

2 March 2020

António Guterres
United Nations Secretary General
405 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017, USA

Mher Margaryan
Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Armenia
119 E 36th St, New York, New York 10016

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka
UN Women Executive Director
220 E 42nd St, New York, NY 10017, United States

Aina Iiyambo
Executive Secretary CSW and Policy Advisor, Intergovernmental Support Division
220 E 42nd St, New York, NY 10017, United States

Subject: Civil society letter supporting postponement of CSW64

Dear Excellencies,

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the most important annual process to review progress and challenges towards achieving women's human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The government commitments to reaffirm the Beijing Platform for Action are a centerpiece. However, the CSW is powerful in many other ways. It brings together governments, UN agencies and the beautiful diversity of civil society to discuss, debate and collaborate on ways to accelerate progress and commit to actions that will achieve these joint goals.

We recognize the seriousness of the health concerns due to COVID-19, including the WHO's classification of the outbreak as a level 4 international health emergency and the letters from the Secretary General and the Chair of the CSW urging that the session not continue as planned for the two weeks beginning on March 9th. As feminists, as civil society, we first and foremost want to safeguard people's health and well-being, and we do not wish to subject anyone to the additional risks of interrupted travel, quarantine, or inability to leave the country in a timely manner if more governments put in place travel restrictions.

However, CSW is a place/mechanism accountable to all women and girls in all their diversity around the world, and it **cannot** be held without safe, meaningful and informed participation of women's movements. Particularly in view of the Beijing+25 review processes, in which women's movements and civil society have been actively participating in all regions of the world, CSW64 cannot go ahead without

our participation. We have committed energy and resources, and in some cases, risked lives, to come together at the CSW.

We urge governments to:

- Postpone CSW64 to later in 2020. Make that decision as soon as possible to allow the highest participation and least disruption. Holding it alongside relevant events could maximize attendance, for example, the President of the General Assembly is holding a multi-stakeholder dialogue on Beijing+25 in July, and celebrations around Resolutions 1325 on WPS will take place after the General Assembly.
- Establish different modes of engagement leading up to the rescheduled dates of CSW64. These can include online sessions or written submission channels for civil society to inform/influence the CSW session, particularly in consideration of the fact that rescheduling of CSW64 itself will undoubtedly affect the level of participation of diverse women's movements and civil society organizations, not least due to cost implications. And, many of us block March for CSW but in other months we have other important work to do.

Further, we urge the UN to issue letters of support for affected participants to use in order to request reimbursement of expenses incurred due to the changing circumstances and the disruption to the CSW. Any decision will have immense consequences for the already limited resources of the women's movement, and this cannot be ignored.

The 25th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action deserves the attention and concerted action of a CSW with the broadest possible attendance of governments and civil society. We urge you to postpone to a later date to ensure that no one is left behind.

This letter is signed by the organizations below and is actively open for sign-on by additional organizations. As of 9:35am New York time on March 2nd, 2020, we have 470 organizations.

Sincerely,

List updated after letter was sent to addressees. Final list below includes 499 organizations from 92 countries

ABAAD - Resource Center for Gender Equality

ACAL-AZUL

Access Now

Acciones para la Igualdad entre Mujeres y Hombres A. C.

ACT Alliance

Act Church of Sweden

Action for Change Tanzanite

Action for Youth Development Uganda

Action works nepal (awon)
ActionAid
Africa For Africa Women
African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)
African Women's Network for Community management of Forests (REFACOF)
AIDOS
Akina Mama wa Afrika
ALL INDIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
Alliance Against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN)
ALLIANCE CONTRE LA PAUVRETE AU MALI
AMASBIF
ANANDI
ARC International
Arms of Comfort Foundation
Arthemisas por la Equidad, A. C.
Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA)
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)
Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM) and Asian Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB)
Asia-Pacific Human Rights Information Center
Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW)
Asmaa Society for Development
Associaçao de Mulheres Contra a Violência
Associação Moçambicana das Mulheres de Carreira Juridica
Associació Hèlia
ASSOCIATION DE LUTTE CONTRE LES VIOLENCES FAITES AUX FEMMES EXTRÊME NORD CAMEROUN
(ALVF EN)
Association Dushirehamwe
Association of African Women for Research and Development (AAWORD/AFARD)
Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK)
Association tunisienne de gouvernance et d'égalité des chances
Awaj Foundation
Azad Foundation
B.a.B.e. Be active. Be emancipated.
Balance Promoción para el Desarrollo y Juventud
Banteay Srei organisation
Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
Barra de Abogafas María Sandoval de Zarco AC
Beijing +25 Youth Task Force
Beyond Beijing Committee Nepal
BI KIND INITIATIVE
Blind Women Association, Nepal (BWAN)
Blue Diamond Society

BPW Spain
BPW, Nepal
Bretton Woods Project
Business Focus
Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives
Canadian Council of Muslim Women
Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women
Canadian Voice of Women for Peace
Casa Amiga Esther Chávez Cano A.C
Casa Rara
Cátedra UNESCO de Derechos Humanos de la Universidad Nación Autónoma de México
CAUCUS DES FEMMES CONGOLAISES DU SUDKIVU POUR LA PAIX
Cawtar
CEAMUJER
CEDAW Committee of Trinidad and Tobago
CEHO INTERNATIONAL
Center for Accelerated Women's Economic Empowerment (CAWEE)
Center for gender studies, University of Padova
Center for Legal Civic Initiatives
Center for People's Development
Center for Women's Studies, Zagreb, Dolac 8
Center for Women's Global Leadership
Centre des Dames Mourides (CDM)
Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA
Centro Cultural Esperanza Rodriguez
Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Electorales de Sinaloa, A.C.
CENTRO MUJERES A.C.
Centro Mujeres Graciela Hierro A.C.
CEPROSAF
Chinese Canadian National Council for Social Justice
CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality
Cidhal AC
Ciesas
CIMAC
CLADEM
Cmpic Cdmx
CMPIC sector Guanajuato
CNDC
Coalition on Violence Against Women
COC Netherlands
COCAFEM/ Great Lakes
COFEM Maloi

Colectiva Artemisa
Colectivo "Género y Teología para el Desarrollo"
Colectivo Lambda
Colegio de Mujeres Profesionales de la Industria de la Construcción (CMPIC)
Collectif Sénégalais des Africaines pour la Promotion de l'Education Relative à l'Environnement -
COSAPERÉ
Colour of Poverty-Colour of Change
COMITE NATIONAL FEMME ET DEVELOPPEMENT (CONAFED)
Cómplices por la Igualdad MenEngage México
Comunicación, Intercambio y Desarrollo Humano en América Latina, Asociación Civil (CIDHAL A C)
Confédération des syndicats nationaux (CSN)
Consejera Socialpor guerrero
CONSELL NACIONAL DONES D'ESPANYA
Coordinación Feminista Olimpia de Gouges AC
Corporación La Morada
Corporación Miles
CREA
Creación Positiva
CreSer
CSO "La Strada-Ukraine"
CUTS Lusaka
D.i.Re - Donne in Rete contro la violenza
Daughters Of Kenya
DCU
Department of Family Affairs
Derechos Autonomías y Sexualidades (DAS)
Desarrollo Social con Igualdad y diversidad, Desidi, A. C.
Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)
Development Studies, School of Social Sciences, Faculty of Arts, University of Auckland
DIVA for Equality, Fiji
Domine -Organization for Promotion of Women's Rights
DUKINGIRE ISI YACU
Education as a Vaccine
Egyptian Business Women Association
Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights
Empower Foundation
Ending Violence Association of Canada
ENG-KAD Association of women with Disabilities
Equal Pay Coalition
Equality
Equality Now
Equidad de Género, Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia

EQUIDE AC

Espaço Feminista

Eu concordo com adiamento do csw

Eyala

FAMEDEV--Inter African Network for Women, Media, Gender and Development/Reseau Interafrican pour les Femmes, Medias, Genre et Développement

Federación Mexicana de Universitarias

Federation of Entrepreneurs

Federation of Reproductive Health Associations, Malaysia

Federation of sexual and Gender minorities Nepal

Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)

Feminist League, Kazakhstan

Feminist Legal Studies Queen's, Faculty of Law, Queen's University, and Global Alliance for Tax Justice

Gender and Taxation Working Group

Feminist Task Force

femLINKPacific Pacific

Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)

FEMNET African Women's Development and Communication Network

Fiji Women's Rights Movement

Fiji Women's Crisis Centre

Filipino Migrants Workers' Union

First Future Leadership

FLYING BROOM FOUNDATION-UÇAN SÜPÜRGE VAKFI

FOKUS - Forum for Women and Development

Fondo Alquimia

Fondo de Mujeres Bolivia Apthapi Jopueti

Fondo Lunaria Mujer

Fondo Semillas

Foráneas seguras

Forum for African Women Educationalists

Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE)

Forum Mulher

Forum of women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan

FRI - The Norwegian Organisation for Sexual and Gender Diversity

Fundació Aroa

Fundació Surt - Surt Foundation

Fundacion Arcoiris

Fundación CBC

Fundacion para estudio e Investigacion de la Mujer

FUNDACION. Plurales

FUSA AC

G.R.A.C.E. Foundation

Gabasawa Women and Children Empowerment Initiative
GAM
GAMAG, Global Alliance on Media and Gender
Gasy Youth Up
Gender Action Tanzania - GATA
Gender and development for Cambodia
Gender Desk. Federal Ministry of Science and Technology
Gender Equality Advocacy and Action Network
Girls Power Initiative (GPI) Calabar
Girls Right to learn Liberia (GRL-LIB)
Global Alliance for Tax Justice
Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)
Global Union delegations (including EI, ITF, ITUC, PSI, UNI Global Union) and national union delegations (including CLC, Canada and CGIL, Italy)
Gobernanza MX
Gosulcares foundation
Green and Better world
GROOTS Kenya
Gruo Las Lobas Mx
Grupo Amplio de Mujeres, GAM
Grupo de Mujeres de San Cristóbal Las Casas AC
Haki Mashinani
HelpAge International Kenya
Her-Ability Foundation
HomeNet Pakistan
Human Rights Campaign
Iamcr
iCON Enterprise Foundation (iCON)
ILGA World
ILSB
Independent Women's Rights Activist
Indonesian Mental Health Association
Iniciativa Mesoamericana de Defensoras de Derechos Humanos (IM-Defensoras)
Institute for Social Transformation
Int. Society of Media in Public Health
Int'l Centre For Women Empowerment & Child Dev
International Service for Human Rights
International Bar Association
International Development Consultant
International Domestic Workers Federation
International Family Equality Day
International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW)

International Federation of Women Lawyers (Fida Nigeria)
International Network of Liberal Women
International Public Association Gender Perspectives
International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)
International Women's Health Coalition
International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific
International Women's rights action watch
International Youth Alliance for Family Planning
Internationallawyers.org
Ipas
ISM- Institute for Self Management
ISMPH
IT for Change
J adhère au report AFEL - ONG
JUST ASSOCIATES (JASS)
Ka.der (Association for Supporting Women Candidates)
KANCO
Kaos Gay and Lesbian Association
Kazakhstan Feminist Initiative "Feminita"
KeM Consulting
Kenya Female Advisory Organization
KENYA SEX WORKERS ALLIANCE
Keremetic AC
Kırmızı Biber Derneği
Korea Sexual Violence Relief Center
Korea Women's Associations United
Korea Women's Political Solidarity
Kunowa Creations
L' Associacio de Drets Sexuals i Reproductius
La Palabre
Las Reinas Chulas Cabaret y Derechos Humanos AC
Liberia National Students' Union (LINSU).
Liberian Observer Corporation
Líderes Promoviendo la Cultura de la Legalidad AC
Lindora Howard Diawara
LOOM
Luna Creciente Ecuador
MagistradaYa
Maiti Nepal
Malawi Human Rights Resource Centre
Manas
Marche Mondiale des Femmes / CN du Mali

Marie Stopes International
Masimanyane Womens Rights International
Mauritius Council of Social Service
Medica Liberia
MenEngage Global Alliance
MenEngage Uganda Network
MENTORING AND EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME FOR YOUNG WOMEN, (MEMPROW)
MIRA Pensadoras urbanas
Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa
MOUVEMENT DES FEMMES ET FILLES POUR LA PAIX ET LA SECURITE AU BURUNDI/ SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Movfemme
Msichana Empowerment Kuria
Msichana Initiative Organisation
Mudiwa Foundation
MUJER IDEAS DESARROLLO E INVESTIGACIÓN S.C.
Mujeres Construyendo Igualdad Hypatia AC
Mujeres en Acción Solidaria, AC., México
Mujeres en Acción Trabajando por la Igualdad Sustantiva AC
Mujeres en Incidencia AC
Mujeres Libres COLEM A.C
Mujeres y Punto AC
MUSAS Peru
Musonet
Mwana Pwo
NANE Organization
Naripokkho
National Alliance of Women / SAWW
National Alliance of Women Human Rights Defenders (NAWHRD)
National Association for Womens Action in Development
National Association of Women and the Law/Association Nationale Femmes et Droit
National Council of Child Rights Advocates, Nigeria: South West Zone
National Federation of the disabled-Nepal
National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF)
National Solidarity against Sexual Exploitation of Women
National Women's Council of Catalonia - Consell Nacional de Dones de Catalunya
Nawalparasi Association of the Deaf
Nazariya-A Queer Feminist Resource Group
Nepal disabled women association (NDWA)
Nepal Mahila Bishwasi Sangh (YWCA of Nepal)
Network for Women's Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT)
NGO "Center "Women's perspectives"

NGO CSW LAC
NGOCC
Nigeria
Nijera Kori
Nirantar Trust
Njuri ncheke
Non-governmental Gender Organisations' Coordinating Council (NGOCC)
Nordic Information on Gender
Northern Ireland Women's European Platform
Not 4 Trade
Observatorio ciudadano Nacional de violencia AC
OCASI- Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants
Oge Pep Empowerment Initiative
ONG PROMODEF
Orchid Project
Organización de Mujeres Tierra Viva
Organization for Women and Children (ORWOCH)
Our Generation for Inclusive Peace
OutRight Action International
Ovie Brume Foundation
PA women's organization Alga
PACCOM
Pacific Feminist Forum Convenor
Pacific Feminist SRHR Coalition
Pacific Network Against Violence Against Women
PaRiter
Plataforma Unitària contra les violències de gènere
Plateforme des Femmes du G5 Sahel
PLATEFORME DES FEMMES LEADERS DU MALI
Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights
PPGCCSD
Productive Organization for Women in Action (POWA)
Programa Compañeros AC
Project Alert For Women And Children
Promoting Empowerment Through Awareness for Les/Bi Women (PETAL)
Public foundation DIA
Public Service Alliance of Canada
Putting Women First Trust (Member FEMNET)
PWESCR
Rape Crisis Network Ireland
Red de Mujeres del 05 Distrito Jalisco
Red de Mujeres Periodistas de Tamaulipas, A.C.

Red de Mujeres por la Democracia Paritaria
Red de Salud de las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y del Caribe
Red Europea de Mujeres Periodistas
Red Internacional de Periodistas con Visión de Género
Red Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales REDLAC
Red Mesa de Mujeres de Cd Juárez A.C
Red nacional
Red Nacional de Adolescentes y Jovenes para la Salud Sexual y Reproductiva
Red Nacional de Mujere - Colombia
Red Nacional de Periodistas de México (RNP)
Red Nacional de Promotoras y Asesoras Rurales
Red Nacional de Refugios, AC
Red REPARE Chiapas
Réseau Femmes et Paix
Reseau Interafricain à pour les Femmes, Médias, Genre et Développementnt
RÉSEAU MUSONET
Reseau Musonet Mali
Resilience for sustainable empowerment (RISE)
RESURJ
RFSL - The Swedish Federation for LGBTQI Rights
RIFEMA
Right Here Right Now Indonesia
Right Here Right Now Nepal
Right Here, Right Now Honduras
Rise Up Against Gender Based Violence
Rising Flame
Rothschild Rights
Rozaria Memoria Trust
SAHAYOG
Sahiyo
Sauti ya wanawake Ukerewe
SDGs Kenya Forum
SERR
Shifting the Power Power Coalition/GPPAC Pacific
Shirakat - Partnership for Development
SHIVYAWATA
Silvia Avelina Nava Nava
Sin organizacion
Sindh Development Studies Centre (SDSC), University of Sindh, Jamshoro
Single Mothers Association of Trinidad and Tobago (S.M.A.T.T)
Sista
Sister Aid Liberia Inc.

Sobujer Ovijan Foundation (member of APWLD)
Society for Rural education and development
Society for Women's Action and Training Initiative
Society to Heighten Awareness of Women and Children Abuse
South Asian Legal Clinic of Ontario
South East Asia Women's Watch (SEAWWatch)
Southern Africa Human Rights NGO Network (SAHRiNGON) Tanzania Chapter
Spark Ideas Group
Spatium Libertas AC
SPECTRA
Stígamót
Sukaar Welfare Organization
SVRI
Swaziland Women's Land Rights Network
Swedish Secretariat for Gender Research
Swedish Women's Lobby
Synergie des Femmes pour les Victimes des Violences Sexuelles (SFVS)
Tabitha Cumi Foundation
Tanzania Gender Networking Programme
Tarangini Foundation
Tax Justice Network
Temple of Understanding
The Alliance for Future Generations
The Association of the Egyptian Female Lawyers (AEFL)
The Diasporan Touch
The Eastern African Sub-regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI)
The Feminist Alliance for International Action
The Feminist Assosiation of Finland - Naisasialiitto Unioni
The Foundation for Women's Solidarity
The Launchpad Tanzania
The Queer Muslim Project
The Tunisian association of Governance and equal opportunities between women and men in decision-making positions: l'AT
The Woman's Newsroom Foundation
The Women's Legal Education and Action Fund Inc. (LEAF)
Threads For Well-Being
Tomorrow's Child Initiative
Tonga Women and Children's Crisis Centre
Tonia Bruised But Not Broken Foundation
Treasure global help initiative
UASLP
UNESCO CENTER FOR PEACE

Unifor
Union-National council for gender equality
United Steelworkers
Usawa Agenda
Uzima Women Relief Group International
Vecinas Feministas por la Justicia Sexual y Reproductiva LAC
Visible Impact
Visión Alternativa A. C. Mexicali, Todos Ciudadnas, A.C.
Vision Spring Initiatives
Visual Sensation
Voice for Change
Wave - Women against violence Europe
We Effect
We Will Speak Out South Africa
WECTAC
West Africa Civil Society Institute
WIDE - Network for Women's Rights and Feminist Perspectives in Development
WIPGG
WO=MEN Dutch Gender Platform
Womankind Worldwide
Women Advocates Research and Documentation Center
Women and Law in Southern Africa
Women and Media Collective
Women and Youths Environmental Safety and Empowerment Organisation
Women Center "Light Steps"
Women Defend Commons Network
Women Deliver
Women Empowerment Forum Liberia
Women Enabled International
Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)
Women for a Change
Women for Women's Human Rights - New Ways
WOMEN FOUNDATION OF NIGERIA
Women in Global Health
WOMEN in LAW and DEVELOPMENT in AFRICA (WiLDAF)
Women in law in southern Africa
Women Law and Development
Women Making Peace
Women NGOs Secretariat of Liberia
Women of Liberia Peace Network
Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF)
Women, Law and Development Association, (MULEIDE)

Women's Association Split
Women's Coalition - Turkey
Women's Consortium of Nigeria (WOCON)
Women's Environment and Development Organization
Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights
Women's Human Rights Education Institute
Women's Information Center
Women's Major Group
Women's March Global
Women's Network Croatia
Women's network for dialogue and inclusive peace
Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC)
Women's Rights Action Movement (WRAM)
Women's Support Center
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)
Women's Rights Action Movement (WRAM)
WORKERS RIGHTS WATCH
Working for Change
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
World Federalist Movement - Institute for Global Policy
WREPA
Xidpic.cat
Young and alive initiative
Young Women Leadership and Knowledge Institute (YOWLI) and 2009 MILEAD Fellow of Moremi Initiative
Young Women's Leadership Institute
Youth Action Nepal
Youth Development Venter
Youth For SDGs Kenya
YUWA
Yuwalaya
YWCA Canada
Zamara Foundation
Zambia Alliance of Women
Zihuame Mochilla A. C
Zimbabwe women lawyers Association
Zimbabwe Women's Resource Centre and Network