



Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+ 15

22-24 October 2009
Quezon City, Philippines

**Weaving
Wisdom**

**Confronting
Crises**

**Forging
the Future**

Introduction

The year 2010 marks the 15th year of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPFA). It has been half a generation since all member states of the United Nations agreed by consensus to act for Equality, Development and Peace in 12 critical areas of concern.

How much progress has 15 years brought?

It is time for stock taking, for celebrating gains achieved by women, for learning lessons from successes and challenges especially by civil society and for exacting accountability from those committed to advance women's human rights and gender equality.

In an effort to acknowledge and amplify the voices of Asia Pacific women in this process, the

Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW) is organizing the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+15. All are welcome: activists and academics, professionals and politicians, community workers and policy advocates, young and elderly, grassroots women, human rights defenders, the LGBT community, men - everyone, provided that they affirm the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) and subscribe to the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

How much of this progress can we attribute to NGO action?

The Asia Pacific NGO Forum highlights women NGO's innovative and successful initiatives on the critical areas of concern of the BPFA as well as on CEDAW and other human rights instruments.

What are our new analyses and insights that may further enrich and extend the Platform's vision and spirit?

The Forum is also a space for women's movements to share our views on emerging economic, environmental, political and social as well as security issues that aggravate already existing social and gender inequalities in the region and elsewhere.

With the theme "Weaving Wisdom, Confronting Crises, Forging the Future," the Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+15 will influence the global NGO Forum that will take place prior to the 54th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in 2010. This UN CSW session is set to review the implementation of the BPFA as well as the outcome of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly.

Some Topics

- Implementing the 12 critical areas of the BPFA
- Lessons in Advocacy and Action from Beijing and Huairou
- Strategies to Strengthen Women's Movements
- Climate Change Impact on Poverty Eradication, Human Security and Gender Equality
- Democracy in Distress: Issues of Women's Representation and Civil Society Engagement in Governance
- The Global Economy in Crisis: Forging Ahead with Development Alternatives
- Resource Mobilization Strategies for Women's Organizations
- NGO Experiences and Lessons for Strategy Setting
- Women's Film Festival





Be Active Participants

There are different ways that you may meaningfully participate in this process.

- **Dialogue and Debate**

Read a paper, join a panel, conduct a workshop on any of the critical areas of concern of the BPFA as well as on other equally pressing issues in the region. All panels are provided with meeting rooms, equipped with computers and LCD projectors.

- **Envision and Expose**

Mount an exhibit for photos, posters, publications, products and any other materials that capture your advocacy, actions and aspirations towards empowering and fair societies.

- **Scribble and Share**

Your thoughts and experience are too valuable to be left unconsidered. Share your stories and struggles on the web site of the Asia Pacific NGO Forum which is an emerging portal of resources, papers and reports.

Register Now!
Visit AP NGO Forum on Beijing+15 website
<http://apww.isiswomen.org>

Organizing Committee



The Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW) is a regional network of women's groups which are engaged in programs to empower women and advance their human rights. APWW monitors the

UN, national governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on the extent that they fulfill their international commitments and obligations to eliminate discrimination against women, and to promote gender equality and empower women. APWW membership include representative women's organizations from five sub-regions - Central Asia, East Asia, the Pacific, South Asia and South East Asia - and from three major women's networks in the region.

Chair: Hiroko Sue Hara of Japan Women's Watch

Vice-Chair: Sepali Kottegoda of The Women and Media Collective / Sri Lanka Women's NGO Forum

Previous NGO Forums organized by APWW include:

20-23 January 2001, APWW Regional Planning Meeting: "Linking Hands for Change," Kanchanaburi, Thailand

30 June-3 July 2004, Asia Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing+10, "Celebrating Gains...Confronting Emerging Issues," Mahidol University, Salaya, Nakornpathom, Thailand

10-11 May 2007, APWW Regional Consultation on "Strengthening UN-NGO Cooperation, Promoting Gender Equality in Asia Pacific," Bangkok, Thailand



Host: Miriam College

Miriam College, a premier Filipino Catholic educational institution for girls and young women, is committed to the values of truth, justice, peace, environmental sustainability, and gender equality and women's empowerment.

Its academic programs at the basic and higher education levels are enriched by a wide range of national, regional, and international linkages and supported by a long tradition of partnerships with underserved groups and communities.

As a recipient of the Dark Green School Award for its environment-friendly policies, programs and practices, Miriam College sits in a lush green campus, an oasis of a peaceful and safe learning environment.

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AP NGO Forum Convenor:

Patricia B. Licuanan, Ph.D.
Former Chairperson,
UN Commission on the
Status of Women, 1994-1996

In Cooperation with



and other partners