



GWI Update – 12 August 2015



Huruma Girls' High School, Nairobi

Graduate Women International news

Girls' Choices Workshop – Kenya

Independent member, Everlyn Suleh, together with her daughters Audrey and Dorothy, recently delivered a gender education and leadership workshop as part of the GWI Girls' Choices programme. The workshop provided teenage girls at Huruma Girls' High School, Nairobi, with a critical understanding of gender roles and stereotypes, and the opportunity to develop leadership skills. Low self-esteem, lack of confidence and stereotypes are significant barriers to girls' completion of secondary school. Girls' Choices empowers girls with strong knowledge and skills to address barriers to complete their education and pursue their goals. As Hellenah, who participated in the workshop, explains, *"I feel so encouraged by today's workshop. When I look at my life, gender is something that has been a big focus which limits our dreams because we lack empowerment. Today I feel so much empowered as a girls."*

GWI Member News

Singapore Association's IT Circle Women Up

GWI member, University Women's Association Singapore is providing a programme aimed at narrowing the digital divide between those who know computer skills and those who do not. The IT Circle Women Up programme has assisted more than 300 participants to learn computer skills with their special Basic Computer Classes, in which one to one coaching is available. Some participants have become so interested that they set up their own Facebook pages as part of their new way of communicating.



Advocacy

CEDAW General recommendation on women's access to justice

Discrimination against women, based on gender stereotypes, stigma, harmful and patriarchal cultural norms, and gender-based violence, which particularly affect women, have an adverse impact on the ability of women to gain access to justice on an equal basis with men. In addition, discrimination against women

is compounded by intersecting factors that affect some women to a different degree or in different ways than men and other women. Grounds for intersectional or compounded discrimination may include ethnicity/race, indigenous or minority status, colour, socio-economic status and/or caste, language, religion or belief, political opinion, national origin, marital and/or maternal status, age, urban/rural location, health status, disability, property ownership, and being lesbian, bisexual, transgender women or intersex persons. These intersecting factors make it more difficult for women from those groups to gain access to justice. CEDAW has come up with General recommendation on women's access to justice. Read more [here](#).

Prizes, Grants and Proposals

Latin America and Caribbean region UNESCO/José Martí Prize open for nominations

The International UNESCO/José Martí Prize promotes and rewards an activity of outstanding merit in any region of the world that contributes to the unity and the integration of countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to the preservation of their identities, cultural traditions and historical values. The prize is named after José Martí, recognised as the intellectual author of the liberation of Cuba. Nomination files should be submitted at the latest by October 16, 2015 to Ms Anna Maria Majlöv at am.majlof@unesco.org.

Give the gift of membership!

Do you know a graduate woman who would like to join the leading women's international organisation that works to empower girls and women through access to lifelong, quality education and training? Give the gift of membership to join a global community of over 23,000 members in more than 100 countries, either as a GWI independent member or national member of one of over 60 National Federations and Associations (NFAs).

Other information and events

August 27 – 30	UWE Conference “Networking as a Quality” , Utrecht, the Netherlands
September 18 – 24	Bolivian Federation of University Women Professionals Meeting , Cochabamba, Bolivia
September 25 – 27	Women Graduates USA (WG-USA) AGM , Baltimore, USA
September 29 -30	3rd UIA Associations Round Table Asia-Pacific, Bangkok, Thailand
October 22-26	VAÖ DACH Meeting, Graz Austria
November 14 – 15	Finnish Academic Women's Association (SANL) AGM , Kaunianien, Finland
November 25 - Dec 10	Center for Women's Global Leadership 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2015 Campaign
June 28 – July 1 (2016)	12th International Conference, ISTR , Stockholm, Sweden
August 21 – 23 (2016)	GWI General Assembly, Cape Town, South Africa (members only)
August 24 – 26 (2016)	GWI Triennial Conference, Cape Town, South Africa (open to the public)

Follow us on social media!



Empowering women and girls through lifelong education for leadership, decision-making and peace. GWI, formerly IFUW, is in special consultative status with ECOSOC and is an NGO maintaining official relations with UNESCO.

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