



GWI United Nation Representative Advocacy Report 2019

GWI advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWI. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWI's mission, our United Nations Representatives are should always promote all GWI key messages and represent GWI professionally.*

Name: (GWI UN Representatives/NY) Maryella Hannum; Maureen Byrne; Sophie Turner Zaretsky

City of UN Representation: New York

Session/meeting attended: Meeting with Laurie Phipps, former Policy Adviser, United States Mission to the United Nations (USUN), on social and human rights issues including gender and women's rights. Meeting was arranged via contact with Maryella Hannum, GWI UN Rep, and took place in New York City on October 23, 2019 at 2:00 pm.

Subject of session/meeting: Meeting to discuss the work of GWI and how GWI UN Reps in New York could work more closely and more effectively with the USUN and with other United Nations Missions located in New York City.

Sustainable Development Goals addressed: SDG 4 and 5; and related intersections of Agenda 2030

Key take away points from the meeting/discussion:

- 1) In terms of the USUN, request a meeting with the Ambassador, recognizing that any meeting would most likely occur with a designated representative. As a UN ECOSOC NGO with expertise on specific topics, present recommendations and/or statements to include or consider in negotiations. For example, "We know you're negotiating on

XXX. It might be helpful to know that educating girls through the secondary level will increase future earnings by x\$". Be brief and specific on requests for consideration.

- 2) Follow the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Issues) of the General Assembly where recommendations are drafted for presentation to a plenary meeting of the Assembly – go to open sessions, especially if related to education, girls and women, peace through education.
- 3) The Security Council Calendar comes out at the beginning of each month. Look for resolutions (USUN) coming up where we can provide information or data.
- 4) Because GWI is an international organization we can approach other member states. African member states, in particular, are very receptive to information or suggestions or support on education (perhaps hook in with Uganda, Kenya, etc.).
- 5) Look for ways to insert ideas and solutions into existing docs, committee's work, resolutions, etc. Bring something for consideration that member states haven't thought about. Approach should be: Here is the problem and here is a solution or recommendation for consideration. Present information as experts in the field of education for girls and women.
- 6) Look for any opportunity to assert the importance of education for girls and women as it relates to member state's specific concerns.
- 7) E Education is a big topic right now. Consider what we can contribute in this area.
- 8) Keep reminding member states that Children are the future.
- 9) Treatment of widows is also on the front burner for some member states. Support policy such as allowing widows (often young) to attend school or to receive skills training. Emphasize that she will be better able to support her family and contribute to the community. (This is just one example).
- 10) Discussed SDGs. General feeling among us all that we will not accomplish them as written but that progress has been made.

How this serves GWI members:

- a. Explain trends in development in this particular subject.
- b. Explain why these trends and developments are relevant to GWI and NFAs.
- c. Outline what needs to be done at international and national levels.

Next steps: (What needs to be done)

Meeting of GWI UN Reps/NY to establish next steps.

Submitted by: Maryella Hannum; Maureen Byrne; Sophie Turner Zaretsky
GWI UN Representatives/NY; October 28, 2019