



ngo forum on women '95 *bulletin*

The NGO Forum on Women is the official organizer of the parallel non-governmental forum to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women.

February/March 1995 Issue 6

NGOs Prepare for March Consultation & CSW

The NGO Consultation on March 13-14, 1995, will focus on proposing amendments to the Platform for Action to be discussed at the 39th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the last Preparatory Committee to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women.

Throughout February, Regional NGO Working Groups, led by regional focal points, have organized meetings to propose amendments to the new draft Platform for Action. Each regional group analyzed plans of action already endorsed by their respective governments at regional preparatory conferences. They then decided on proposals they would make to the PrepCom.

Regional strategy meetings will be held in New York prior to the NGO Consultation to develop plans for lobbying. Daily briefings for the duration of the CSW from March 15-April 4, 1995, will be organized by the NGO Facilitating Committee.

During the CSW, NGOs are expected to advance their preparations for the World Conference on Women and the NGO Forum on Women by lobbying at the CSW, as well as participating in workshops focusing on action and strategies related to the areas of concern outlined in the Platform for Action.

The NGO Forum on Women Office and the New York NGO Committee on the Status of Women are coordinating all aspects of the NGO Consultation and facilitating NGO work during the CSW session.

Beijing NGO Forum '95 Update

As non-governmental organizations all over the world prepare to participate in the NGO Forum on Women

in Beijing, the Forum Office is working diligently to ensure a highly successful meeting.

As expected, interest in the Forum is growing daily. The Forum Office in New York receives hundreds of registrations each week. While every effort is being made to answer all questions regarding arrangements for the Forum, this *Bulletin* gives a more detailed update on the preparations for the Forum.

Registration

The NGO Forum will be held on August 30-September 8, 1995, at the Beijing Workers Sports Services Centre, 20 kilometers from the UN Conference site.

The Forum is open to all individuals. In order to attend the Forum, each person must register by mailing a completed registration form with a fee of US\$50 and two passport-size photographs to the Forum Office in New York.

The deadline for registration is April 30, 1995.

No registrations will be taken on-site. The Forum Office encourages those who wish to attend the Forum to register early.

The registration packet includes an information sheet, as well as forms for registration, requesting space for an activity and reserving a hotel room in Beijing. Packets are available through the Forum Office.

Accreditation for the UN Conference is closed. For questions, contact: NGO Accreditation/Conference Secretariat, Fourth World Conference on Women, 2 UN Plaza, Room 1204, New York, NY 10017, USA. Fax: (212) 963-3463.

Spaces for Activities

To request space for an on-site activity, complete and return the Activity Request Form included in the Forum registration packet by April 30, 1995. Each



request will be processed by the Forum Office, bearing in mind efficient and fair allocation of time and space. Confirmation letters will be sent out beginning in March.

A very limited number of booths will be available for rent on a first-come, first-served basis. These booths cannot be used for commercial purposes. Please contact the Forum Office via fax to request specific information. The Forum Office is currently responding to requests already received.

Translation & Interpretation

The Forum Office is working to ensure that the main meetings and documents are translated/interpreted in English, French, Spanish and Arabic during the Forum.

Hotel & Travel Arrangements

All hotel accommodations for the Forum are being coordinated in Beijing by the China Organizing Committee. The Forum registration packet includes a form listing hotel rates and procedures.

Hotel rooms will only be reserved by the China Organizing Committee if you have registered for the Forum with the Forum Office in New York. **You do not need a registration number from the Forum Office in order to reserve a room.** Each person who would like a room must complete the Hotel Reservation Form included in the registration packet.

Questions regarding hotel accommodations must be directed to the China Organizing Committee at: No. 15 Jianguomen St., Beijing 100730, China. Fax: (861) 522-5329. Unfortunately, the Forum Office in New York cannot answer any queries regarding accommodations in and travel to Beijing.

The Forum Office reiterates that it has not endorsed any travel agents to make travel or accommodation arrangements for its participants. The Forum assumes no responsibility for any problems that may arise in this regard.

Confirmation Letters & Visas

Confirmation letters to registered participants will be sent out beginning in March. This letter must be submitted to your local Chinese Embassy or Consulate to obtain a visa. Remember to make a copy of the letter, which you will need to claim your Forum access pass in Beijing.

Media Accreditation

Journalists wishing to cover the NGO Forum or the Fourth World Conference on Women can obtain official press credentials through the United Nations Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit.

For an application, contact: Sonia Lecca, Chief, Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit, Room S-250, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, USA. Fax: (212) 963-4642.

Once journalists have received credentials from the United Nations, they should contact their local Chinese Embassy or Consulate **no later than July 4, 1995**, to obtain a visa.

Forum Press Center

A press center will be available for journalists covering the Forum. It will provide computers, telephones and fax machines. Press briefings will be scheduled daily and staff will be available to assist journalists and participants.

Forum Facilities

The Forum site will have the following: a business center (for photocopying, wordprocessing, e-mailing and faxing), post office, resource center for NGO informational materials, childcare services and a marketplace.

While the Forum Office is committed to a barrier-free meeting, the site itself is not fully accessible to the mobility-impaired. The Forum Office is working to provide adequate equipment for the hearing and visually impaired.

Two blocks from the site is a 5-star hotel called the Swissôtel Hong Kong Macau (US\$200-250 per night), which has 40 rooms equipped for the mobility-impaired. Those who wish to be considered for those rooms must indicate the name of this hotel on their Hotel Reservation Form.

Send a Sister to Beijing Campaign

Forms for applying for travel scholarships through the Send a Sister to Beijing Campaign are available through the Forum Office. Completed forms must be directed to the Forum Office in New York by March 31, 1995.

Intergenerational Dialogue

On March 17 and 18, the NGO Forum on Women is sponsoring an intergenerational dialogue between young women and leaders of the women's movement.

Young women will lead a panel discussion on the evening of the 17th. The next day, there will be discussion groups on topics like reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, sexuality, media, organizing strategies, partnerships with men, among others.

WHERE TO GET DOCUMENTS

REGIONAL NGO DOCUMENTS

Regional NGO documents are available from the NGO regional focal points listed below. They are also available on e-mail through APC at *wcw.ngo.doc*.

Africa:

Njoki Wainaina. Fax: (524) 274-2927
Soukeyna Ndiaye Ba. Fax: (221) 254-287

Asia & the Pacific:

Sumalee Chartikavanij. Fax: (662) 718-0372
Salamo Fulivai. Fax: (679) 301-222

Latin America & the Caribbean:

Virginia Vargas. Fax: (5114) 339-060.

Ana Falu. Fax: (545) 181-4063

Europe & North America:

Danielle Bridel. Fax: (4122) 917-0181
Stella LeJohn. Fax: (204) 837-8304

Western Asia:

Haifa Abu Ghazaleh. Fax: (9626) 694-810
Hoda Badran. Fax: (202) 393-6820

DRAFT PLATFORM FOR ACTION

The draft Platform for Action will be available from the following: Division for the Advancement of Women. Fax: (212) 963-3463; UN Department of Public Information. Fax: (212) 963-4556; UN regional focal points; National focal points for the World Conference on Women (A directory is available for purchase from the International Women's Tribune Centre. Fax: (212) 661-2704).

It is also available on e-mail through APC:

un.wcw.doc.eng (English); *un.wcw.doc.esp* (Spanish);
un.wcw.doc.fra (French); and through TogetherNet at
fourth_wcw@Together.org.

REGIONAL UN PLANS OF ACTION

The UN Regional Plans of Action are available on e-mail through TogetherNet at *fourth_wcw@Together.org* and from the UN regional focal points.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Preview '95

International Women's Tribune Centre, 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA

Hacia Beijing '95

ISIS International/FEMPRESS, Casilla 16637, Correo 9, Santiago, Chile. E-mail: *muj.beij95* through APC

Women on the Move

Division for the Advancement of Women, 2 UN Plaza, DC2-1234, New York, NY 10017, USA

Our Vision

To bring together women and men to challenge, create and transform global structures and processes at all levels through the empowerment and celebration of women. We are committed to equality, peace, justice, inclusiveness and full participation of all.

The *NGO Forum on Women '95 Bulletin* is the occasional newsletter of the NGO Forum on Women. It is the official source of information for registered participants to the Forum.

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