Triennial Conference in Istanbul. The project is a tool for women's empowerment and an innovative approach for Access to Justice created by Nazan Moroglu, President of the Turkish Association of University Women. Ms Moroglu, was born in Istanbul and was the first gender law expert and women's human rights lecturer in academia in Turkey in 1999. She is also the founder of the Women's Rights Commission of Turkish Bar Associations Union, a founding member of the European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) and supporting member of the European Women's Lobby.

Advocacy

Translating IFUW Resolutions into Advocacy for Impact

Any member country can submit a resolution to the IFUW Resolutions Committee if it finds another country to second it. The Resolutions committee vets the proposed resolutions, keeping the mission and plan of IFUW in mind. Turkey, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, Canada, the USA, Australia, Scotland, and Rwanda presented or seconded 12 resolutions, which were all passed, at the 31st Triennial IFUW Conference in Istanbul.

Each resolution is accompanied by a plan of action. As the best way to influence political decisions at the national level is for NFAs to act in their own country, please take a careful look at the resolutions and incorporate them into your national advocacy activities. Each NFA should approach its government on the subjects it chooses: through Members of Parliament, shadow ministers, local politicians, and other policy-makers i.e. whatever suits the NFA's national and local context and plan of activities. The full texts of the resolutions are available on the IFUW website: ifuw.org

On International Literacy Day IFUW called for concerted government action to improve female literacy

On the occasion of International Literacy Day, on September 8, IFUW called on national governments to provide increased funding and support in order to boost female literacy rates, and more specifically to assist vulnerable women and girls in gaining literacy skills.

Two-thirds of the world's nearly 800 million illiterate adults are women, representing a sizable proportion of the world's population. In many developing countries, the percentages of women who cannot read or write are astonishing. In Pakistan, only 40% women over the age of 15 can read and write, compared to 70% of men. In Tanzania, one third of women – more than 4 million women in total – are not literate, and in Bolivia, 30% of adult women cannot read and write, compared to just 5% of men.¹ In Canada, over 40 per cent of the population between 16 and 65 falls below the internationally-accepted level of literacy required to cope in a modern society. To read the press release click here: www.ifuw.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2013_09_08_press_release_Intl_Literacy_Day.pdf

IFUW Influences Decision

The 15 year old girl convicted for being raped in the Maldives and sentenced to 100 lashes and eight months house arrest for 'fornication' has had her sentence quashed, following her conviction in February. As many IFUW members were concerned about this case in February, we would like to share this good news.

A government spokesperson initially suggested that the girl was being given lashes for her to 'feel the shame' for her offence. Supporters responded to the 100-lash sentence with outrage. After the campaign, President Waheed announced that the government would support, care and defend the girl.

Countries set to come under scrutiny by United Nations human rights bodies

The following NFA countries are set to come under scrutiny by United Nations human rights bodies.

October 2013

Mexico <http://www.upr-info.org/-Mexico-.html>

Nigeria <http://www.upr-info.org/-Nigeria-.html>

Moldova <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/cedaws56.htm>

February 2014 - CEDAW

Cameroon, Finland, Sierra Leone

SAME LINK FOR ALL <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/cedaws57.htm>

IFUW Education Resource Kit

How to Use the Kit by Shirley Gillet

Step 1: Go to the IFUW website

Step 2: Go to the Members Corner and login.

If you are not a member, you may create an account at this stage.

Step 3: Go over to the members corner and to the picture of the tool box and click on the heading 2012 Human Rights Education Resource Kit.

Step 4: Click on any of the drawers to open them and see what is in them.

Step 5: Each time you wish to get back to the main drawers, go to the bottom and click on "back to drawer". This will take you out of the drawer you are in and back to the previous page.

Now you are the proud user of the Resource Kit and you can choose how to actually make use of it for your purposes. The workshop ideas and policy questions at the bottom of each drawer are worth checking out.

Creative suggestions that were put forward during the workshop in Istanbul included using the material from the 'Inspirations' drawer for a secondary school class over several weeks and having the students write and design their own inspiration package. It would be wonderful to get feedback if any person or group makes use of the Resource Kit in this way, or in any other way. Please write to shirley.gillett@otago.ac.nz with your experiences.



Other Information

IT'S TIME TO GET GOING!

International Day of the Girl (October 11th!) is around the corner. Girl Rising will be taking the world stage, and it's THEIR DAY to shout from the mountaintops: Educating girls will change the world!

500 leaders around the world have already signed up to join Girl Rising on this important day. Will you join too? Sign up today and put your name on the global map: girlrising.com/idg

FALL 2014 OAK FELLOWSHIP – FOCUS ON GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS— APPLY NOW

The Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights is conducting its search for the Fall 2014 Oak Human Rights Fellow. This year, they are looking for a practitioner/activist involved in HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION IN SITUATIONS RELATING TO GENDER. This focus is not limited to activism involving women – it also includes the protection of sexual minorities and activism on men/masculinity. They are particularly seeking activists working on sexual and reproductive rights, gender empowerment and education, human and sexual trafficking, activism against gender-based violence, gender and sexual based asylum, or gender and environmental rights.

For more information on the 2014 Oak Fellowship please visit their web site at:

<http://web.colby.edu/oak/>

E-DISCUSSION: ENGAGEMENT WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, 05 SEPTEMBER - 03 OCTOBER 2013

UNDP is committed to creating spaces for and ensuring the meaningful participation of indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional and international levels to ensure that they contribute to policy-making and monitor policy implementation.

To fully achieve internationally agreed development goals and inclusive governance, implementation gaps have to be addressed. This includes the necessary inclusion and participation of indigenous peoples for addressing multiple forms of discrimination which affect indigenous women.

Given the discussions around the post-2015 development framework, UNDP will be updating its current [Policy of Engagement with Indigenous Peoples](#). Contributions from the e-discussion will inform this revision.

Phase I (05 – 19 September 2013): experiences and lessons learned in working with indigenous peoples in the implementation of development programmes.

Phase II (19 September – 03 October 2013): engagement with indigenous peoples and how their concerns and needs can be better integrated in development planning and programming.

The e-Discussion will be hosted on the [Indigenous Peoples teamworks page](#) where you can post your comments and access relevant resources related to the discussion. Contributions to the

discussion can also be made via email to humanrights-talk.undp@groups.undp.org and your contributions will be disseminated through UNDP knowledge networks.

Upcoming events

- [9 – 27 September Human Rights Council, Geneva](#)
- [20 September: 20th session, Commission on Sustainable Development](#)
- [22 September: Regional Recommendations on Post-2015: A Dialogue](#)
- [23 September: High-Level Meeting on Disability](#)
- [24 September: Inaugural session, High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#)
- [25 September: Special event to follow up on efforts on MDGs](#)
- [26 September: High-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament](#)
- [3-4 October: High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development](#)
- [21 October - 1 November: Universal Periodic Review Session 17](#)
- [3-4 October: High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development](#)

Celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary? Just want to say Thank you or I Love You?

A donation to IFUW is a wonderful acknowledgement and helps fund our programmes such as Fellowships, Hegg Hoffet, and BPRID

[Gift certificate](#), [Fellowships](#), [Hegg Hoffet](#), [BRPID](#)



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