



Advocacy report template

GWI advocacy goals

1. 100% of UN 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 UN low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of UN Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.

Please bear in mind these three overarching, long-term goals in any UN intervention that you make on behalf of GWI. Any intervention should push these three 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)

Making Sense of CSW62

Church Center; NYC; March 23, 2018

Subject of meeting:

Analyzing CSW62 - what was gained; what remains to be done.

Panel:

Lara Setrakian, News Deeply, facilitator

Susan O'Malley, Ph.D., NGO CSW/NY

Blessing Digha, Women Deliver

Natalia Lozano, Right Here, Right Now

Memory Kachambwa, FEMNET

Each panelist spoke and then questions and/or comments were taken from the floor.

Memory Kachambwa: Many could not speak for themselves - unable to get visas or could not afford to come. We want women to be inside the room shaping the conclusions. Bold steps need to be taken so we can represent ourselves. We want government to be held accountable.

Blessing Digha (Nigeria): **Positive note:** Mentioned that for the first time she and others from her country were actually able to speak with government representatives because the delegates need to report back that something has been accomplished.

Natalia Lozano (Honduras): Women:

Need to know they have reproductive rights and the ability to choose

- Need to understand that violence is not normal
- Need to understand that they need safety nets
- Need to understand that no one has the right to touch their body without permission
- Need to understand that to speak out is to put yourself in danger

It is not enough to say this at the UN - it needs to be said at home and in a language the women being addressed understand. Women need to know that all of the above are not favors; that they are their rights as human beings.

Susan O'Malley: Visa problems were very bad this year. UN Women has promised they will send a format to visa offices all over the world to facilitate visa approval. Positive takeaways: Youth were well represented and the Secretary General has promised they will not be placed at a separate 'youth' table but with everyone else; some gains made for women and girls living in rural areas in the areas of violence, land rights and climate change. Civil Society remains the conscience of the UN.

Work to do: Gender parity needed at UN Women at the very least. Why are we discussing already agreed upon language?

Document Update

- * Much of the language removed that identified specific subgroups of women such as widows, indigenous etc. Clumped together as 'women'
- * Language related to Migrant and Indigenous women missing
- * Many statements qualified '*as appropriate*' - *child marriage as appropriate*
- * National laws trump international laws
- * Education weakened - little attention to secondary and tertiary education
- * Nothing on mental health at the time this was reported
- * Femicide, infanticide no longer in the document
- * Limited financial inclusion

Suggestions from the floor:

1. Radically reshape how CSW is done.
2. Need to advocate more effectively - for example, ask governments to take 10% of the national budget from military spending and put it toward water and sanitation
3. Need to speak to government - you work for us as citizens - you need to represent us
4. Need for financial partnerships, mobile education, best practices
5. Force government to be accountable - for example, under CEDAW countries need to report every 4 years and then civil society does a shadow report on what is true and not true
6. Men are still negotiating women's issues - why are we allowing that?
7. Have a list of already agreed upon language - and go from there. Stop rehashing already agreed upon language in other treaties, agreements, SDGs
8. Register more youth
9. Raise money to pay for people to come who can't afford it.
10. Oral statements given to an empty room - why is that?

Refers to SDG no #: (please reference)

All 17 SDGs as they relate to women and girls living in rural areas.

Relevant treaties/conventions/resolutions:

2030 SDGs

Beijing Agreement

CEDAW

Intervention by GWI rep: (what you did)

Took notes

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.

Need to look at final document as regards education.

Need to have strong advocacy at state, national and international level for educational funding, especially for those most at risk of being left behind.

Determine how we can get back into the room - Civil Society needs a place at the table.

Next steps:(what needs to be done)

Disseminate to members

Submitted by:

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