



**WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM  
1325 PEACEWOMEN E-NEWS**

Issue #52  
20 January 2005



**REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION  
(BEIJING +10): FIVE WEEKS TO GO**

The Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, 31 October 2000.

For the text of the resolution, visit: <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/sc/1325.html>

For the printer-friendly version of this newsletter and for past issues, visit:  
<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/1325News/1325ENewsindex.html>

**THIS ISSUE FEATURES:**

1. **1325 Translation Update:** Tetum and Danish Translations Now Available
2. **Women, Peace and Security News**
3. **Feature Event:** Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform For Action (Beijing +10): Five Weeks To Go
4. **Gender and Peacekeeping Update:** New Report & Upcoming Event
5. **UNIFEM Update:** UNIFEM Responds to the Tsunami Tragedy
6. **Women, Peace and Security Calendar**

*If you would like to fill out the 1325 PeaceWomen E-News evaluation form in either English or French, please write to [1325news@peacewomen.org](mailto:1325news@peacewomen.org) and we will send you the questionnaire by email.*

*PeaceWomen is a project of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.  
Please visit us at <http://www.peacewomen.org>.*

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**1. 1325 TRANSLATION UPDATE: DANISH & TETUM TRANSLATIONS NOW AVAILABLE**

**TOTAL NUMBER OF AVAILABLE TRANSLATIONS: 63**

PeaceWomen recently received a Tetum translation (Timor-Leste) and a Danish translation of UNSC resolution 1325.

The **Tetum** translation was completed by the UN Mission of Support in East Timor (UNMISSET). For more information, contact:

Isabelle Waterschoot, Gender Adviser

Office of the SRSG - UNMISSET

Dili, Timor Leste

Email: [waterschoot@un.org](mailto:waterschoot@un.org)

Tel: +670 - 3312210 (ext 5068), Via NYC: +1-212- 963-0099 – 5068, Via Australia

+61.8.8946.3900-5068

Fax: +670 - 3322007

Mobile: +670 - 7230720

The **Danish** translation was completed by Kvinderådet/the Women's Council in Denmark. For more information, contact:

Majken Lundberg

Kvinderådet/the Women's Council in Denmark

Email: [Majken@kvinderaad.dk](mailto:Majken@kvinderaad.dk)

Ph. +45 3312 8087 Fax +45 3312 6740

Niels Hemmingsensgade 10, Postboks 1069

DK - 1008 København K

<http://www.kvinderaadet.dk>

View the 63 translations, at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inTranslation/index.html>

For information about the translators, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/1325inTranslation/sources.html>

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## **2. WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY NEWS**

### **IRAQ: WOMEN'S RIGHTS HINGE ON VOTE**

January 19, 2005 - (Knight Ridder News Service) On Baghdad's college campuses, the poster woman promoting the parliamentary elections Jan. 30 is a pretty student with a swinging ponytail and bare arms.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Iraq/Jan05/hinge.html>

### **FIJI: FEMTALK 89.2FM GOES MOBILE...**

January 10, 2005 - (femLINKpacific Release) Another exciting initiative is about to take place with femLINKpacific (Media Initiatives for Women), a women's media NGO which in 2004, launched its mobile women's community radio project, femTALK 89.2FM. This month, the femLINKpacific volunteer team takes to the road with their "radio in a suitcase."

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Fiji/Jan05/femTALKmobileradio.pdf>

### **SUDAN'S WOMEN HOPE FOR PEACE, DIVIDED OVER SHARIA**

January 7, 2005 - (Reuters) Sudanese women have remained conservative, covered and mostly out of power under the Islamist government which overthrew a short-lived democracy in a bloodless military coup some 15 years ago.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Sudan/Jan05/hopedivided.html>

### **DISPLACED WOMEN AND CHILDREN TSUNAMI SURVIVORS NEED IMMEDIATE PROTECTION FROM TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE**

January 7, 2005 - (WCRWC) The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children urges the international community to prioritize the protection of displaced women and children survivors of southeast Asia's devastating tsunami. Children are in particular danger of trafficking, while women are at risk of abuse and exploitation as a result of their vulnerable situation.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/International/Jan05/Tsunamidisplaced.html>

### **"WEAVING IN 1325" INTO DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS**

January 6, 2005 - (femLINKpacific Release) With all the efforts to date since the December 26th tragedy, it is still important to continue to link the advancement of women in peace-building especially in the context of the deadly conflict in Sri Lanka, with the need right now, on the ground, which includes the need for women's authority and leadership in the recovery programmes after the terrible tsunami. If women's voices are absent from the international and national communities involved, the recovery process will be unbalanced and completely inadequate for any country's future.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Fiji/Jan05/1325Tsunami.html>

### **GUATEMALA: WOMEN'S LIVES ARE WORTH NOTHING, SAY ANTI-VIOLENCE ACTIVISTS**

December 23, 2004 - (IPS) Luz Marina Aragón, a 44-year-old Nicaraguan woman, was murdered and chopped into pieces, which were put into plastic bags and cardboard boxes and scattered around Guatemala City. While her case is especially gruesome, it is just one of the 489 murders of women reported in Guatemala this year.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Guatemala/Dec04/worth.html>

### **SIERRA LEONE: FORMER REBELS ACCUSED OF RETAINING 'BUSH WIVES'**

December 20, 2004 - (The Independent) UNICEF in Sierra Leone says many of the girls and women used as "sex slaves" by commanders of the various fighting factions in Sierra Leone are still retained by them. The agency's assertion is based on a report in the 2004 Global report. The 2004 Global report says over 10, 000 children, including girls, were recruited as combatants during the ten-year civil conflict from 1991 to 2002 in Sierra Leone.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/SierraLeone/Dec04/wives.html>

### **WOMEN AND RWANDA'S GENOCIDE: WHAT GOES UNSAID**

December 2004 - (WHRnet) Genocide, rape, and HIV infection have condemned these women to certain death. We call them "survivors," when in fact their deaths are merely delayed.

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/Rwanda/Dec04/genocide.html>

For more country-specific women, peace and security news, please visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/countryindex.html>

For more international women, peace and security news, please visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/news/International/Index.html>

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## **3. FEATURE EVENT**

### **REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION (BEIJING +10): FIVE WEEKS TO GO**

The UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the UN body that will host the 10-year Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing +10), will commence its 49<sup>th</sup> Session in five weeks.

#### Preparations for a Political Declaration

It is probable that the political declaration, the expected outcome document from the governmental negotiations, will be formulated before the commencement of the 49<sup>th</sup> Session of the CSW. We expect that the governmental representatives in New York will have nearly or completely finished their work on an outcome document before the start of the UN Commission for Social Development, in four weeks time. The Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women and the UN Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) have allotted time for political negotiations during the CSW, in case the negotiations are not completed beforehand.

Civil society organizations should contact their national governments to ask for transparency and accountability in the development of the governmental position on the Review and Appraisal and in the processes of drafting the political declaration and the government's plenary statement.

#### Bureau of the CSW and the Division on the Advancement of Women (DAW)

The work of the CSW has been on-going since the conclusion of the 48<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission: CSW members have participated in language negotiations and in on-going *informals*, led by the Bureau of the CSW. The current members of the Bureau, who are representative of the five major regions, are, as follows:

Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, Chairperson (Republic of Korea)  
Ms. Marine Davtyan, Vice Chairperson (Republic of Armenia)  
Ms. Tebatso Future Baleseng, Vice-Chairperson (Botswana)  
Ms. Beatrice Maille, Vice-Chairperson (Canada)

Ms. Romy Tincopa, Vice-Chairperson (Peru)

These Bureau members facilitate and hasten the work of the CSW at-large, as they seek and receive mandates from the members of the CSW, and, in collaboration with UN DAW, carry out tasks on behalf of the CSW. The Bureau will continue to hold its own meetings and *informals*, including language negotiations, with the CSW members throughout January and February 2005.

Conclusion of UN Regional Meetings on the Review of the BPFA

The five regional meetings, hosted by the UN regional commissions in preparation for the 10-year Review in March 2005, have concluded. Civil society organizations participated in NGO forums held prior to the regional governmental meetings, and lobbied governmental delegations during the regional reviews. Civil society regional representatives continue to mobilize supporters of the Beijing Platform for Action, and will present their work and recommendations to the United Nations at a roundtable discussion prior to the CSW on 24 February, and at a high-level panel during the CSW on 4 March.

For the outcomes of the regional processes, visit the regional commissions' websites:  
Western Asia: <http://www.escwa.org.lb/ecw/index.asp>  
Asia and the Pacific: <http://www.unescap.org/esid/GAD/Issues/Beijing+10/index.asp>  
Latin America and the Caribbean: <http://www.eclac.org/mujer/>  
Africa: <http://www.uneca.org/beijingplus10/>  
Europe and North America: <http://www.unece.org/oes/gender/beijing10.htm>

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**New Beijing +10 Global Week of Action Website Released**

*Global Week of Action for Women's Rights* website: <http://www.beijingandbeyond.org/>

Beijing +10 provides the global women's movement the opportunity to assess governments' implementation of the Beijing Platform; to give voice to issues important to women; to unite for our common agenda for peace, human rights and social justice both in country and across the globe; to advance feminist perspectives and not just defend gains won in the recent past; to look ahead and build upon the victories achieved at the global level and as a global movement; to not only strengthen our common fight for these gains, but also boldly move ahead to set new feminist agendas for ourselves, for our governments and for the multilateral system; to push for women's full equality at the UN and in local, national, regional, and global processes. We must use this occasion to advance a feminist agenda for the 21st century. The Beijing + 10 process is a political moment of world attention on women that can be used to focus on our concerns and to build momentum for re-politicization of gender equality work.

From March 1-8, 2005 women across the globe will organize local, national, regional, and international actions to address a broad range of concerns, demand action on commitments to women's rights and gender equality, and celebrate our gains of recent decades. While most of the focus will be on activities taking place around the globe, there will also be a week of local activities in New York parallel to the Commission on the Status of Women's formal review of the Beijing Platform in order to link the local actions to the global process.

The Global Week of Action for Women's Rights is coordinated at the global level by the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL), Development Alternatives With Women For A New Era (DAWN) and Women's Environment & Development Organization (WEDO), and will be co-sponsored by women's and social justice groups across the world. Join, co-sponsor, link up, share activities and information and stay informed! For information email the coordinators at: [Beijing@beijingandbeyond.org](mailto:Beijing@beijingandbeyond.org).

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom is a co-sponsor of the Week of Action.

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**NGO Statements on the 10-Year Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action**

***NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security Statement on the 10-year Review of the Beijing Platform for Action***

*14 January 2005*

Recognizing the linkages between the commitments made in the Beijing Platform for Action, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women, the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the Millennium Declaration, and

Emphasizing that sustainable peace is a prerequisite for development:

We urge Member States to prioritize implementation of the commitments made in these documents and to integrate the following principles into the Political Declaration and their respective plenary statements at the 49th Session of CSW:

- Ensure equal access and full participation of women in power structures and all levels of decision-making on the prevention and resolution of armed conflicts as well as on the maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Put in place institutional mechanisms and temporary special measures including quotas in order to achieve women's full participation in decision-making on peace and security issues.

For the full text, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ngo/ngostatements/B10positionpaper.pdf>

***Women's International League for Peace and Freedom Statement on the 10-year Review of the Beijing Platform for Action***

*14 January 2005*

On the occasion of the ten-year Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) takes this opportunity to express its unequivocal support for the Platform and its full implementation. Since its inception in 1915, WILPF has worked to prevent armed conflicts and to establish the conditions for sustainable peace on a global scale. As a NGO with UN consultative status, WILPF has vigorously participated in all of the United Nations-sponsored World Conferences on Women. In light of its historical work, WILPF continues to affirm the struggle for full recognition and fulfillment of women's human rights, including economic, social and sexual rights...

For the full text, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/Beijing10%20/B10WILPFStatement.pdf>

***Isha L'Isha - Haifa Feminist Center, Israel, Statement on the Beijing +10 Review (part of the statement)***

*13 January 2005*

The 1325 Project of the Isha l'Isha - Haifa Feminist Center works, among other things to include women from different backgrounds and sectors of society, and to encourage them to take part in formal and informal negotiations and discussions on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, also in order to bring gender perspective to the negotiation tables.

Women are almost completely absent from the official negotiations that Israel has held with the Palestinians. This fact is true regarding the negotiations for implementing the Oslo accords between 1991-2000, which was the single longest attempt at negotiations to

achieve a peace between Israel and the Palestinians. The presence, or rather absence of women, is exactly the same in other and later initiatives, as in recent negotiations to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, including the Road-Map and the Geneva Accords. This situation derives itself mainly, from the minimal representation women have in general in decision-making levels in Israeli politics...

For the full text of this statement, as well as that of other civil society organizations, visit: <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/Beijing10%20/beijing10index.html>

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### **Beijing +10 Preparations on PeaceWomen.org**

For timely information on the Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform, including:

- Overview calendar for Beijing +10
- UN documents and resolutions related to Beijing +10
- NGO documents on Beijing +10
- Overview of the regional meetings
- Related NGO and UN websites on the Review and Appraisal

Visit <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/Beijing10%20/beijing10index.html>

Plus, look for a sign-on letter from the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, New York on the importance of the reaffirmation and implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action on PeaceWomen.org soon!

For a sampling of Beijing +10-related events, see the Women, Peace and Security Calendar below.

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## **4. GENDER & PEACEKEEPING UPDATE**

### ***NEW REPORT: Investigation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services into allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/59/661)***

*5 January 2005*

In early 2004, media reports emerged alleging that UN peacekeepers in the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) were involved in the sexual exploitation and abuse of Congolese girls in Bunia, in the Ituri District in the north-east of the DRC. After carrying out a number of internal investigations, MONUC and the UN's Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) requested the UN's Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) to investigate the allegations. The OIOS report, which has just been released, is based on a three-month investigation from June to September 2004.

According to the report's Summary:

"Interviews with Congolese women and girls confirmed that sexual contact with peacekeepers occurred with regularity, usually in exchange for food or small sums of money. Many of these contacts, which were further confirmed by evidence from others adduced by the OIOS team, involved girls under the age of 18, with some as young as 13.

...OIOS has made recommendations for corrective action based on the investigative findings, which are set out in 20 reports submitted to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and MONUC. The recommendations have all been accepted by the Department..."

Below is a sampling of the OIOS' recommendations:

### **Recommendation 3**

51. Senior MONUC managers must become more involved and demand accountability from both civilian administrators and contingent commanders in the Mission. MONUC must take steps to ensure that administrators and officers demonstrate implementation of all existing regulations and policies aimed at preventing sexual abuse and exploitation

### **Recommendation 7**

55. MONUC should collaborate, perhaps under the auspices of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, with other non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies in the Bunia area to find ways of strengthening the existing programmes to empower and protect the vulnerable population to allow for alternative means of survival;

### **Recommendation 8**

56. Given that this problem is not unique to MONUC, and with new missions being opened in areas where similar problems can arise, it is recommended that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations consider a wider application of prevention and detection policies to protect against sexual abuse and exploitation by peacekeepers. This may include the designation of local officials or nongovernmental organizations to receive reports of sexual exploitation and abuse; the central reporting of all cases to mission senior management on an expedited basis; the development of mission-based rapid-response teams; the development of educational programmes for the troops on their responsibilities and on sanctions for sexual exploitation and abuse; the public naming and shaming of those found to have engaged in sexual exploitation and abuse; and the permanent exclusion from peacekeeping missions of those troops who engage in sexual exploitation and abuse and of their contingents' commanders.

The full OIOS report is available at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/discipline/OIOSreportMONUCSEA05.pdf>

UNIFEM has produced a summary of the report, which is available on their DRC Country Profile at: <http://www.womenwarpeace.org/drc/drc.htm>

### ***Press Briefings***

Barbara Dixon, Director of OIOS's Investigations Division, presented the OIOS report in a briefing to correspondents. A summary of the briefing is available at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/News/05/OIOSbriefing.html>

During the press briefing on the Secretary-General's new report on MONUC (S/2004/1034), Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Marie Guehenno, and the head of MONUC, William Lacy Swing, answered questions about the findings of the OIOS investigation in MONUC. The relevant excerpts from this briefing are available at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/News/05/DRCbriefing.html>

For related **news stories** on the findings of the OIOS report, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/pknews.html>

### ***Ongoing Investigations***

There is currently a special investigative team in DRC, headed by the Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management, Angela Kane. The team, which includes highly specialized civilian police investigators, will address outstanding allegations against military and civilian personnel in MONUC. We shall post information related to this investigation if and when it becomes available at:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/pkwatch.html>

PeaceWomen monitors the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse, and the UN's prevention and response efforts through its Peacekeeping Watch webpage:  
<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/pkwatch.html>

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**UPCOMING EVENT: 2005 Session of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34)**

*31 January - 25 February 2005, UN Headquarters, New York*

***Background***

The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations was established in 1965 by General Assembly resolution 2006 (XIX) to conduct a comprehensive review of all issues relating to peacekeeping. Since then, it has met on an annual basis to produce a "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects." It reports, as required, to the General Assembly, through the Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth) Committee, on its work. The "Comprehensive review" of the Special Committee is followed each year by a report from the Secretary-General on "Implementation of the recommendations of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations."

The C-34 consists of approximately 100 United Nations Member States, mostly past or current contributors of peacekeeping personnel. Other Member States also participate in the work of the Special Committee as observers (see GA resolution 51/136 for membership rules). For a list of the C-34's members, visit:  
<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/Events/C34/Index.html#Membership>

There are currently no formal entry points for NGO participation in the C-34. Despite the lack of any formalized mechanisms, NGOs, like the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, have participated in the past by, for example, sharing recommendations and highlighting issues of concern with governmental delegations in advance of, and during, the Special Committee's session. For information about the NGO Working Group's plans for the upcoming session, see below.

**C-34 homepage:** <http://www.un.org/Depts/dpko/dpko/ctte/CTTEE.htm>

***C-34 & Gender Issues***

As part of its overall mandate, the Special Committee reports on gender issues in its "Comprehensive review." Similarly, in his follow-up report, the Secretary-General addresses any new developments in the area of gender issues, as they relate to what was highlighted by the Special Committee.

The Secretary-General noted in his report on women, peace and security (S/2004/814), "The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations has increasingly paid attention to issues concerning women, peace and security and has called for the full implementation of the resolution."

PeaceWomen has compiled all of the gender language found in the documentation related to the C-34, including the most recent Secretary-General's report, available at:  
<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/Events/C34/Index.html#References>

**PeaceWomen's C-34 Index:**

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/Events/C34/Index.html>

***NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security***

The NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security is currently preparing recommendations on gender issues to submit to the members of the C-34 for their consideration during their deliberations and drafting of the final outcome document.

The NGOWG submitted recommendations at the 2004 session of the C-34 and informally monitored the session. For the recommendations and information compiled from the 2004 session, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/Events/C34/C34O4sessionindex.html>

PeaceWomen's Gender and Peacekeeping Index:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/un/pkwatch/pkindex.html>

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## 5. UNIFEM UPDATE

### UNIFEM Responds to the Tsunami Tragedy

UNIFEM partners in South and South East Asia and in the Horn of Africa are taking immediate action to respond to the tragedy and horrifying loss of lives, livelihoods and communities wrought by the earthquake and tsunamis that struck these regions on 26 December 2005.

Within two days of the tragedy, women's organizations that UNIFEM has been working with in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Somalia began sending stories and information from women affected by the disaster. The women home-based workers in Sri Lanka that UNIFEM has been supporting for the past 3 years are losing their primary livelihoods. Women's groups in Sri Lanka have already reported incidents of rape and molestation of women and girls in rescue operations and in temporary shelters. In Aceh, where aid operations are taking place under the framework of continuing civil emergency, women volunteers have reported facing harassment and intimidation. Women who are now heads of households and have lost male family members are particularly vulnerable. To ensure that the relief and reconstruction efforts in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Somalia take fully into account the human rights, protection, livelihood and leadership of women and women's organizations, UNIFEM is mobilizing its networks and experience in support of a coordinated effort toward a gender-responsive emergency response and long-term reconstruction.

UNIFEM will build on its long history of work with women's organizations and networks worldwide through quick impact projects, building on existing women's associations and networks, as well as initiatives to build capacity to better protect and promote women's human rights during the first year of relief and reconstruction. UNIFEM will support women's organizations to articulate their priorities and participate in reconstruction, advocate for specific attention to the gender dimensions of safety and protection as relief efforts take shape and broker partnerships so that funds can get directly to local and national organizations working in the affected areas.

More information about UNIFEM's efforts to respond to the tragedy, its impact on women throughout the affected region and how you can help, can be found at:

<http://www.unifem.org/campaigns/tsunami/index.html>

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## 6. WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY CALENDAR

### **Beijing + 10: We want the whole Platform! Some goals are not enough.**

*28 January 2005, 8:30am - 1:30pm, World Social Forum, First floor of Diversity Boat (Barco da Diversidade), docked at GASÔMETRO Pier, Porto Alegre, Brazil*

The Beijing +10 Review Committee of Latin America and the Caribbean cordially invites all feminist networks, regional campaigns, national level articulations, organizations, groups and women attending the WSF to the meeting in preparation for the Beijing +10 review and appraisal process, aiming to assess its outcomes and collectively build strategies for the 49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women to be held in

New York, March 2005, where the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, approved by more than 180 governments in Beijing in 1995, will be evaluated. We would like to use this opportunity to share experiences of national processes, and also share information on our agendas and on parallel activities that will take place at the UN and in the framework of the CSW, from 28 February to 11 March, as well as register all fellow women who will be present in this important meeting, where feminist women of our region should actively participate. This event is organized and hosted by the members of the Review Committee of Latin America and the Caribbean. For more information contact: Alejandra Sarda at [coordamlac@yahoo.com.mx](mailto:coordamlac@yahoo.com.mx).

**UN Expert Group Meeting: Achievements, gaps and challenges in linking the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, the Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals**

*7-10 February 2005, Baku, Azerbaijan*

The UN Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) will hold this Expert Group Meeting in preparation for the 10-year review of the Beijing Platform for Action in March 2005 at UN headquarters. For more information, visit <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/bpfamd2005/index.html>.

**NGO Consultation: From Mexico City to Beijing and Beyond: Realizing the Vision**

*27 February 2005, 8:30am-6:00pm, Barnard College, New York, USA*

*Sponsored by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW), New York*

In preparation for the Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action at the UN headquarters in New York, the NGO CSW, New York has organized a day of panels and breakout sessions for civil society participants to learn and strategize so as to effectively participate in the Review and Appraisal by the UN Commission on the Status of Women. All registrations must be received by 7 February 2005. For more information contact: [ngo\\_csw\\_ny@hotmail.com](mailto:ngo_csw_ny@hotmail.com).

**49th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Review and Appraisal of the Beijing Platform for Action (+10)**

*28 February - 11 March 2005, United Nations, New York*

The Commission will address: 1. Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"; 2. Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls. For more information, visit <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/Review/> and <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/Beijing10%20/beijing10index.html>.

**Call for Participation:**

***How does change happen?: The 10th AWID International Forum on Women's Rights and Development***

*27-30 October 2005, Bangkok, Thailand, Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)*

*Submission Deadline: 1 March 2005*

Through workshops, debates, plenaries and multi-media presentations, we will share lessons on key change processes and candidly evaluate our efforts toward gender equality. We will also look more critically at our theories and histories of change, as we move toward shared visions of the future. In doing so, we intend to learn more about how to effect the kinds of transformation that result in economic justice, clean environments, and end to armed conflict, and the elimination of discrimination against women. For more information, call +1.416.594.3773, or email: [awidforum@awid.org](mailto:awidforum@awid.org).

For the complete calendar, visit:

<http://www.peacewomen.org/frame/calendar/calendar.html>