



Women In Migration Network Annual Report 2015

The Women in Migration Network (formerly Women and Global Migration Working Group) organized in 2015 around the:

- UN Coordination Meeting on International Migration (February, New York)
- UN Commission on the Status of Women (March, New York)
- Civil Society Days and Common Space (civil society and governments) for the Global Forum on Migration & Development (October, Istanbul)

The Working Group held a day-long members' meeting in Istanbul in October, 2016 for organizational strategic planning and to plan our intervention in the GFMD civil society and inter-governmental spaces.

Advocacy & Education Activities

WIMN organized a well-attended parallel event at the UN Commission on the Status of Women/Beijing+20, *Women's Migration, Flawed Development Strategies and the Way Forward*, exploring key concerns of women in migration and development in the context of both the Beijing Platform for Action and the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Issues raised included the realities of trans women in detention; rights of migrant women in bi-lateral labour contracts; forced migration due to lack of economic opportunity; and constructive policy approaches such as those of Argentina, regarding migrant regularization and integration. At the CSW the Working Group also participated in meetings of the Post-2015 Women's Coalition working to bring a gender lens to Agenda 2030.

See news coverage: <http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/blogs/commission-on-the-status-of-women/march-2015/women%E2%80%99s-migration-a-global-issue>

See flyer: <http://wgmwg.org/2015/03/womens-labour-migration-flawed-development-strategies-the-way-forward/>

WIMN had a strong presence at the Civil Society Days of the Global Forum on Migration & Development in Istanbul, October 2015. Members of the Working Group played a key role on the International Steering Committee of the Civil Society Days, GFMD, including members NNIRR, PSI, PANIDMR, PICUM, TMP. A volunteer working group of the network used the themes of the inter-governmental GFMD and the Civil Society Days to draft the official "Bridge Document" on women in migration for the Civil Society Days.

http://gfmdcivilsociety.org/wpcontent/uploads/2014/10/H.-ENG-GFMD-2015_Women-bridging-paper-fortranslation.pdf.

The Network created gender-focused advocacy tools for each of the Civil Society Days tracks, and played a key role in integrating these gender concerns into the final CSD report. <http://wgmwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Overview1pagerFINAL.pdf>.

WIMN co-sponsored a lunch workshop with UN Women and the Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migracion (IMUMI) to spotlight the UN Women training tool, *Gender on the Move*, and also organized a public display at the CSD. WIMN convened the Women's Caucus at the CSD attended by several hundred women. Carol Barton represented WIMN as the first Rapporteur on Women for the Civil Society Days, gathering inputs through the Women's Caucus and workshops to reflect overall concerns of delegates.

<http://gfmdcivilsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/GenderRapporteur-FINAL-report.pdf>

See also: <http://wgmwg.org/2015/10/wgmwg-plays-active-role-in-civil-society-days-global-forum-on-migration-development-2015-istanbul-12-14-october/>

In addition, WIMN attended a one-day People's Global Action on Migration, Development & Human Rights, including a panel on current migration realities that was all women, and all members of WIMN. WIMN members from across several regions actively engaged within an audience of over 200 civil society delegates during this parallel preparatory event before the CSD.

WIMN also made the following interventions:

- Monami Maulik represented the network at a UN-Women organized focus session on "Exploring the Contribution of Women Migrant Workers to Development – Beyond Economic Remittances" during the Thematic GFMD Meeting 3: *Recognizing the contributions of women migrants to economic and social development in countries of origin and destination and addressing their specific needs, particularly concerning respect for their human rights*, organized by the Turkish chair in Geneva, 8 September, 2015 and co-convened by Philippines and Turkey.
- Monami Maulik represented WIMN on a panel in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Migrant Rights Convention at UNHQ in New York, 30 June 2015. The panel was convened by the Permanent Missions of Argentina, Ecuador, El Salvador, and Mexico, and by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.
<http://wgmwg.org/2015/06/monami-maulik/>

- Berenice Valdez of the Instituto para las Mujeres en la Migración, AC (IMUMI), a WIMN member, presented at the Global Migration Group side event at the GFMD Istanbul, *Route causes: Protecting the human rights of migrants in transit*. She addressed the rights of women in transit in Mexico.
- Catherine Tactaquin of the National Network for Immigrant and Refugee Rights presented on a panel on Human Rights at International Borders, hosted by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Republic of the Philippines, in Geneva in March 2015, on the dangerous situation of migrants at borders, with particular emphasis on the case of Central American women and children seeking safety in the U.S. from violence in their region.
http://www.nnirr.org/drupal/sites/default/files/ohchr_panel_on_human_rights_protections_at_international_borders.pdf

The Working Group continues to disseminate and seek implementation of our global platform on Women in Migration (<http://wgmwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/final-advocacy-doc-ENGLISH.pdf>) and regularly resources a global listserv of over 300 participants.

New Steering Committee: Emerging from the October 2015 Members meeting, WIMN formed a new global Steering Committee committed to putting in place institutional structures, program and fundraising plan to consolidate WIMN organizationally. The ten-member Steering Committee includes: Alianza Americas; CORMSA; National Network of Immigrant and Refugee Rights—NNIRR; Pan African Network in Defense of Migrant Rights; Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants—PICUM; Transnational Migrant Platform; United Methodist Women.

The Network carries out its work through monthly calls and working teams of volunteers. In 2015 these teams included:

- Document Drafting Team
- AWID Forum Workshop Team
- UN-CSW Team

NNIRR serves as fiscal agent for WIMN and provides in-kind accounting support. The Working Group depends on contributions by members that are able to assist as well as in-kind leadership and support for its program and operations. The Secretariat is shared between NNIRR and United Methodist Women, including intern support.

In 2016 the Working Group will:

- Attend the UN-DESA coordinating meeting on international migration at UNHQ in New York in February
- Organize a workshop at the UN Commission on the Status of Women as a parallel event, and collaborate with Global Migration Group in a side event on Women and Girls, migration and Agenda 2030.
- Organize strategic interventions for the UN General Assembly September 19th Summit on Large Movements of Migrants & Refugees and the July Civil Society Day, including strengthening partnerships with women refugee organizations. Provide inputs highlighting the mainstreaming of gender through preparatory meetings with governments towards the outcome document.
- A WIMN member to apply for the Civil Society Steering Committee for the High Level Summit to shape the agenda and select civil society speakers.
- Collaborate as members of the Global Coalition on Migration in planning for September Summit and July CSD.
- Continue to partner with the Global Migration Group, a UN interagency body, to bring a gender perspective to migration & development. Work with UN Women on Agenda 2030 and women in migration. Work with OHCHR on human rights of large movements of migrants and refugees.
- Play a leadership role in preparations for the Civil Society Days/GFMD
- Play a leadership role in preparations for the People's Global Action parallel to the Bangladesh GFMD, including plenary and workshop planning from a gender lens
- Lead a workshop at the Association for Women's Rights in Development Forum, Bahia, Brazil, September, 2016

Background:

The Women in Migration Network is made up of national, regional and global organizations from women's, migrant, human rights, development and faith communities representing all regions of the globe.

Mission: The Women in Migration Network promotes women's human rights at the center of all migration and development policy. Our network recognizes the intersectionality of gender, race, ethnicity, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, migration status, disability and national origin. The Network convenes organizations and activists to expand rights-centered policies that prioritize the interests of diverse women and families affected by migration around the world.

Vision: The Women in Migration Network envisions a world where women in migration claim their universal human rights, and act as agents of change in shaping a just and equitable world. We understand that migration impacts women who move within and across borders as well as women who remain at home when family members leave. The Network strives to defend the rights of

migrant women, promote a gendered and deep analysis of migration and its root causes, and promote and support the organizing and empowerment of women in migration.

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