

UNITED NATIONS

CSW57 “Elimination and Prevention of all Forms of Violence Against Women & Girls”

The priority theme for the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women will be *Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls*. The Commission will be held from March 4-15 of 2013. The annual Commission on the Status of Women is an essential event for NGOs and activists from all around the world to have a voice. This is a two week experience to which all of our members are invited.

Violence against women is not only a specific and serious human rights violation but also a direct result of social and political gender inequality. Protection from violence against women is enshrined in various human rights treaties, in international charters that address women’s issues, and is one of the UN Secretary - General’s initiatives during his term.

ECICW has been one of the leading organization in raising awareness to end Violence Against Women”. Organizations must explore the deep socioeconomic structures that perpetuate gender-based violence in order to identify the areas of emphasis to be addressed. Three of these areas are: 1) Violence Perpetrated by State Actors, 2) Domestic Violence and the Role of Small Arms, and 3) Sexual Violence during and after Conflict.

ECICW always stressed that the pursuit to end violence against women must be accomplished at a global and national scale, involving multiple stakeholders, be based in education, and must be exhaustive and maintained. All forms of violence against women negatively impact whole communities. Access to “support services” such as justice, women’s shelters, and health services, should be adequately provided to all women who face violence; unfortunately, these services do not always reach certain vulnerable groups, including rural women, elderly women, disabled women, children and young women, indigenous women, and minority groups.

The preparation of this annual major event for women movements has already started with NGOs, organization or individuals submitting "communications" to CSW to highlight cases of non-respect of women’s rights.

CSW aims at highlighting violations of human rights that ‘affect the status of women in any country in the world’.

Doris Bingley
ECICW President