

CONFERENCE FOR WOMEN ON PEACE

The rapidity with which new developments in all areas of life sweep in upon us call for an adaptation in action, thought, application of values which are different from what we are accustomed to.

This is a time of violent word and deed, of compulsive reaction in a spirit of frustration. But a plan for peace in a spirit of unity and compassion is imperative. In a period dedicated to human rights, men and women realize that there is too much suffering in the world, continual hunger, untreated illness, illiteracy, racism. Through the works of Peace, women should give greater support to projects of healing, training and rehabilitation.

For many years the Women in the World through their organizations, Commissions, through special institutes that serve women, through leadership training institutes, through national and international conventions and through publications, have been "multipliers" and have developed skills, which have enabled them to participate fully in citizenship action.

Unfortunately the church, political and social structures have not made it possible for women to be part of the policy-making structure.

We are convinced that women have a special role to play and they are the people who implement some of the resolutions that are made by "power groups". Moreover women, as individuals and as members of the various organisations, should participate in the works of Peace, of which some are focused largely on the education process.

Peace cannot be achieved without the meaningful participation of women. Women have a significant role in their homes, and communities. That is why it is important to explore this with them.

The proposed consultation on Women and Peace would aim at

- 1) Increasing the awareness of Women and others, concerning peace, helping them to be conscious of and to use the power and any resources within themselves and in their Communities.
- 2) To bring together women from different denominations, cultures and movements to share experiences, plan action strategies, reflect and evaluate on what is going on.
- 3) To explore together new approaches to women's programmes that would effect change.

- 4) To involve a variety of women who will be invited on the basis of their interest and reputation.

This century presents a line of change, of disturbance and distress.

Some of the Women's Groups have already pledged themselves to working for peace. The YWCA has chosen for its Membership Day as theme "A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE".

"Our methods of working on this task may not have to change too radically in every situation, but a new dynamic must be added to the traditional processes of education and communication. For, in a word, what we hope for is that man should learn to live as man, which means 'in the image of God', as we know Him in the Man Jesus Christ".

RESOLUTIONS - MINNEAPOLIS 1970

"The National Council of Catholic Women urges its affiliates to make peace their business, involve themselves in the problems inherent in achieving world unity, justice and development. We also urge promoting at every level education to form public opinion and to influence political decisions, especially in the area of disarmament. We urge that dialogue, negotiation and arbitration be used for resolving misunderstanding and conflicts".

LIST OF
WOMEN'S NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

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1. ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD
78 Kensington High Street
London W. 8.
England
2. INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN
Secretariat: 143 Rhode Island Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005, USA
3. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN
Flat 4, 16 Grosvenor Place
London, S.W. 1., England
4. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN
13, rue Caumartin
Paris 9e, France
5. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF BUSINESS &
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN
Beaux-Arts Hotel
307 East 44th Street, New York,
N.Y. 10017, USA
6. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY
WOMEN
17a King's Road, Sloane Square,
London, S.W.3., England
7. INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN
MAGISTRATES
9, Boulevard Saint-Martin,
Paris 3e, France
8. LIAISON COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
61, The Avenue, Watford, Herts.,
England
9. OPEN DOOR INTERNATIONAL
Furusundsgatan 11
Stockholm NO, Sweden
10. WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE
AND FREEDOM
12, rue du Vieux-Collège
Geneva, Switzerland

11. WORLD ASSOCIATION OF GIRL GUIDES AND GIRL SCOUTS
The World Bureau, 132 Ebury Street
Westminster, London, S.W.1., England
12. WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
150, route de Ferney, Geneva,
Switzerland
13. WORLD FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN AND GIRLS
14. WORLD UNION OF CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS
Secretariat: 98, rue de l'Université
Paris 7e, France
15. WORLD YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
Headquarters: 37 Quai Wilson
Geneva, Switzerland
16. ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
Headquarters: 59 East Van Buren Street
Chicago 60605, USA
17. ST. JOAN'S INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE
Headquarters: 26A, Dryden Chambers,
119 Oxford Street,
London, W.1., England
18. CURCH WOMEN UNITED
475 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y. 10027, USA
19. EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S ASSEMBLY
San Fernando, La Union
Philippines B. 515
20. COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
21. WOMEN'S RELIGIOUS ORDERS AND DEACONESSES' GROUPS
22. ALL AFRICA CONFERENCE OF WOMEN
Headquarters: Pioneer House
Government Road
P.O. Box 20301
Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa