

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS OF TWO YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES

UN WOMEN GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY ADVISORY GROUP

Introduction

The Executive Director of UN Women established her Global Civil Society Advisory Group as a consultative forum, and a platform for regular dialogue.

The Global Civil Society Advisory Group is constituted from among eminent civil society professionals, whose expertise the Executive Director will consult as necessary. The Executive Director of UN Women is now calling for nominations to expand the Global Civil Society Advisory Group by two youth representatives.

The overall objectives of the Global Civil Society Advisory Group are:

- To foster dialogue and engagement with a view to advance global goals of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- To enable the Executive Director to consult with civil society and draw upon the rich and diverse expertise, experience, outreach and networks, perspective and knowledge that civil society can offer.
- To serve as a consultative forum of ideas and strategies for UN women's programme.
- To serve as an advocacy coalition for UN Women

Role of the Global Civil Society Advisory Group

The Executive Director will convene the Group. It will have an informal advisory role as well as an advocacy role and will:

- Provide strategic perspectives on advocacy issues and UN Women's thematic priorities;
- Assist in strengthening UN Women's engagement with civil society at all levels with a special focus on constituencies such as youth, men and boys and faith-based organizations;
- Support, as necessary, UN Women's partnership with civil society in relevant intergovernmental processes and fora.

Membership of the Group:

- The Civil Society Advisory Group will have members (women and men) who are committed to the core values of the United Nations and to the mission of UN Women. The members will be reputed individuals with proven track record in their respective fields preferably with strong credentials as gender, development and or human rights advocates. The membership will largely comprise of individuals representing constituents (e.g. networks, organizations) who have been nominated by their constituents.
- The members will be drawn from non-governmental organizations, women's organization networks/coalitions, and movements, grassroots/community based organizations, academia, youth organizations, men and boys, and others working on gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment.

Selection process for two youth representatives:

The UN Women Executive Director is calling for nominations to include two new members to the Global Civil Society Advisory Group (GCSAG) as youth representatives. The candidate must fulfill the following criteria:

- GCSAG membership criteria (in Annex II);
- be a youth representative with a record of accomplishment in areas related to gender equality and women's empowerment;
- Aged between 18 and 25.

Candidates or organizations who wish to nominate individuals must fill out the "Candidate information" form (Annex I) and submit a detailed CV of the nominee.

Nominations should be sent to civil.society@unwomen.org by **31th July 2014, 5pm EST.**

For more information about the UN Women Civil Society Advisory Group,



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

ANNEX I: CANDIDATE INFORMATION

NAME:

COUNTRY:

ORGANIZATION:

BIO (maximum 1500 characters with spaces):

DESCRIPTION OF ACHIVEMENTS (maximum 1500 characters with spaces):

CONTACT DETAILS (email and telephone):

ANNEX II

UN Women Executive Director's Global Civil Society Advisory Group:

Terms of Reference

Introduction

The Executive Director of UN Women will establish her Global Civil Society Advisory Group as a consultative forum, and a platform for regular dialogue.

The ED's Global Civil Society Advisory Group will be complemented by UN Women Civil Society Advisory Groups at country and regional levels; UN Women will provide a web platform to facilitate communications among and between the groups and individual members.

The Global Civil Society Advisory Group is to be constituted from among eminent civil society professionals, whose expertise the Executive Director will consult as necessary.

Goal

- To foster dialogue and engagement with a view to advance global goals of gender equality and women's empowerment.
- To enable the Executive Director to consult with civil society and draw upon the rich and diverse expertise, experience, outreach and networks, perspective and knowledge that civil society can offer.
- To serve as a consultative forum of ideas and strategies for UN women's programme.
- To serve as an advocacy coalition for UN Women's strategic objectives

Mandate for the idea of the Group:

1. The General Assembly Requested the head of the Entity to continue the existing practice of effective consultation with civil society organizations, and encourages their meaningful contribution to the work of the Entity (GA/64/289).
2. In her Vision and Action Plan the Executive Director said: "In recognition of the special relationship I envisage between UN Women and women's organizations, I will be forming an NGO Advisory Group to advise me as Executive Director of UN Women. This will be a body

through which NGOs can share their perspectives, expertise and knowledge from the country level and a channel for our ongoing collaboration.”

3. UN Women Strategic Plan 2011-2013: “UN Women will work to ensure more systematic consultations with civil society at all levels, including establishing a civil society advisory group...”(UNW/2011/9/pg 20)

Role of the Group

The Executive Director will convene the Group. It will have an informal advisory role and advocacy role and will:

- Provide strategic perspectives on advocacy issues and UN Women’s thematic priorities;
- Assist in strengthening UN Women’s engagement with civil society at all levels with a special focus on constituencies such as youth, men and boys and faith-based organizations;
- Support, as necessary, UN Women’s partnership with civil society in relevant intergovernmental processes and fora.
- Contribute to UN Women’s advocacy efforts in specific or general ways as needed

Membership of the Group

- The Civil Society Advisory Group will have members (women and men) who are committed to the core values of the United Nations and to the mission of UN Women. The members will be reputed individuals with proven track record in their respective fields preferably with strong credentials as gender, development and or human rights advocates. The membership will largely comprise of individuals representing constituents (e.g. networks, organizations) who have been nominated by their constituents.
- The members will be drawn from non-governmental organizations, women’s organization networks/coalitions, and movements, grassroots/community based organizations, indigenous people’s groups, academia, youth organizations, men and boys, and others working on gender equality, women's rights and women’s empowerment.

Criteria and Composition

1. The UN Women Global Civil Society Advisory Group is to be composed of individuals of stature, with a record of accomplishment on the ground in areas related to gender equality and women’s empowerment.
2. The members shall have thematic expertise in one or more of UN Women’s focus areas.

3. They shall be strongly connected to national, regional or global civil society networks and have extensive experience in national, regional or international advocacy and policy development.
4. The individuals should have knowledge and understanding of the needs and interests of diverse groups of women, particularly in developing countries.
5. The individuals shall be committed to the core values of the United Nations.
6. Members shall not serve concurrently on another United Nations advisory body.
7. The Group shall have wide geographic representation and shall also include men among its membership.
8. The Group should include members with strong grass-roots experience.
9. Members are to be drawn from global, regional, and national gender equality networks, women's organizations, indigenous groups, academia as well as other non-governmental and grass roots organizations.
10. The Group should represent diverse constituencies, developmental and human rights perspectives.
11. Members shall not represent their organizations but serve in their personal capacity on the Advisory Group.
12. The advisory group will include youth (persons aged 18- 25)
13. The membership to the Group will be rotational. Members will serve for a period of two years renewable.

Operational Framework

1. The Advisory Group will hold an annual meeting with the UN Women Executive Director and senior staff. UN Women will arrange and cover the cost of travel and accommodation of Advisory Group members to the annual meeting.
2. The ongoing collaboration with UN Women will take place via a web-based platform, set up by UN Women, for group members to engage with each other and with the country and regional advisory groups.

Outcome

The Advisory Group will provide a forum for exchange of views and ideas between the Executive Director and civil society on subjects of priority and interest to UN Women. It will also serve as an advocacy coalition for UN Women