

Conference on the Status of Women
CSW64
March 9 – 20, 2020

In 2020, the global community will mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). Coinciding with this anniversary, the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women is planned to take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 9-20. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world are invited to attend the session.

Established by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations by resolution on June 21, 1946, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The Bureau of the Commission consists of 5 members, each from the 5 different regions. This year, the Armenian Ambassador, Mr. Mher Margaryan is the chair. The other Bureau members are from Iraq, Australia, Algeria

Focus of Conference

The main focus of the session will be on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23rd special session of the General Assembly. The review will include an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A

[CSW64 Statement by Soroptimist International and Zonta International](#) has been developed.

Information on Official Meetings & Events

The following is an overview of the types of meetings and events that will be available.

- **Official Meetings (Limited Access – Must have UN Grounds Pass and invitation)**
– These events are part of the formal program of the sessions of the Commission. These events are located on the UN premises and are invitation/ticketed events or closed meetings. While you may not be able to attend, many of the official CSW64 meetings will be broadcast through 1) [UN.org](#) or 2) [UNWomen.org](#). To see some of the CSW63 meetings, [click here](#).
- **Side Events (Limited Access – Must have UN Grounds Pass)** – These events are located within the UN premises and can only take place if a Permanent Mission hosts the event. Zonta will organize at least one side event. Note: Zonta only has a limited number

of UN grounds passes available for individuals and the priority is given to members of the UN and advocacy committees and top international leadership.

- **Parallel Events (Open to all CSW attendees)** – These events are located at various locations near the UN. These events are open to all CSW attendees and cover a wide range of topics.
- **Briefings at Permanent Missions of Specific Countries** – Many country ‘Missions to the United Nations’ provide an opportunity for CSW attendees to register to attend a briefing during the CSW. Zonta does not coordinate these so please check with your respective UN Mission to gain access to these events.

Scheduled Activities

Most Zontians attend the CSW during the first week. You can come for one day or stay for the entire week.

Saturday, March 7

9.00am – 1.30pm, Armenian Hall, 630 2nd Ave, New York

In honor of Zonta’s centennial anniversary, Zonta International will host a seminar Child, Early and Forced Marriages and Unions - The Problem Comes into Focus: Zonta-GreeneWorks-Save The Children

Sunday, March 8

- Consultation Day is the launch of CSW64, providing important supplemental information about the two weeks of CSW and will be held on Sunday March 8th at the Apollo Theater in Harlem, NY. \$100 to attend tickets are available online through the NGO CSW/NY website.

Monday, March 9

- Conversation Circles will be held on the first 3 days of CSW64, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Armenian Convention Center ballroom. This provides an opportunity to meet other participants of CSW and NGO Forum, make connections and share in conversations. There will be organized thematic discussions and one Conversation Circle focused on young professionals.

Tuesday, 10 March, 2:00 p.m.

Parallel Event: 2 p.m. *Sisters for Sale the Global fight Against Human Trafficking*

- Morning Briefings are held every morning at the UN starting Tuesday, 10th from 8:30-

9:15am. Most likely in conference room 4, though please attendees should check for announcements on this closer to the date. This is an NGO briefing, organized by NGO CSW/NY in collaboration with UN Women and the CSW Bureau. These are very informative and give up-to-date details of the CSW negotiation process. Although a UN pass is needed to enter, some of the meetings will be broadcast on WebTV, in which case it can be seen online.

- The NGO Forum Reception is organized by the NGO CSW/NY at the New Yorker Hotel from 6pm to 8pm on Tuesday, March 10. Participants are invited to come in their traditional or native clothes from their respective country. \$85 tickets can be bought online through the NGO CSW/NY website.

Thursday, 12 March, 2:30 p.m.

Parallel Event: 2:30 p.m.

Take Action: End Child Marriage, an Obstacle to Global Development

10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Artisan Fair

Proceeds will go directly to the artisans who are raising funds for their NGOs. The application is available on the NGOCSW/NY website and the cost per table is \$80.

7 p.m. Zonta International Dinner

Friday, March 13

The NGO CSW/NY rally will be held on Friday March 13th at noon at the Dag Hammarskjold Plaza

Other

- On the first day of the session, Member States will have a Political Declaration.
- Regional Caucus meetings will be held once during each week at the Church Center of the UN. Attendees should sign up in advance. There are 5 different regional groups: Asia Pacific, Arab and MENA, Africa, Latin American and Caribbean, and Europe and North America.
- Advocacy trainings will be offered on “Our Guide for NGOs and Women’s Rights Activists at the UN and CSW”. Attendees should check the handbook for the schedule. The guide is available on the NGO CSW.org website in 4 languages and can be downloaded for android or iphone at the app store... just search for “ngo csw”..
- A good resource during CSW is the NGO Forum Handbook. It lists all parallel events happening during CSW and all events organized and co-sponsored by NGO CSW/NY and will cost \$5.

- There is an Advocacy app (for Iphone or Android, search “ngo csw”) or look for the 2019 “Advocacy Training in Negotiations and Women’s Human Rights” on the NGO CSW.org website. It is available in English, Spanish, Arabic, French and Russian

The NGO CSW New York also has [a series of orientation videos](#), which you may be interested in watching as you prepare for the CSW.

NGO CSW Forum

All attendees should [register for the NGO CSW Forum](#) to receive information about the NGO CSW Forum and events being organized by NGOs outside the UN. Registration is free.

Latest Information and Registration

We are hoping that you will consider joining other Zontians in attending this Conference. To keep updated on current events and details associated with this event, please add your name to the CSW 64 mailing list via this Google form

<https://forms.gle/xLsf8VmMeKFRY8H18>

- Registration for CSW 64 only for the selected ZONTA delegates is open until 27 January 2020.
- There will be many other opportunities to participate in exciting CSW events outside the UN and also at UN HQ with special tickets for Side events. Information can also be found on the unwomen.org website.

Logistics

UN Grounds Passes

With many more Zontians attending the CSW than passes available, it is very difficult for the International President to determine who shall receive a pass. All Zontians who will receive a pass for the CSW64 will be notified by Friday, 10 January.

Please note that there are hundreds of events, including some official side events, that you can attend outside the UN premises without a UN grounds pass, and there may be opportunities to attend events inside the UN building with separate special event tickets. More information on those events will be shared when the full event schedule is published.

Hotel Accommodations

There are a limited number of double rooms at the Millennium Hilton One UN Plaza. The nightly rate is US\$269/night, plus taxes. Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Future Updates

As more information is made available it will be disseminated.

UN District 4 Chairs

Margaret Geare

Nancy Peacock