



PAM

(Programme Action Magazine)

December 2010



STOP PRESS-CSW: We have just been informed by the United Nations that due to the refurbishment of the UN building in New York they are putting a cap of 20 on the numbers who can attend from each NGO delegation .So this means that despite encouraging you all to attend this will not be possible this time. Apologies for this but out of our control.

UN TRUST FUND TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: Call issued for proposals for programmes that support country-level efforts to end violence against women and girls. The criteria, eligibility requirements and application guidelines are available at www.unifem.org/untfevaw
The deadline for applications is 20 January 2011.

MONTREAL CONVENTION 10TH - 14TH JULY 2010:



Soroptimist 2011
19th International Convention
July 10 to 14, 2011 - Montreal, Quebec, Canada

The convention website is SI-convention.org

Can I encourage you to think about going to this very special event where you will meet Soroptimists from all around the world. There will be a

variety of workshops on offer for you to be involved in. Some of these will be facilitated by SIGBI. We will be asking for help from you and involving you in presenting your work at this convention. I do hope as many of you as possible will be there and will take part.

PROGRAMME VOTING DELEGATES:

The date for the programme day at the Montreal Convention is Saturday July 9th. We have been allocated 22 delegates. So I would ask all of you to get involved in discussions which will be held at Region, National Association and Country level so that **YOU** can have an input into the direction of our programme work 2011-2015

Hilary Ratcliffe SIGBI Programme Director

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY DECEMBER 10TH 2010

December 10th 2010 marks the 62nd anniversary of the acceptance by the UN General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The theme this coming year is: "Human Rights Defenders who Act to End Discrimination" Navi Pillay, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights states "On Human Rights Day 2010 we are declaring our solidarity with, and our admiration for, people of conscience: the men and women, young and old, of all nationalities and from endlessly diverse backgrounds who stand their ground and speak up for human rights."

"Today's human rights violations are the causes of tomorrow's conflicts."- Mary Robinson, former Irish President and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. **Jackie Paling APD Human Rights and the Status of Women**



FREEZE PAKISTAN'S DEBT

The sheer scale of the disaster in Pakistan is staggering. Many

of you have helped by donating in cash or kind. There is one more way in which you can help

Pakistan. Sign a petition asking the IMF to freeze the national debt for two years so Pakistan has more money available to help long term building. All available resources are needed to help recovery from this devastating crisis and to fight long-term poverty. Please help spread the word to your friends and family so they know what's going on. Sign the petition asking the IMF to freeze the debt. Take action here: <http://www.one.org/international/actnow/pakistanfloods/> **Talat Pasha APD International Goodwill and Understanding**

SIGBI/UNICEF Partnership Project SOROPTIMISTS FOR PAKISTAN APPEAL



UNICEF PAK 2010

The appeal has had a huge boost this month thanks to SI South West Pacific Federation who have generously donated **£10,000** making the total raised so far **£13,500**. Please support the Appeal to raise desperately needed funds to help Pakistan on the Long Road to Recovery. More details at

<http://soroptimist-gbi.org/> **Sue Challoner APD Economic and Social Development**



OVER THE HOLIDAY SEASON PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO:

REDUCE REUSE RECYCLE

The link below is UK based but some of the ideas I am sure will apply to non-UK locations <http://www.recyclethis.co.uk/recycling-at-christmas> **Ruth Dodd APD Environment**

Talat Pasha, FPAC representative for Pakistan writes: We are very thankful to our sisters from SISWP who have generously donated £10,000 to the **Unicef/Soroptimist Partnership** for the flood victims in Pakistan. The waters have receded, but as the winter approaches there is daily news of children dying of Pneumonia and the cold weather.

LOVE FASHION HATE SWEATSHOPS

SOROPTIMISTS SUPPORT WAR ON WANT APPEAL: LOVE FASHION HATE

SWEATSHOPS: SI Southport are completing a War on Want petition to stop sweatshop labour and to ask manufacturers to pay a living wage. They brought the petition to conference in Manchester and have now over 750 signatures. You can find more information and sample lobbying letters at:

<http://soroptimist-gbi.org/our-work/apd-information/economic-and-social-development/>

Sue Challoner APD Economic and Social Development



JEWELLERY RECYCLING - A NEW FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE FOR PROJECT SIERRA

This is a really easy way to raise money and this is how it works:

- ◆ All members collect their old/unwanted/broken gold, silver, costume jewellery and watches and take them to Regional Meetings.
- ◆ Project Ambassadors will provide collection bags and when they have sufficient to fill a sack they will contact The Fundraising Company who will send a Courier to collect the sack.
- ◆ 75% of money raised will be sent back to us for Project Sierra.
- ◆ *To maximise the potential of the scheme members should involve non-Soroptimist friends, groups and societies, workplace colleagues, local schools etc in collecting for them.*

For further information please visit www.jewelleryrecycling.org or contact the SIGBI Quadrennial Project Liaison Officer on cam.mac@btinternet.com

And, now that Christmas is fast approaching, why not do some **online shopping** and directly support Project Sierra? Go to www.projectSierra.org and visit the Gift Shop. You can buy a **Future Gift**, such as a child's school bag for as little as £10 or a pair of shoes to help a child to join in with community activities costs only £12.00.

Finally, if you have not yet bought your **Scenic Sierra Calendar**, please contact either your Regional Project Ambassador or myself. There are still a few left. Cost is £5.00 plus p&p if necessary. Thank you for your support. **Anne MacDonald SIGBI Quadrennial Project Liaison Officer**.



FGM and SOCIAL CHANGE

Changing social expectations is the key to ending the practice of Female Genital Mutilation according to a new report by UNICEF [The dynamics of Social

Change: towards the abandonment of Female Genital Mutilation/ cutting in five African Countries. Author Francesca Monetti.] Worldwide 140,000,000 girls and women have undergone some form of genital mutilation—a procedure complicated by haemorrhage and infection and which causes difficulties in sexual intercourse and childbirth.

Many parents, however, are influenced by community expectations and believe that cutting ensures social and economic security for their daughters.

The Report looks at how five countries, Kenya, Senegal, Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia have promoted the type of social change needed to abandon the practice. Although the national prevalence remains high—e.g. Egypt 91% and Sudan 89%—as a result of community driven change all five countries have reported a decrease in the number of women who believe the practice should continue.

Successful approaches include reinforcing the positive aspects of local culture rather than demonising traditional practices, using the media to emphasise the status of being uncut, human rights education and developing links with neighbouring countries and countries of migration.

The Report, while recognising that cultural change takes time, urges governments and donors to act quickly and decisively to support what is working to end female genital mutilation. **Rita Allen APD Health**



Some analysts say if just 10% more girls obtained a secondary education, their country's economy could be expected to grow by 3%. When an educated girl earns an income, she reinvests 90% of it in her family. Boys invest just 35% of their income in their families. The absence of women's equality undermines their fundamental human rights, and hampers development and economic growth.

Helen Owen APD Education

UN INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; 25TH NOVEMBER 2010

UN statistics suggest that 1 in every 3 women in the world has been beaten, coerced into sex, or otherwise abused in her lifetime. In his speech this year, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said that the Day was a call to action, the focus would be on promoting leadership by the Corporate sector in ending gender-based violence. **Jackie Paling APD Human Rights and the Status of Women**



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 28th Feb – 13th March 2011

Show Off Your Label – Get Loud and Proud about Fairtrade, whether it's your morning cup of Fairtrade Coffee or your favourite Fairtrade Cotton T Shirt

Download Action Guide and resources at <http://online.fairtrade.org.uk/>

More information at <http://soroptimist-gbi.org/our-work/apd-information/economic-and-social-development/> **Sue Challoner APD Economic and Social Development**

To read a moving poem Young Girl Victim of the Sex Trade go to: http://www.wunrn.com/news/2010/11_10/11_22_10/112210_poem.htm