

## WEB RESOURCES

*Here are some useful web resources on the Beijing+10 and related issues.*

**1. Resolution by women's media and information and communication organisations**

**URL:** <<http://www.apcwomen.org/news/index.shtml?x=91195>>

Concerned that women and media issues were excluded from the BPFA+10, 14 women's media and information and communication organisations submitted a resolution to the UN Commission on the Status of Women during its 49th Session and the 10-year review and appraisal of the "Beijing Platform for Action" (BPFA). The resolution called for ensuring that women, media, and ICT issues are kept on the agenda and that community and independent media initiatives are recognised and supported in the implementation of the BPFA.

This resource is taken from the website of the Association for Progressive Communications-Women's Networking Support Programme (APC WNSP), a global network of women that supports women networking for social change and women's empowerment, through the use of ICT.

**2. In Depth: Beijing +10 Conference on Women Review**

**URL:** <[http://www.choike.org/nuevo\\_eng/informes/1665.html](http://www.choike.org/nuevo_eng/informes/1665.html)>

This site is a comprehensive compilation of information, from the perspective of Southern civil society, on the various stages leading to the 1995 Beijing Conference and its follow-up process (which involved the participation of women's groups from around the world, governments, and the UN). This site features: official papers from the United Nations and nongovernment organisations (NGOs); online discussions around the pros, cons, and alternatives to the proposed fifth UN Conference on women; documentation of the 2004 regional meetings on B+10; and a calendar of inter-governmental as well as civil society events in the regional and international levels. The site is available in English and Spanish.

This resource comes from Choike, a very useful portal dedicated to improving the visibility of the work done by NGOs and social movements from the South. Choike is a platform where citizen groups can disseminate their work and, at the same time, enrich such information with those coming from diverse sources.

**3. Women Raise their Voices at the UN**

**URL:** <<http://www.igtan.org/page/621/1>>

This document is a report by Nadia Johnson of the Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO) on the UN General Assembly's "Informal Interactive Hearings with NGOs, Civil Society and Private Sector" held in June 2005, New York. The Hearings provided the major opportunity for civil society to interact with governments and with one another, in preparation for the review of implementation of the "Millennium Development Goals" (MDGs) in September 2005.

This document is located at the website of the International Gender and Trade Network (IGTN), a Southern-led network of feminist gender specialists that provides technical information on gender and trade issues to women's groups, NGOs, social movements, and governments.

**4. Widows, Inheritance and Human Rights: An NGO side event at the 2005 UNCSW**

**URL:** [http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/Human\\_Security/CSW49WidowsEvent.html](http://www.peacewomen.org/resources/Human_Security/CSW49WidowsEvent.html)

This is a documentation of the discussions during the "Widows, Inheritance and Human Rights" side event at the 49th Session of the UNCSW and B+10, which focused on: the need for support from donors for grassroots mobilisation of widows; collaboration and participation of widow-groups to fill gaps in information, statistics, mapping and profiling; and for sharing of best practices.

The side event was sponsored by UNIFEM, Widows for Peace through Democracy, and Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF).

**5. FIRE Reports (on Beijing)**

This site of Costa Rica-based Radio Internacional Feminista - Feminist International Radio Endeavour (FIRE) is the first international internet radio produced by women. It reports on the deliberations, presentations and events at the B+10 in 2005. Special attention is given to:

**Where is Women's "J" Spot?**

<http://www.radiofeminista.net/feb05/notas/jpoint.htm>

A report by Maria Suárez Toro of FIRE/Women's Media Pool on the discussions about the state of women and media during the B+10.

**Audios Beijing+10**

[http://www.radiofeminista.net/feb05/notas/audios\\_beijing.htm](http://www.radiofeminista.net/feb05/notas/audios_beijing.htm)

This is a special coverage of the sessions and side events in New York. Featured are audio interviews and speeches by feminist delegates such as Ximena Machicao, Gina-Vargas, WNowicka, Devaki Jain, Rose Cunningham, Gigi Francisco, Peggy Antrobus, and other delegates.

**6. Beijing+10 Cyberdialogues**

[URL:<http://www.genderlinks.org.za/item.php?i\\_id=118>](http://www.genderlinks.org.za/item.php?i_id=118)

This web resource features a series of seven online chat sessions by 28 expert panelists from 18 countries during the B+10. The online chat brought out the voices of women unable to attend the B+10, especially Africa and the South. The chat sessions were largely considered a success. It was the first such initiative was conducted during the UN conference. The website carries the executive and full summary of the online chat sessions; and the outputs, recommendations, lessons learned, and next steps gathered from the chat.

**7. WFS-Philippines coverage of the B+10**

[URL: <http://www.wfsphil.com/watsnew/intl\\_unreviewappraisal\\_beijing10\\_features.htm>](http://www.wfsphil.com/watsnew/intl_unreviewappraisal_beijing10_features.htm)

The Women's Feature Service (WFS)-Philippines covered the B+10 in 2005. Veteran writer Olive Tripon reports on the following issues: gender issues in post-conflict situations, women still unequal before the law, Nobel Prize winners celebrate women's gains, International Women's Day at the UN, implementing Beijing and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and sex and young women.

The web resource contains articles on these issues under the WFS whose international team of writers and editors has covered various international conferences since 1992.

**8. International Women's Health Coalition on the B+10 review**

[URL:<http://www.iwhc.org/global/un/beijingplusten/presscoverage.cfm>](http://www.iwhc.org/global/un/beijingplusten/presscoverage.cfm)

This online resource include: a press coverage of the negotiations during the B+10; a feature on the importance of the Beijing agreement featuring the voices of advocates for health, equality, and justice worldwide; a statement issued by over 150 civil society organisations from around the world in support of the Political Declaration to reaffirm Beijing; and background information and updated reports on B+10, the UNCSW, the 1994 Cairo Conference and its "Programme for Action," among other useful documents.

This resource is compiled by the International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC), a women's NGO that works to generate health and population policies, programmes, and funding that promote and protect the rights and health of girls and women worldwide. In the B+10, IWHC worked to ensure strong representation of sexual and reproductive health organisations, including youth networks working on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

**9. NGO Concluding Statement on CSW49/B+10 by the NGO Linkage Caucus**

[URL:<http://www.womensmediapool.org/notas/linksfinal.htm>](http://www.womensmediapool.org/notas/linksfinal.htm)

This is a statement that articulates the belief of Linkage Caucus on the need to take strong action to advance gender equality within the UN System and to prioritise the promotion and realisation of women's empowerment and human rights a priority. The Linkage Caucus represents a diverse group of NGOs from all regions of the world gathered at the 49th Session of the UNCSW.

This resource is from the Women's Media Pool, an organisation that worked towards and during the B+10, where the women promoted information regarding the assessment and appraisal of the full spectrum of the BPFA. The women produced press releases and features for electronic networks, newspapers, reports, TV, community and commercial radio, and the internet during the B+10 process. The resource is in English and Spanish.

**10. Review and Appraisal of the BPFA and the Outcome Document of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly, 2005**

**URL:** <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/Review/english/news.htm>>

This web resource contains the official documents and background information on the 49th Session of UNCSW and B+10. It also has information on NGO participation, minutes of Expert Group meetings and related links.

This WomenWatch site also has the Summary of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality's "Online Discussions on Held in Preparation for the 10-Year Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Platform for Action in the 49th Session of the Committee on the status of Women found in <<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/forums/review/>>.

The documents are in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

WomenWatch is a central gateway to information and resources on the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women throughout the UN System, UN Secretariat, regional commissions, funds programmes, specialised agencies, and academic and research institutions.

**11. Reflections on Beijing+10**

**URL:** <[http://www.fafia-afai.org/proj/b10/b10\\_video.php](http://www.fafia-afai.org/proj/b10/b10_video.php)>

This documentation, through recorded video statements, captures images of some Canadian delegates as they share their reflections on UNCSW Session and /B+10 meetings in New York. To view this resource, Windows Media Player is needed.

The documentation is produced by the Canadian Feminist Alliance for International Action (FAFIA), a dynamic coalition of over 50 Canadian women's equality-seeking and related organisations. FAFIA's mandate is to further women's equality in Canada through domestic implementation of its international human rights commitments.

**12. INSTRAW's Beijing Review**

**URL:** <<http://www.un-instraw.org/en/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=888&Itemid=158>>

This website of the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

(INSTRAW) contains background information on the BPFA Critical Areas of Concern; records of regional meetings, sessions of the UNCSW and other related events; NGO alternative reports; and a directory listing of sources of information.

"Voices of Women", a key section, puts together the reflections of some of the women who have attended the four world conferences on women over the last 30 years (Mexico 1975, Nairobi 1980, Copenhagen 1985, and Beijing 1995), and the B+5 special session in 2000. The section highlights the importance of the commitments that were established during the conferences as well as the need to continue to lobby for women's and gender issues as a crucial component of effective and sustainable international development.

INSTRAW is the only UN entity mandated at the international level to promote and undertake research and training programmes to contribute to the advancement of women and gender equality worldwide.

**13. Beijing Betrayed: Women Worldwide Report that Governments Have Failed to Turn the Platform into Action**

**URL:** <<http://www.wedo.org/library.aspx?ResourceID=31>>

Beijing Betrayed is a book published by the Women's Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO) that records the voices of women worldwide who report that governments have failed to turn the BPFA into action.

This webservice features the book's executive summary in English, Spanish, French, Arabic and Russian. The complete book is available in English only.

WEDO is an international organisation that advocates for women's equality in global policy; it looks at the MDGs through the lens of women's empowerment and gender equality.

**14. The Beijing-MDG Connection**

**URL:** <<http://www.beijingandbeyond.org/beyond.html>>

This web resource gives detailed information and web links on the "UN Millennium Summit Review" of 2005 and the MDGs with scores of official UN documents and reports, country progress databases, and civil society position papers and discourses.

Women's groups from all over the world make the connection between the BPFA and the 2005 Summit. Like the BPFA (which was ratified and adopted by many of the world's governments), the poverty eradication-focused Millennium Declaration and its eight-point Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) also assure equal rights for women and men. Among the eight MDGs, one is specifically dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment, another to maternal mortality, and the rest are presented as gender neutral.

Believing that the MDGs cannot be achieved unless governments agree that every goal must include a gender dimension, women organisations assert that the BPFA is essential to achieving the MDGs and are campaigning towards that end.

#### 15. Social Watch's Benchmark document

**URL:** <[http://www.socwatch.org.uy/en/noticias/noticia\\_85.htm](http://www.socwatch.org.uy/en/noticias/noticia_85.htm)>

The Social Watch's Benchmark document featured in this web resource was disseminated and used during the June 2005 NGO hearings of the UN General Assembly, and used as an advocacy tool in the process leading to the 2005 Summit. The document covers the following concerns: poverty eradication, role of the International Financial Institutions (IFIs), gender equality and equity, climate change, militarisation and the arms trade, financing of development, making trade fair, HIV/AIDS and other pandemic diseases, promoting corporate accountability, democratising international governance, and the role of civil society.

In preparation for 2005 Summit, hundreds of civil society organisations had endorsed this document. The online document is available in English and German.

Social Watch is an international network formed by national citizens' groups aimed at following up the fulfillment of international commitments on poverty eradication and equality.

#### 16. Women's Empowerment, Gender Equality and the Millennium Development Goals

**URL:** <<http://www.wedo.org/library.aspx?ResourceID=5>>

This web resource features an information and

action guide that describes the MDGs and their connection to women's equality. This document is in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French.

#### 17. Seeking Accountability on Women's Human Rights: Women Debate the MDGs

**URL:** <<http://www.wicej.addr.com/mdg/INTRO.pdf>>

The publication in this web resource showcases the perspectives of women from different regions who are working on diverse issues in order to contribute to the debate on the MDGs from their particular vantage points. Ranging from great skepticism to energetic endorsements of the opportunity at hand, the essays in the publication reveal the women's varied understanding of what the MDGs are, how they emerged, how they work, what level of flexibility there may be in adapting them, and how broad the engagement of civil society should be.

The publication is by the Women's International Coalition for Economic Justice (WICEJ), an organisation that utilises an integrated feminist analysis to link the multiplicity of systems that oppress women, and which recognises the diversity of women's experience by race, ethnicity, class, national origin, citizenship status, and other factors.

#### 18. Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: An ECOSOC Roundtable 5 Discussion

**URL:** <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/globalcenter/charlotte/ecosocmarch2005.pdf>

This is the speech delivered by Charlotte Bunch, founder and executive director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership (CWGL) on March 17, 2005 as part of a panel organised by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) to look at what contribution the Millennium Summit in September 2005, New York could make to forwarding gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of the B+10.

This web resource is from the web site of CWGL, an organisation that fosters women's leadership in the area of human rights through women's global leadership institutes, strategic planning activities, international mobilisation campaigns, UN monitoring, global education endeavours, publications, and a resource centre.