

## **Report on the People's Global Summit, Co-building a New Eco-Social World: Leaving No One Behind**

The following text copied from the relevant section of the President and Secretary-General global report (link). There is an update at the end of the extract following last week's meeting of the summit partners:

Over the last ten years, the Federation has been developing a global agenda for change, to help people outside the profession better understand what we do, how we do it and how we contribute to sustainable development. In the period since the last General Meeting, the executive made a courageous decision to expand our partnerships for social change. It was courageous because it caused significant tension for our traditional partners who initially did not understand or share our vision for a more holistic approach to social development involving other public services, trade unions, mass movements for change, governments and civil society. Rather than seeing the strengths in widening our partnerships this new vision was seen as a deviation from our joint work over the past decade. Once the decision was made, however, the influence of social work in this wider forum has expanded exponentially.

The invitation by IFSW & UNRISD set out a vision to the main global social development and global professional bodies to come out of our silos and work together towards cobuilding, with people and communities a new eco-social world that leaves no one behind. Consequently 26 diverse global organisations representing 100's of millions of people are now working together, sharing resources and ideas to develop the Co-Building a New EcoSocial World: Leaving No One Behind people's summit. The significance of this has attracted the UN Secretary General to open the event as well as many government and civilsociety leaders to seek places as key-note speakers. The event is envisaged as a journey with the next step delivering a message and invitation to all the world's leaders who will gather after the summit at the UN High-Level political forum in July.

The message which will be finalised at the summit and will most likely centre on the need for new agreed local, national and global values, principles and suggested actions to drive sustainability and social justice. The principles will provide a holistic framework on how we can co-design and co-build change that gives everyone belonging and confidence, and our planet sustainability. IFSW is at the core of this process providing the summit secretariat and co-facilitation along with UNRISD. The process is already delivering new outcomes let alone the potential held in the summit. For example, the extended partnerships have also led to significant other actions, such as working with our global counterparts in health to address the policy and practice gaps between health and social wellbeing and the Federation becoming a founding member of The Alliance for a Pandemic Treaty working directly with the World Health Organisation.

### **UPDATE**

The last meeting of the partners focused not only on contributions to the summit but also on a process that will take forward actions for change beyond the event in June. In discussing the potential outcome document, the partners agreed a possible route could be to form a People's Charter. Some of the thinking behind this recognizes that the last time the world came together to construct global values for a peaceful world was at the end of WW2 and the agenda and actions were taken at state level. This aim has changed over time to include

sustainability and an increased focus on social justice. However, this agenda is still failing, as states have failed to deliver peace, equity and sustainability for their peoples. A people's charter would give a framework for people at local, national and international levels to co-design and own change, through active involvement in order to achieve a balanced eco-social world for everyone.

The executive has affirmed IFSW ongoing full involvement in helping to shape social and ecological transformation.