



Asia Pacific Women's Watch Newsletter

September, 2020

APWW's work provides valuable spaces for women's Civil Society Organizations (WCSOs) to gather, share their analyses, formulate common positions, and strategize linked activities and actions on common issues.

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Coming up ... APWWmeet Series 2020

Building on the momentum of the Beijing +25 process, over the next 12 months APWW will be working collaboratively to build a number of regional conversations about Gender Equality and Women's Rights. These will take the form of webinars and interactive conversations.

We will contextualise discussions into the current pandemic crisis and investigate what strategies are effective to mobilise, impact decision makers and policy discussions.

Check out the website.. [here](#)



Beijing on My Mind – the Long, Winding and Bumpy Road to and from the UN 4th World Conference on Women

Video - As we celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the BPFA and also celebrate the 10th Anniversary of UN Women, Dr Licuanan discusses how the platform and the actions contained therein are as relevant NOW as they were 25 years ago. In rebuilding a more gender equal society in the wake of COVID-19 a lot can be drawn from these strategies and actions promised 25 years ago.

Enjoy the viewing [click here](#).



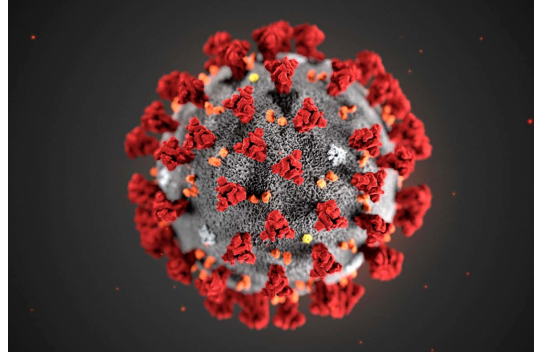
Virtual Expert Group Meeting on “Implementing Beijing+25 Commitments in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic” 15 – 16 September, 2020, Bangkok, Thailand

APWW members attended and presented at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) organised Virtual Expert Group Meeting on “Implementing Beijing+25 Commitments in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic”

The objectives of the virtual Expert Group Meeting (EGM) were two-fold: to

- (a) facilitate the exchange of knowledge, good practices and lessons learnt with respect to the progressive implementation of Beijing Platform for Action, including in the context of COVID-19 pandemic; and to
- (b) develop key recommendations for priority actions to advance the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review, which was adopted by the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on the Beijing+25 Review in November 2019.

[Links to documents here](#)



Asia Pacific Regional COVID review - coming soon

Following the Rapid Response of many organisations in the Asia and Pacific Region we are quickly finding the longer term gendered impacts of COVID 19 is impacting on women in all their diversity in different ways and at different times.

The call to action of women’s voices must be louder and more persuasive during and after COVID-19 and the recovery thereof in persistence of human and women’s rights. CEDAW and the Asia Pacific region must act in concert to achieve the gender equity and empowerment of women and girls in all their diversity. At every juncture of society it is the women of the world who have and will experience the most negative and sustained impacts of the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic. COVID-19 has simply highlighted the injustices that many women experience relentlessly in their daily lives. What is now apparent too is the failure of State social protection systems especially pertaining to women’s rights and gender equality.

There are emerging a number of overarching recommendations that cross-cut all areas. These areas are contained within the BPFA and there is a strong argument to return to the strategies of the BPFA to address many of the issues raised. Also by using the BPFA as a framework for action, we can

realise and acknowledging the unique areas arising for young women through internet technology and COVID 19 implications of this.

The APWW Regional Update on COVID-19 will be shared in October 2020 - follow the [website](#) or facebook for further information.

[See More On The Website](#)

Asia Pacific Women's Watch

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