



SGBI Cardiff Conference FPAC meeting 2017

"The things you do for yourself are gone once you are gone, but the things you do for others remain as your legacy."

Resources on UN activity

The following information relates to the main activities which SI is involved with at the UN but is by no means exhaustive. Check out information on the SIGBI and/or SI websites or search for the specific topic or UN agency you wish for information on.

General UN activity

This is the main website on which you can find information about the UN's work generally.

<http://www.un.org/en/index.html>

You can watch live or from the archives everything which happens at the main sessions at the UN.

<http://webtv.un.org>

Sustainable Development Goals

There are many websites which will give you information on these.

The official document on which everything else is based can be found at:

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/11803Official-List-of-Proposed-SDG-Indicators.pdf>

The following website gives the SDG icons which are downloadable.

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>

UN Women

This is the main website to find all activity undertaken by UN Women including some of the main campaigns such as He4She. If you go to this website you will also find access to the information about CSW.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en>

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) (New York)

This is the major event at the UN which Soroptimists are involved with. You can attend as part of your Federation delegation. For next year (2018) CSW62 SI and SIGBI have already started planning.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw62-2018>

Currently, the Commission is made up of 45 representative member states who work in regional blocs. So for example in the negotiation process the United States of America is part of a grouping described as Western Europe and Other States. Many of the sessions after the first week are closed sessions as negotiations on Agreed Conclusions take place. NGO's may be invited to make Oral Statements on the main theme or review theme, but this will be restricted on a time basis. Resolutions of urgency may be introduced by Member States for debate. Often these do reach the point of voting.

"The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) first met at Lake Success, New York, in February 1947, soon after the founding of the United Nations. All 15 government representatives were women. From its inception, the Commission was supported by a unit of the United Nations that later became the Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW) in the UN Secretariat. The CSW forged a close relationship with non-governmental organizations, with those in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) invited to participate as observers."

For more detail on the history of the CSW see <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/brief-history>

CSW Advocacy Training booklet

For the last few years free advocacy training has been provided by the NGO CSW NY Committee and a supporting booklet is available on the website. It is a great resource for everyone to use.

https://www.ngocsw.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NGO-Main-Guide-2017_0221-FINAL-1.pdf

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (Geneva)

This Committee works closely with Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights but independently and deals with the Member States responsibilities for complying with legislation and international conventions on gender equality. Each Member State is required to report on a regular basis on their achievements, which can be commented on by NGOs in a shadow report to the Commission.

<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/committee.htm>

Committee on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna)

This Committee works under the UN Office on Drugs and Crime and deals with anti trafficking amongst other issues such as terrorism <http://www.unep.org/about/un-environment-divisions>. SI UN representatives attend regularly and there are opportunities for Soroptimists to attend sessions.

<http://www.unodc.org/>

United Nations Environment Programme

The UN environment work is spread around the world with very active regional centres. If you go to the main website you can then explore the geographical area which you are interested in.

<http://www.unep.org/about/un-environment-divisions>