

2019 Advocacy Report Template

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, UN Reps are also invited to promote GWI key messages on areas where especially relevant e.g. women in STEM, securing investment in women teachers, addressing barriers to girls' education such as child marriage.*

Meeting attended: (place, date, time, name of meeting) UNICEF 1st EXECUTIVE SESSION
FEBRUARY 11-13, 2020 ; UN Headquarters, NYC

Subject of meeting: Report back to member states

Refers to SDG no #: All

Issues Raised included the following :

Limited funding is a key issue.

2020s need to be a "Decade of Implementation" – need to see results on the ground. Countries urged UNICEF to ensure staff at all levels, headquarters as well as on the ground, will make implementation their goal.

Climate change, the right to an education, and sustainable food all require a coherent approach across the UN if we are to get implementation right.

The organization needs to strengthen country assessments to better assess UNICEF's efficacy.

Increased emphasis on Early Childhood Development, birth to 5, was reported.

UNICEF had to speak to the organization's response on Gender Discrimination and Sexual Harassment.

- Opportunity for flexible hours has increased from 7 to 29%; 54% of users are women
- Training staff; toolkit developed
- Additional mediation services

- 105% increase in allegations
- Stronger disciplinary response for misconduct
- 141 allegations – 23% resulted in discipline
- Strengthen investigation capacity
- An overall UN systems change is needed
- Look at organizational structure as enabler of abuse

WASH – emergency water assistance – only 47% funded

39 million with safe water

9.1 million with sanitation facilities

2.8 million water in schools

Can cause conflict when water is in short supply

US reminded executive committee that we are their largest donor. Went on to say they need to strengthen accountability and improved accessibility. Urged to hire more permanent staff and consistent headquarter staff.

Relevant treaties/Agreements: 2030 Agenda; CRC

Intervention by GWI

How this serves GWI members:

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

Next steps: (what needs to be done)

Upcoming meeting of NGO Committee on UNICEF. We did not receive a briefing this June as is customary and the committee has not met in a number of months.

Maureen Byrne, Ph.D.