

## **United Nations – Nairobi**

The collaboration between UN-HABITAT and IFSW has been systematic and focused; dissemination of information and opportunities for advocacy and networking, as well as co-ordination of multiple stakeholders (CSO and social work service consumers) during UN-HABITAT's special events and Governing Council Sessions are some of the areas that this partnership has been exhibited. The partnership is firmly founded on the long-standing relationship with UN and also the IFSW's national, regional and international network and connections with diverse civil society groups.

In Nairobi, IFSW has jointly organized the CSO Forums during the biennial Governing Council meetings, the effect of this has been visibility of CSO groups and the incorporation of the CSO concerns in the Governing Council Agenda. One major outcome of this was the "change of rules of procedure" which in effect created the *World Urban Forum*- a platform which now allows CSOs, Governments and UN to interact and dialogue as equal partners at an international event. IFSW has been clearly visible in all the subsequent events after Nairobi; Vancouver and Nanjing. It is important to mention that UN-HABITAT values the participation and presence of IFSW at these events. Needless to say, this is in line with our Global Agenda commitment. *World Urban Forum 6* takes place in Naples, Italy on 1-7 September 2012. As in the past, IFSW has been allocated a major slot to organised networking event. I have made all the contingent arrangements for the event, there are financial implications and the participation of IFSW Europe through the member in the host country and possibly the local chapter.

Another major milestone was the joint hosting of the "Civil Society & Youth Meeting on Engagement in Major Events" which was co-hosted by IFSW and UN-HABITAT during the African Summit on 16 May 2012. Discussions on how CSOs and Youth can engage in Rio + 20, Youth21, Habitat 111 and WUF6 CSO Roundtable were discussed. The leadership role that UN-HABITAT expects IFSW to provide was clearly outlined, during the various presentations by the relevant sections heads. The outcome of this meeting was:-

An opportunity to present The Global Agenda

Identification of engagement opportunities for major events and initiatives which can be undertaken in areas where IFSW has representation including Chile and Bangkok.

Drafting of a co-ordination strategy for collaborative engagement in Rio+20

Completion of a draft proposal for desired outcomes of WUF engagement

Completion of draft proposal for HABITAT 111 Secretarial Structure and collaboration on post 2015 development agenda.

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