



CoNGO Report

New York Representation of CoNGO at the UN

June 3, 2014

IFSW is special consultative NGO-Member to ECOSOC, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1959 and actively engaged in the Council of NGOs at the United Nations, having representatives in Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi, Santiago de Chile and New York .

What is the benefit for NGOs?

NGOs that are accredited with ECOSOC can participate in a number of events, including, but not limited to regular sessions of ECOSOC, its functional commissions and its other subsidiary bodies. NGOs may:

- Attend official meetings;
- Submit written statements prior to sessions;
- Make oral statements;
- Meet official government delegations and other NGO representatives;
- Organize and attend parallel events that take place during the session;
- Participate in debates, interactive dialogues, panel discussions and informal meetings.

At the General Assembly of CoNGO in April 2014 IFSW was represented by a Proxi given to our Austrian Partner Mr. Wolfgang Beiglboeck, representative of Intl. Association of Applied Psychology IAAP and Vice President of CoNGO.

IFSW 's work at CoNGO was very much recognized at the General Assembly and more than four members nominated IFSW for the Executive Board. Finally IFSW was elected as member of CoNGO Executive for the period of 2014-2017.

IFSW President Gary Bailey and General Secretary Rory Truell asked Maria Moritz to represent IFSW at CoNGO Exec Board.

For me it is a very special honor to do this work and participate in the global initiatives at the UN, ECOSOC and CoNGO together with the representatives in Geneva, Klaus Kuehne, the representative in Vienna Georg Dimitz and Charles Mbugua in Nairobi.

As I have learned from the first meetings, there is a great demand of exchanging information and streamlining the initiatives and the work on the main goals of CoNGO and ECOSOC. I will try to contribute to this and bring forward the expertise of social workers to the main topics as board member of CoNGO.

Cyril Ritchie was reelected as president of CoNGO until 2017.

The main focus of CoNGO for the coming year will be on:

- **UN Policy on Ageing and combating Abuse on Older People**
http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/pau/age/Policy_briefs/ECE-WG-14.pdf

- **UNRISD's "Beyond 2015" Brief No.1-5** on combating poverty, inequalities and the post 2015 agenda, social policy and employment: rebuilding the connections, social driver's of sustainable development, social and solidarity economy: a new path to sustainable development,
The research agenda of UNRISD (UN Research Institute for Social Development) is organized under two main themes:

Social Policies for Inclusive and Sustainable Development, and

Political and Institutional Dynamics of Social Development.

More information you can find:

[http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/\(httpPages\)/8B13589A0273CF3380257920003215AD?OpenDocument](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BF3C2/(httpPages)/8B13589A0273CF3380257920003215AD?OpenDocument)

Next meeting of Board Members at CoNGO will be 4/5 of November, in Geneva.

Upcoming Events at the UN with close participation of NGOs:

The Assembly was particularly alert to the many opportunities for deepening UN-NGO partnerships over the next three years, in connection with such major upcoming UN events as

- The Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (September 2014)
- The 20th Anniversary - and reinvigorated follow-up - of the Beijing World Conference on Women (2015)
- The 20th Anniversary - and reinvigorated follow-up - of the Copenhagen World Summit on Social Development (2015)
- The close-out of the Millennium Development Goals (2015), leading to
- The establishment of the UN Post-2015 Development Agenda (2015-2030...)
- The Thirteenth UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (2015)
- The first UN World Humanitarian Summit (2016)
- The Third UN Conference on Human Settlements - HABITAT III (2016)

To receive an overview of the multiple areas IFSW is engaged on UN-Level, please also see the reports of the representatives in Geneva, Vienna, Nairobi and Santiago de Chile.

Maria Moritz

IFSW-Representative to CoNGO Executive Board - New York

3 June, 2014

Vienna, Austria