

# 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence November 25 - December 10



Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights:  
Maintaining the Momentum Ten Years After Vienna (1993-2003)

## ***2003 International Calendar of Campaign Activities***

This year marks the 13<sup>th</sup> year of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence Campaign. Stemming from the Global Center's first Women's Global Leadership Institute, the Campaign links issues concerning violence against women and human rights and emphasizes that all forms of violence, whether perpetrated in the public or private sphere, are a violation of human rights. The dates chosen for the campaign symbolically indicate this link: November 25 marks the International Day Against Violence Against Women and December 10 is International Human Rights Day. The sixteen-day period also highlights other significant dates, including December 1 (World Aids Day) and December 6 (the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre).

For the past 12 years, activities have been organized around the world during the 16 Days of Activism, drawing participation from hundreds of thousands of individuals. The purpose of the *International Calendar of Campaign Activities*, developed annually, is multifold: to highlight these organizing efforts as part of a broader movement for women's human rights; to provide others with examples of activities and strategies used by individuals and organizations during the Campaign; and to provide an opportunity for individuals to join and support plans already in existence. Past calendars (1991-2002) can be accessed via the Global Center's 16 Days website, <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu/16days/home.html> by selecting "Global Organizing for the 16 Days."

The Center for Women's Global Leadership asks that all participants of the 16 Days Campaign - past as well as present - send documentation from their events, i.e., posters, pictures, t-shirts, video footage, poems, songs, statements, reports, etc., to the Center.

**Center for Women's Global Leadership  
Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey  
160 Ryders Lane  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8555 USA  
Phone: (1-732) 932-8782; Fax: (1-732) 932-1180**

**E-mail: [cwgl@igc.org](mailto:cwgl@igc.org); Web Site: <http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu>**

## **Africa**

AMANITARE is a pan-African partnership that works to build an influential social movement to institutionalise the recognition of African women's and girls' sexual and reproductive health and rights as fundamental to their civil and human rights. The struggle against gender-based violence is at the heart of AMANITARE's work, with the recognition that violence is a widespread, brutal tool used to systematically control women's bodies, self-expression and social and political participation. Violence denies African women and girls the agency granted as citizens and equal members of our communities. Violence against women is fuelled by a lack of recognition and respect for women's rights to their bodies, and their rights to make decisions regarding their sexuality and fertility. [Please click here to view a statement issued by AMANITARE in support of the 16 Days Campaign.](#)

## **Argentina**

◆ Fundacion Mujeres en Igualdad is currently organizing a seminar on Accessing Justice in Gender Violence Cases and a Network against Women and Children Trafficking which will include both panels and workshops in November.

**Contact:** Monique Thiteux-Altschul, Fundacion Mujeres en Igualdad, Urquiza 1835 (1602) Florida, Bs.As., Argentina, telephone: (5411) 4791-0821, email: [malt@satlink.com](mailto:malt@satlink.com), website: <http://www.mei.com.ar>.

◆ CLADEM – Comité de América Latina y el Caribe para la Defensa de los Derechos de la Mujer. Para mirar a su "CIRCULAR ELECTRÓNICA: VIOLENCIA DE GÉNERO, Edición especial Noviembre/2003," [escoja esto](#).

**Contacto:** [violencia@cladem.org](mailto:violencia@cladem.org)

## **Armenia**

The Women's Rights Center implemented the following actions during the 2003 16 Days Campaign:

1. On November 25 WRC staff members took part in a radio program on Violence Against Women, including Domestic Violence and Trafficking in women issues, organized by it and the Stereo Studio of the National Radio. During the program the 16 Day Activities were discussed. All services offered to women by the WRC were also introduced.

2. On November 26 the WRC with the participation of its whole staff, members and volunteers organized seminar on the occasion of the UN International Day on Eliminating Violence against Women. The aim of the seminar was to raise the awareness of the participants on 16 Days and VAW, to introduce the history of the 16 day activities action, the aim of holding it, the activities held by the WRC as well as those to be held on VAW.

3. From December 1 to 3 the WRC held trainings of trainers (TOT) on VAW for NGOs trainers, the aim of which was to raise awareness of participants on 16 Days, who will be able to hold trainings and seminars on domestic violence and trafficking in women for target groups.

4. On 2, 3 December, the Intrah/Armenia Representative Office organized a Community Training course for the obstetrician-gynecologists and midwives of Policlinic #8 and the heads of Arabkir region social services. Women's Rights Center trainer took part in the realization of

that course. The goal of the training courses was to introduce to the health care providers the abilities of the community, to raise the community awareness on domestic violence with the help of medical workers, to differentiate between the roles of medical and social workers and NGOs in this process, the planning and realization of the community trainings, the working out of 6 month awareness proceedings and coordination plan. 16 Days activities were also discussed.

5. On December 3 the head of the WRC's branch in Vanadzor regional center was interviewed by Vanadzor Central TV Station -"Lurer" information program - during which information was provided on 16 Days and domestic violence and trafficking in women problems in Armenia.

6. On December 5, 6 together with the students of Vanadzor Teacher's Training College the trainers of the WRC's Vanadzor branch conducted training under the heading Elimination of Domestic Violence and Trafficking in women. 30 students took part in the training, namely 15 girls and 15 boys. The introduction of 16 Days was made.

7. On December 8, the trainers of the WRC's branch in Vanadzor arranged a meeting with the volunteers of "Aravot" organization, during which a discussion on 16 Days and domestic violence was held. 22 people with the age ranging from 16 to 20 years old took part in the meeting.

8. On December 10 WRC staff members held two trainings in two grade 9 classes and two grade 10 classes of school # 132. The trainings were devoted to the International Day of Human Rights. 16 Days and two other topics were discussed during the training, such as domestic violence and trafficking in women. The students expressed a significant interest especially during the discussion of issues relating to domestic violence, the relations between a wife and a husband, and the rights and responsibilities of a wife and a husband in a family. The meeting with the under-age students was very important, since deep-rooted stereotypes could be felt in them towards the mentioned problems. By their request, similar trainings will be organized more often.

**Contact:** Women's Rights Center, e-mail: [wrcarm@arminco.com](mailto:wrcarm@arminco.com)

## Australia

◆ The International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) is holding a discussion panel on November 25<sup>th</sup> to explore the ways in which different communities are affected by violence against women. For more information, [please click here to view their flier.](#)

[Click here to read a speech by Kirsty Allen given at the panel discussion.](#)

**Contact:** Kirsty Allen, Overseas Program Manager, International Women's Development Agency, PO Box 64, Flinders Lane, VIC 8009, Ph: 61 3 9650 5574, Fax: 61 3 9654 9877, Email: [kirsty@iwda.org.au](mailto:kirsty@iwda.org.au), website: <http://www.iwda.org.au/>

◆ A group of women community workers have put together a local art show called "Creating Safe Space." The show will be opened at 6pm Tuesday 25th November. The work is all presented in A4 format, laminated. They have digitally photographed or colour photocopied all the work. In addition, many workshops have been run to encourage women to participate, both at Youth Centres and with Older Women's Groups and 3 at the Women's Health Centre. Included are pictures of cakes, sculptures, paper cutouts, playdoh models, collages and some poetry to be read at the opening along with 2 singing groups, one comprised of young women called "Unity" and an older women's group, "the Sivertowns."

**Contact:** Jack Draper, Lesbian Community Development Worker, Illawarra Womens Health Centre, PO 61 Warilla, NSW 2528, 02 42967077, [jackd@womenshealthcentre.com.au](mailto:jackd@womenshealthcentre.com.au)

## **Austria**

Austrian Women's Shelters will hang banners saying "to live free without violence" on town halls in towns where women's shelters are located all over Austria on November 25th. The banners will remain on the town halls during the 16 Days Campaign. The Austrian Women's shelters are celebrating their 25th anniversary this year!

**Contact:** Daniela Almer, Informationsstelle gegen Gewalt, (Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser), Bacherplatz 10/4, A-1050 Wien; Tel. +43/1/544 08 20; Fax +43/1/544 08 20-24; email: [informationsstelle@aoef.at](mailto:informationsstelle@aoef.at); web: [www.aoef.at](http://www.aoef.at)

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Association Vesta and Reference Group from Tuzla is running a project entitled "½ Gender Sensitive Media Code and Advocacy for Legal Strategies to End Violence." Vesta's initiative is also going to be linked to the one promoted by the Reference Group, an association comprising more than 40 non-governmental organization in Tuzla Canton. The Reference Group has a specific Task Force, the Stop the Violence Against Women Task Force, that already promoted activities in preventing violence against women such as: (a) organization of public debates and round tables (b) training for police and social workers in Tuzla Canton (c) drafting of Law on Domestic Violence, shared with the Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Justice (d) public media campaign at the beginning of 2001, through posters, TV and radio shows.

**Contact:** Association Vesta and Reference Group from Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, [selena@vesta.ba](mailto:selena@vesta.ba)

Below is a further plan of activities in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina coordinated by various organizations:

November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup>

*MEDIA CAMPAIGN ON LOCAL TV AND RADIO STATION*

Jingl in production of Vesta Radio: "Speak Up!, Think about it!, Act non-violent! The human rights of women and the girl-child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. Any violence og these rights are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person, and must be eliminated." TV and Radio Shows on different issues organised by following organisation - members of Reference Group:

In Bosnian Language:

(HORIZONTI, SNAGA ZENE, AMICA EDUCA, VIVE ZENE, VESTA, MAJKE HENDIKEPIRANE DJECE, FENIX, HRVATSKA ZENA, PRIJATELJICE)

November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup>

*Different kinds of posters, flyers distributed*

"Stop the domestic violence" - Reference Group

"They are not just a black news, they are victims of domestic violence" -

UNIFEM

by Association Vesta distributed to Media Houses in Bosnia and Herzegovina

December 2<sup>nd</sup>

*Peace Protest in Center of the Town*  
Member of Reference Group, Primary Schools, Citizens

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

*Round Table*

under the name: "Different perspectives and approaches in process of prevention and elimination of violence against women and children" organised by Association Vesta and Vesta Radio - supported by UNIFEM.

December 2<sup>nd</sup> through December 9<sup>th</sup>

*Exhibition of photography*

"Violence against Women" - A.Kamber PeaceFlame House Reference Group, Tuzla

**Contact:** Selena Imerovic, Programme Assistant, Association Vesta and Reference Group from Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina, [selena@vesta.ba](mailto:selena@vesta.ba)

## **Burundi**

Fonds de Developpement des Nations Unies pour la Femme (UNIFEM) of Central Africa held events in Burundi, where women and young girls are faced with a lot of violence due to war.

**Contact:** UNIFEM, Bureau Régional pour l'Afrique Centrale, B.P. 445, Kigali, Rwanda, Tel: (250) 590463, Fax: (250) 578497.

## **Cambodia**

◆ CAMBOW, a coalition of NGOs working on women's issues in Cambodia is planning to organize activities for the one about domestic violence, and the second about human trafficking. In addition, they will show video recordings of these performances in five Cambodian provinces.

**Contact:** Kek Galabru at [licadho.president@everyday.com.kh](mailto:licadho.president@everyday.com.kh).

◆ LICADHO (Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights) and CAMBOW (Cambodian Committee of Women) will be focusing their 2003 16 Days Campaign on Domestic Violence and Human Rights trafficking in order to put pressure to the Cambodian government and National Assembly members to adopt the Domestic Violence draft law and Human Rights Trafficking draft law with our recommendations. Activities will be carried out in Phnom Penh and in the other four provinces office of Cambodia.

**Contact:** Sunlina Ly, Women's Rights Coordinator, LICADHO (Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights), [licadho.wr1@everyday.com.kh](mailto:licadho.wr1@everyday.com.kh)

◆ Cambodian Women's Crisis Center along with 33 Women NGOs in Cambodia is planning to hold a 16 Days related event on 30th November 2003 in Phnom Penh.

**Contact:** [cwccct@forum.org.kh](mailto:cwccct@forum.org.kh)

## **Canada**

◆ Persons against ritual abuse-torture (RAT) & other acts of non-political torture were part of the Purple Ribbon campaign and asked journalists to do an article on ritual abuse-torture. To read the article, see <http://www.halifaxherald.com/external/ritualabusetorture/abuse.html>. Also, on December 10th they gave a one-hour educational presentation to professionals working in the community about the reality of ritual abuse-torture.

**Contact:** Jeanne Sarson RN, BScN, MEd & Linda MacDonald RN, BN, Med, Persons against ritual abuse-torture (RAT) & other acts of non-political torture, 361 Prince St. Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada B2N 1E4; Phone/Fax: 902-895-2255; E-mail: [flight@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:flight@ns.sympatico.ca); Web site: <http://www.ritualabusetorture.org>

◆ The Communication Initiative, a partnership of development organisations seeking to support advances in the effectiveness and scale of communication interventions for positive international development has entered a description of the 16 Days Campaign in the Programme Experiences section at <http://www.comminit.com/pdskdvl12003/sld-8910.html>.

**Contact:** <http://www.comminit.com>

◆ The Naomi Society has organized many events for this year's 16 Days Campaign. [Please click here for a flier with the full schedule.](#)

**Contact:** Naomi Society, Danielle LeBlanc, [dleblanc@myrealbox.com](mailto:dleblanc@myrealbox.com)

◆ The Office of the Community Safety Coordinator, the Status of Women Office, Assault/Education Counsellor, Innis College, First Nations House and the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering of the University of Toronto have many events planned to celebrate the 16 Days Campaign. Below is their schedule, and more information can be obtained online at:

[http://www.library.utoronto.ca/wow/16\\_days\\_events\\_2003.htm](http://www.library.utoronto.ca/wow/16_days_events_2003.htm)

25/11	Opening Event and celebration of International Day Against Violence Against Women, from 1:00 – 2:00 pm, First Nations House, 563 Spadina Ave., 3 <sup>rd</sup> flr. (small lunch provided).
26/11	Film “After the Montreal Massacre”, from 1:00 –2:30, University of Toronto at Scarborough (UTSC), Rm #221, S Wing
27/11	Film, “Of Hopscotch and Little Girls“, 3:00 pm and “Stolen Lives” 4:30 pm, Innis College, 2 Sussex, Town Hall, sponsored by CINSSU Campus Safety Tour for Women, 6:00 – 8:00 pm University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM) Meet in the Colman Lounge. Refreshments will be provided. (women only)
28/11	Film, “After the Montreal Massacre”, from 2:30-3:30, UTM, Presentation Room, Student Centre. Sponsored by UTM Women’s Centre. Workshop, “Criminal Harassment & Stalking”, METRAC, 12pm-2pm, Bahen Centre for Information Technology, 40 St George St., Room 3000, 3rd floor
29/11	Check out this web page: Center for Women’s Global Leadership <a href="http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu">http://www.cwgl.rutgers.edu</a>
30/11	Call for Volunteers for Dec6Fund Subway Campaign. Contact Christine at <a href="mailto:events@dec6fund.ca">events@dec6fund.ca</a> , 966-4966, or for St. George/OISE Angela at 923-6641, ext. 2344
1/12	Workshop “Healthy Relationship, Healthy Sex, by SEC - Sexual Education Centre & World Aids Day, 3:00-5:00 pm. International Student’s Centre, 33 St. George St., Cumberland Room
2/12	Film, “After the Montreal Massacre”, 1:00-2:00, Bahen Centre for Information Technology, 40 St. George St. Rm BA 1200
3/12	Film “Charting New Waters: Responding to Violence Against Women with Disabilities” & International Day of Disabled Persons. 11:00 –12:15, International Students Centre, 33 St George, Pandora Room
4/12	The Women’s Movement in Afghanistan: Opportunities and Constraints. IWSGS Lounge, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Fl. Wilson Hall, New College, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.
5/12	December 6 <sup>th</sup> Memorial, 12:15, Great hall, Hart House, 7 Hart House Circle
6/12	Women Won’t Forget Candlelight Vigil, 6:00 pm Philosopher’s Walk, Bloor St. Entrance.
7/12	Join the electronic discussion of “16 days of activism against gender violence”: <a href="mailto:cwgl@igc.org">cwgl@igc.org</a>

8/12	Workshop "Representation of Women in the Media & Popular Culture", 12:00-1:30, Koffler Conference Room, 214 College St. Rm. #313
9/12	Film "Of Hopscotch and Little Girls", 5:00-6:30 Victoria University, Wymilwood, 150 Charles St. West, Cat's Eye
10/12	Film "A Score for Women's Voices", 7:30-9:30, 89 Chestnut Residence, Dewey's Coffee House, Main Floor.

**Contact:** [cheryl.champagne@utoronto.ca](mailto:cheryl.champagne@utoronto.ca)

◆ Members of the University of British Columbia's campus community in Vancouver have come together to organize an event commemorating the Montréal Massacre and showing international dimensions of gender based violence. They will hold a silent vigil for the 14 murdered women engineering students of Montréal, have a public screening of "Women Facing War", a video highlighting the challenges of women affected by war, as well as disseminate information on the situation of women in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The event takes place on December 4<sup>th</sup> 2003 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm in Vancouver on the University of British Columbia's campus in the Student Union Building's South Alcove.

**Contact:** Sarah Twomey, [safety@ams.ubc.ca](mailto:safety@ams.ubc.ca), Sabine Huss, [sabine\\_huss@yahoo.de](mailto:sabine_huss@yahoo.de)

## Chile

The Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN) has launched a campaign to review the implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women Belem do Pará Convention to coincide with the commemoration of November 25<sup>th</sup>. The objectives of the campaign include: contributing to the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence against women in its various forms; mobilizing women's organizations throughout the region to take a public stand on the application of the Convention in their country; demanding the participation of the governments in this process and all processes related to the eradication of violence against women; demanding comprehensive care for women victims of violence.

**Contact:** Adriana Gómez, LACHWN Chief Editor, Casilla 50610, Santiago I, Chile.

## Commonwealth of Independent States

UNIFEM CIS will be covering the 16 Days activities of NGOs in the CIS throughout the campaign on the website <http://www.nasilie.net/> which is devoted to the elimination of violence against women in the Commonwealth of Independent States. To contribute an event, use the contact below.

**Contact:** Anuar Konirkuljaev, web-coordinator, UNIFEM CIS, [anuar.konirkuljaev@undp.org](mailto:anuar.konirkuljaev@undp.org); <http://www.unifemcis.org/>; phone +7 (3272) 582 643 (ext. 608); fax +7 (3272) 582 645;

## Congo

Initiatives Femmes Enfants Et Developpement (IFED) will be conducting a range of events for the 16 Days Campaign. Their goals and objectives include reducing violence against women in the South Kivu Province of the Congo, specifically by: raising awareness on violence against women in the South Kivu Province; reinforcing the capacity of the local NGOs and law enforcers to address violence against women throughout the province; disseminating the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the additional protocol to women and youth organisations and law enforcement officers; calling upon the Congolese Transitional Government

institutions for the development and the implementation of policies aimed at the elimination of violence against women at the local and the national level; bringing about behavioural and attitudinal change towards women and the girl child. They will involve women and youth organisations, schools, local and international NGOs, religious associations, provincial officials, the media, the victims and alleged perpetrators of gender violence.

- On 25 November the activities will be launched officially to help promote the campaign. Province Officials will be invited as Guests of Honour to open the campaign activities. Key speakers will include: IFED Director, the Director of the Coalition against Sexual Violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Chairperson of the Civil Society Coordination Office, South Kivu Province, Representatives of Human Rights NGOs. T-Shirts will be distributed, pamphlets will be handed out and posters and banners will be put up and handed out at strategic locations such as Feux Rouges, Carrefour, Place de l' independance, ISP Bukavu, Marche Nyawera, Post office, Bagira, ITFM. Advocacy letters will be officially handed out to the Province officials.
- A series of radio dramas and debates on violence against women will be organized. Women associations, youth groups, and schools will be asked to enter a radio drama competition on violence against women. Twelve dramas will be selected for their originality, their relevance to the theme of violence against women as lived in South Kivu Province and aired on the different radio stations at the same time. Different stakeholders including government officials, lawyers, judges, law enforcers, women's rights and human rights activists from local and international NGOs will be invited to debate on the theme live on the radio. Auditors will be encouraged to respond to the drama and ask questions to any of the invited guests by telephone. The invited guests debate on the rights of the woman violated by the actors in the drama and on all the aspects related to the issue: social, economic, health, psychological, legal. The lawyers, judges and law enforcers are requested to provide guidance to such victims or mechanisms of redress for rights violated. A summary of the debate will be presented before the end of the programme. A summary of all the issues raised in the different radio drama and debates and the perceptions voiced by the auditors will be presented on 10th December and linked to the provisions of the universal Declaration of human rights and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Violence Against Women.
- A mock trial on violence against women and the girl child in South Kivu will be performed. IFED will organise a mock trial on violence against women in collaboration with students from the Law School of the Catholic University of Bukavu and the University Centre of Bukavu. The scenario will recapture the experience of a girl child, defiled by 12 soldiers and now pregnant and HIV positive. This is a real case, but all the actors will be fictitious. Students from the Law schools will act as counsels to the victims. They will have to use the provisions of the CEDAW and other relevant international and African human rights instruments in their argumentation. A debate will be organised just after the performance on the increasing rate of rape and defilement in South Kivu Province.
- To reinforce the capacity of the local NGOs to address gender violence throughout the province. IFED will organise a 3-days training workshop on women's rights provided for in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The overall objective of the workshop is to build the capacity to address gender violence, especially violence against women in the South Kivu Province. Participants will include members of women organisations, youth organisations, human rights organisations, schools teachers and head teachers, law enforcement officials and army officials. Themes to be studied will include Gender and the international human rights instruments; Understanding the provisions of the CEDAW; Identifying strategies to use CEDAW as an instrument of change; Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting Women's human rights situation in the South Kivu Province; Law enforcers as partners for change.

- Human rights documents relevant to women's rights will be disseminated to women and youth organisations and law enforcement officers. IFED will compile relevant international human rights instruments for the promotion and protection of women's rights. These instruments will include: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenants on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and its additional protocol, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the African Charter on Women's Rights. The compiled instruments will be produced in brochure format and distributed free of charge to women and youth organisations, local province officials, schools, lawyers, judges and law enforcers at the district and commune levels. The campaigners will urge the law enforcers, lawyers and judges to use the documents as a call for justice in matters of gender violence. The campaigners will also urge women and youth organisations and local human rights activists to use the document as a tool for their advocacy for a gender sensitive world.
- Call upon the Congolese Transitional Government institutions for the development and the implementation of policies aimed at the elimination of violence against women at the local and the national level. An ad hoc committee will be set up to draft petitions to be sent to the Transitional Institution Actors urging them to include provisions addressing gender violence and discrimination in the new constitution, to ratify the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW, to adopt 25 November as the national Day against Gender Violence and to bring to court anybody alleged of violence against women. IFED will be responsible for distributing the letters to the Government Officials. The letters will be sent to other women, youth and human rights organisations at the local and international level for support.
- (13 December 2003) The participants will be invited for an evaluation session at the end of the campaign to make suggestions for improvements for next year's campaign. Indicators of success will include the level of participation, degree of the feeling of empowerment for the participants, responses from the community and the Government, commitment from the participants and the province officials. At the end of the session, the participants will design a plan for the follow-up of the activities.

[Click here for full information on 16 Days Activities, and background on issues of violence against women in the Congo.](#)

**Contact:** Initiatives Femmes-Enfants et Developpement (IFED), Kalengera, Ville de Bukavu Province du Sud-Kivu, Rép. Dém. Congo, C/O B.P. 203 Cyangugu Rwanda, Telephone: 256-77 337944, Email: [IFED\\_wcdi@yahoo.fr](mailto:IFED_wcdi@yahoo.fr)

## Cuba

Mujeres y Madres contra la Represión (MAR), Coalición de Mujeres Cubanos-Americanos, Domino Network, Mujeres Luchadoras por la Democracia, Ex-Presas Políticas Cubanas, Red Feminista Cubana, Comisión de Mujeres Municipalistas de Cuba en el Exilio, Fundación Elena Mederos, y Federación Latinoamericana de Mujeres Rurales-Cuba have collaborated to hold events for the 2003 16 Days Campaign. They will hold a conference on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November dealing with different forms of violence against women.

## England

LAWRS (Latin American Women's Rights Service) is a charity organisation based in London which gives social and legal advice, assistance, and counselling to Latin American women living in London. Their schedule of activities consists of 5 seminars followed by workshops, starting on 22 November, 6th December and until 28th February, on women's rights are human rights, VAW, and different types of violence within the family. [For the complete schedule in Spanish, click here.](#)

**Contact:** Claudia Hasanbegovic, Coordinator, Domestic Violence Prevention Project at LAWRS Latin American Women's Rights Service, [claudia@lawrs.org.uk](mailto:claudia@lawrs.org.uk)

## Fiji

◆ The Fiji Women Peace and Security Coordinating Committee is firming plans to stage two project activities which will tie in with the commemoration of the 16 Days. These include:

- A. A Creative arts project to be known as 'the Youth Expressions of Women, Peace and Security' which will involve the development and production of youth creative expressions based on the interpretation of 'out of school' young adults considering the theme women, peace and security. It is expected that the workshop will be facilitated by Women's Action for Change theatre group (WAC) and local artist Jane Ricketts will also be assisting.
- B. A regional workshop, focusing on training participants to better understand the complexities of detecting and addressing the early warning signs of conflict.

According to the WPS Fiji Coordinating Committee, *"Given our national and regional realities it was agreed that amongst the other areas of work we are focusing on that there was a need to develop a deeper understanding of how early warning signals can be used to read and diffuse possible conflict; it was agreed that this should be a priority for Fiji, and to be inclusive of regional partners"*

**Contact:** Koila at the Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education and Advocacy (ECREA) on 679 3307588 or femLINKpacific, P O Box 2439, Government Buildings, Suva, Fiji Islands; Phone: 679 - 3316290 (o) / mobile 9244871; [femlinkpac@is.com.fj](mailto:femlinkpac@is.com.fj)

◆ The women's media NGO femLINKpacific will also be initiating a quarterly regional women's community magazine entitled "femTALK 1325." The magazine is being produced with help from funding from UNIFEM Pacific and its aim is to promote, through local and regional stories the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and the first publication will focus on the 16 Days Campaign theme and activities.

**Contact:** Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Coordinator/Producer-Director, femLINKpacific (Media Initiatives for Women), Suva, Fiji Islands, [femlinkpac@is.com.fj](mailto:femlinkpac@is.com.fj), Phone: 679 - 3316290 (o) / mobile 9244871

◆ On December 10<sup>th</sup>, femLINKpacific will join with UNIFEM Pacific, and together with the Republic of Cappucino and Kahawa coffee shops, they will hold a first-ever Suva City Coffee Morning (CCM) to mark the end of the 16days of activism against Gender Violence. Katy Pullen, an intern at UNIFEM Pacific has brought this idea to Suva: In recent years the annual Coffee Mornings held by Macmillan Cancer Relief Fund, UK have attracted 1.5 million participants and in this pilot initiative for the capital city the organizers have planned a new and innovative way to commemorate and consider the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly resolution which states "that violence against women constitutes a violation of the rights and freedoms of women ... that there is a need for a clear and comprehensive definition of violence against women, a clear statement of the rights to be applied to ensure the elimination of all violence against women in all its forms, a commitment by States ... and a commitment by the international community at large to the elimination of violence against women" (Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women). Subsequently in December 1999, the 54th session of the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 54/134 declaring November 25th the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women." This initiative is also exciting because of the collaboration between the coffee shops to help us and join us in this effort which is providing space for interested members of the public to join the youth facilitators in a series on discussions especially designed for the day: So even if you are not in Suva, at 10:00 am 10 December 2003, raise your coffee mug to International Human Rights Day, and join the organizers and other

women's human rights and peace advocates in reiterating that violence against women violates human rights. There can be no human rights without women's human rights. So, wherever you enjoy your Coffee Morning on December 10 2003 we ask you to stop, think, drink."

What has been planned?

On the 10 December, five locations will mark the Suva City Coffee Morning:

Central bus station

Triangle outside ROC on Renwick Road

Forecourt outside Kahawa on Ellery Street

ROC in FNPF, Victoria Parade

Kahawa in Fijian Holdings Building, Gordon Street

The Activities Timetable for December 10<sup>th</sup> in Suva is:

Location 1: Bus Station

Time: 7.30am – 9.00am

Activity: Distribution of free tea and coffee to passers by

Locations 2 and 3: Triangle outside ROC and Forecourt outside Kahawa on Ellery Street

Time: 8.00am-10.00am

Activity: Distribution of free tea/coffee, leaflets; Seating area provided; facilitators on hand to mingle among public and answer any questions etc

Time: 10.00am-1.00pm

Activity: Group discussions to be held by facilitators; continued distribution of free tea/coffee to participants.

Locations 4 and 5: ROC in FNPF and Kahawa in Fijian Holdings Building:

Time: 7.30am – 3.00pm

Activity: Donation boxes; distribution of stickers, leaflets, couple of people on hand to talk to members of the public should they have any questions, queries etc.

**Contact:** Katy Pullen at UNIFEM Pacific or Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, Coordinator/Producer-Director, femLINKpacific (Media Initiatives for Women), Suva, Fiji Islands, [femlinkpac@is.com.fj](mailto:femlinkpac@is.com.fj), Phone: 679 - 3316290 (o) / mobile 9244871

## Finland

The 16 Days Committee at Oulu will be coordinating the following 16 Days program:

Monday 1: 4.30 City Park	<i>Lighting the Candles</i> The 16 Days Committee
Monday 1: 5-6.30 Intl. Centre Toppelius	<i>National Directions for Combating Violence</i> - Senior advisor Anja Lehtonen, Ministry for Social Affairs and Health
Wednesday 3: 0.30- 2pm	<i>Goddess Remembered, a Film by Donne Reed</i> - Presentation, Kaarina Kailo
Thursday 4: 6-7.30 Mother and Child Home & Shelter	<i>Lowering the threshold – information on the shelter and hot line for women at Oulu</i> - Shelter, Riitta Pohjoisvirta; hot line, Mari Lahtinen
Monday 8: 1-3 University campus,	<i>Rape, top of the iceberg – reflections of an author- lecture</i> - Author Märta Tikkanen

Dept. of Arts	
Monday 8: 4-6 City Library	<i>Breaking the Silence</i> – public lecture with discussion - Author Märta Tikkanen
Wednesday 10: 9am-5pm University campus, Dept. of Education	<i>International Research Seminar</i> : Nordic-NW Russian research networks around schools and crisis centres and the Daphne project; NCRB book launching; 10 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Femina Borealis network for activism, education and research Co-ordination: Vappu Sunnari, Aino Saarinen, Mervi Heikkinen <a href="#">CLICK HERE TO VIEW FLIER.</a>
** EXHIBITIONS **	
25 November-10 December City Library	<i>Gendered Violence in Novels, Poems</i>
25 November – 10 December University Library, Snellmania	<i>Gendered Violence in Scientific Literature</i>
** For information **	Oulu Provincial Administration, December 1: Work meeting on national directions for combating violence (call-up)

The 16 Days Committee at Oulu includes Mervi Heikkinen, Mari Lahtinen, Riitta Pohjoisvirta, Aino Saarinen, Vappu Sunnari. Co-organisers of Events include Women's Hot Line, Oulu Oulu Mother and Child Home and Shelter Oulu Province Administration - Oulu City Library Oulu City Theatre- Association of Political Women's Organisations, Oulu UNIFEM, Oulu Oulu Women Centre- Oulu University: Nordic-NW Russian research networks: Crisis centres; Violence in Schools and Teacher Education; AWARE project; Women's Studies; Nursing Science; Literature

**Contact:** Dr. Aino Saarinen, Dept. of Educational Sciences, University of Oulu,  
<http://www.edu oulu.fi/kti/NCRB/>, Contact address: Kurjenpolvi 2 D 6, FIN-90580 Oulu, Finland  
Tel. +358 - 8 - 5566 092; Fax. +358 - 8 - 5472 253, E-mail: [aino.saarinen@oulu.fi](mailto:aino.saarinen@oulu.fi)

## Germany

Terre Des Femmes will hold their third annual *Fahnenaktion* (Flag Day) on November 25<sup>th</sup>. On this day, communities all over Germany hoist a special flag designed with a picture of a woman and a slogan to draw attention to the issue. The flag, along with posters, postcards, brochures, fliers, and balloons are distributed by Terre Des Femmes. In 2001, about 1,400 flags were sold and in 2002 the number of flags sold increased to 2,200. Last year, the campaign focused on forced marriage, especially of young immigrant women in Germany, but Terre Des Femmes encourages communities to focus on their own local needs around gender based violence when using the campaign. The event has proven highly successful in raising awareness about violence against women. [To view their brochure, click here.](#)

**Contact:** Terre Des Femmes E.V., Konrad-Adenauer-Straße 40, 72072 Tübingen, Germany; Tel 00 49/(0) 70 71/79 73-0, Fax 00 49/(0) 70 71/ 79 73-2; email: [TDF@swol.de](mailto:TDF@swol.de); web: <http://www.terre-des-femmes.de/>

## Ghana

◆ The Women's Initiative for Self-Empowerment (WISE) has planned events for the 2003 16 Days Campaign including a campaign launch on November 25<sup>th</sup>; a workshop on developing critical lobbying skills on women's issues in Ghana and an Essay and Poetry Contest on the topic "Connection between HIV/AIDS, Gender, Sexual Assault, Role of girl child in fighting spread of disease," both on December 1<sup>st</sup>;

a workshop with the media to develop a strategy on women's issues and SGBV on December 4<sup>th</sup>, a workshop for Paramount Chiefs on women's rights and SGBV on December 9<sup>th</sup>, a Workshop for Queen Mothers on Women's Rights and SGBV on December 10<sup>th</sup> and a press release to thank the media for 16 Days coverage on December 11<sup>th</sup>. [Click here for a more detailed plan.](#)

**Contact:** [wiseghana@yahoo.com](mailto:wiseghana@yahoo.com)

◆ [LAWA Ghana](#) is organizing legislative consultations on marital rape and trafficking and a public education session on trafficking in Ghana.

**Contact:** LAWA (Ghana) Alumnae Incorporated, H/N. 2, 1st Abele Street, Kokomlemle, (A.T.T.C. Road, Opposite Gapvod Office), P. O. Box Gp21048, Accra, Ghana. T: 233208136809, T 23321224878, F: 233-(0)21-232296, Sheila Minkah-Premo, Former Director, [smpremo@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:smpremo@yahoo.co.uk), or Barbra Ayesu, Director, [baboayesu@hotmail.com](mailto:baboayesu@hotmail.com), <http://www.h-net.org/~gyimah/activities.html>

◆ [Integrated Community Development Youth Network \(INCOYNET\)](#), a local community NGO in Bolgatanga, will use student volunteers to speak in senior secondary schools in the Upper East Region of Ghana. Drama will also be used to demonstrate discrimination and violence in local communities.

**Contact:** Project Coordinator, INCOYNET, [omaroud@yahoo.ca](mailto:omaroud@yahoo.ca)

## India

◆ [Indian Society for Rural Development](#) will be organizing a workshop on violence against women on December 1<sup>st</sup> in B.C. C Bank Conference Hall, Berhampur City, at 9.30 A.M. Lady Activists, Feminist Writers and other related resource persons will be participating.

**Contact:** Indian Society for Rural Development, Email: [isrd@hotmail.com](mailto:isrd@hotmail.com)

◆ A group of seven Non-Governmental Organisations in Saurashtra –Kachchh region of Gujarat, India have taken on a concerted campaign to combat the issue of violence against women. The NGOs are [Society For Women's action And Training Initiative, Utthan –Amreli , Utthan- bhavnagar, Shikshan Ane Samaj Kalyan Kendra, Mahila Samakhya Society, Kutch Mahila Vikas Sangathan, Navijot Mahila Vikas Sangathan](#). They will be concentrating on the theme "Towards a Violence Free Society - Eliciting Male Involvement." The Saurashtra region is known for its feudal culture and rigid customs for women. The birth of a female child was considered to be an ill omen by the people who killed the infant by choking her in a pot of milk The practice of female infanticide was so prevalent that there were just 750 women in the region for 1000 men. 200 years later the situation of woman has improved but only marginally. The sex ratio in this region stands at 869 as against the country average of 923 and the state average of 933. Female literacy, in certain pockets is 11%. In the village Jhakau and Wanku of Naliya in kachchh 22 unnatural deaths of women were reported in a year. Beginning from the 25<sup>th</sup> November to the 10<sup>th</sup> December the agencies have taken up a campaign that will cover over 200 villages of Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Amreli, Rajkot and Kachchh districts in Gujarat, India. The main objective of the campaign is to create a Culture That Says 'No' to Violence Against Women. Through poster exhibition, play, songs and rally the campaign aims at eliciting male participation in combating violence against women, and questioning attitudes and norms that perpetuate violence against women. The village level campaigns in five districts will culminate in a 'Sankalp Yatra' and a 'Sankalp Sabha' in Bhavnagar where over 1000 men and women from all over the Saurashtra- Kachchh region are expected to join. On 10<sup>th</sup> December the rally will start from the Shantilal Shah highschool grounds Bhavanagr and will culminate in a sabha at the same ground from 11 a.m to 3p.m. Social leaders from all over Gujarat are expected to attend.

**Contact:** Ms. Poonam kathuria, email: [pswati@satyam.net.in](mailto:pswati@satyam.net.in), Mobile Phone: 9825084601

◆ Swadhina, an organization for self-reliance of women and Development of Children, will be holding a number of events to celebrate the 2003 16 Days Campaign. They are as follows:

### **I. Swadhina – Kolkata**

Distribution of Support Badges – Support badges and leaflets on the cause will be distributed to 100 organizations with an appeal to wear the badges for the entire fortnight – from 25<sup>th</sup> November to 10<sup>th</sup> December 2003 as a mark of solidarity towards the cause

Poster Competition – A poster designing competition for students will be organized on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003 highlighting on the issue of gender discrimination and gender violence. Young people from various school, art schools, and local areas will be invited to participate. Topics will be “Give the Girls a Chance to Grow,” “The Evil of Dowry-System.”

Seminar and Felicitation – A seminar will be organized at Kolkata on 6<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003 with focus on the issue of women’s rights with an expected participation of about 100 persons. Felicitation would be offered to three activists with dedicated activism towards the cause of women’s rights and gender violence.

Exhibition of Posters and Handicrafts – An exhibition of posters and handicrafts will be organized on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003. This will be an attempt to highlight the issue of women’s empowerment which is an important step towards the elimination of gender violence. Handicrafts by young women, as an attempt toward self-reliance, will be exhibited in order to encourage other women.

### **2. Swadhina – Mayurbhanj (Orissa)**

Distribution of Support Badges – Support badges promoting the 16 Days cause will be distributed to fifty activists in Betnoti region of Mayurbhanj with an appeal to wear the badge as a mark of solidarity throughout the fortnight on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2003.

“Women are the Power” Fest – Encouraged by the response of the women in the previous year and the large number of emboldened participation by the local women we have decided to organize once more the Women’s Fest, popularly called “Mahila Shakti Utsav” (“Women are the Power” Fest). This will be organized at Betnoti, Mayurbhanj on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November, 2003 and will include the following: Speech Contest for around 15 women participants of which the topic will be “Women Have the Power to Combat Domestic Violence,” a presentation of songs and dance of social relevance, and a discussion on women’s issues

Women’s Health Check-Up Camp – To stress the right of women to have adequate health check-up facilities and to make the women believe that their good health is a part of their right, a health check-up camp would be organized on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2003. Around thirty women would be checked up by good doctors.

Wall Writing on Women’s Issues – Wall writing on women’s issues would be organized for fifty walls around the areas of Mayurbhanj highlighting on gender violence on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003. Issues like domestic violence, dowry system and the rights of the girl-child will be dealt with.

### **3. Swadhina – Midnapore (West Bengal)**

Distribution of Support Badges – Support badges promoting the 16 Days cause will be distributed to fifty activists in Midnapore region of West Bengal with an appeal to wear the badge as a mark of solidarity throughout the fortnight on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2003.

Women's Health Check-Up Camp – To stress the right of women to have adequate health check-up facilities and to make the women believe that their good health is a part of their right, a health check-up camp would be organized on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2003. Around thirty women are expected to receive the benefit of a health check-up facilities.

Women's Drama - A women's drama highlighting the cause of women and the need for women's empowerment will be staged by the rural women of Midnapore on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December, 2003. This will be staged at the Swadhina village center.

#### **4. Swadhina – Sinabhum (Jharkhand)**

"Women are the Power" Fest –the Women's Fest, popularly called "Mahila Shakti Utsav" ("Women are the Power" Fest) will be held to highlight the aspect of women's empowerment and women's rights. This will be organized at Jharkhand on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2003 and will include the following: Speech Contest for around 15 women participants of which the topic will be "Women Need to Be Self-Reliant to Stand Up Against Social Discrimination," a presentation of songs and dance of social relevance, and contests for Best Kept Domestic Animal, Best Vegetables using Compost Manure with women participants.

Women's Health Check-Up Camp – To stress the right of women to have adequate health check-up facilities and to make the women believe that their good health is a part of their right, a health check-up camp would be organized on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December 2003. Around thirty women are expected to receive the benefit of a health check-up facilities. This will be held at Dandudih.

#### **5. Swadhina – Rayagada (Orissa)**

Seminar on Women's Rights – Women's rights are human rights and to highlight the issue a seminar of eminent personalities and social activists will be organized at Therubali, Rayagada. This is expected to be attended by nearly eighty participants. The seminar will be organized on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November, 2003. Two persons working for the cause of women's rights will be honored on this occasion.

#### **6. Swadhina – East Champaran (Bihar)**

Women's Rally – a rally for women will be organized on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November, 2003 at Motihari in the East Champaran district of Bihar. Around fifty women will participate in this rally denouncing social evils like dowry system, bride burning, female foeticide, etc. This rally will begin at around 10:30 a.m. in the morning. The rally will culminate at the Gandhi Memorial, where there will be a peaceful demonstration against gender violence.

Public Meeting on Female Foeticide – East Champaran has been in the news for quite some time now on the issue of female foeticide. A public meeting denouncing the practice of female foeticide with a special stress on the growing practice of pre-natal detection of sex of the child

will be organized on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003. This will take place at Motihari to be attended by a large number of persons. Eminent persons will be invited to talk on the issue.

## **7. Swadhina – Kanyakumari (Tamil Nadu)**

Anti-Dowry Campaign – Dowry demands are the worst in the southern states of India, especially in Kanyakumari. A huge quantity of gold and cash change hands when a girl gets married in the region. To curb the evil a sustained door to door campaign will take place from the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 2003 onwards with the use of leaflets, songs and personal interactions. This will culminate in a huge anti-dowry gathering on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, 2003 at a selected venue in Kanyakumari. Programmes will include: Discussions on evils of dowry, Pledge of anti-dowry marriage, and Presentation of cultural programme highlighting dowry issues

### **Programmes at a Glance**

- 25 Nov: Distribution of support badges and leaflets – Kolkata
- 26 Nov: Distribution of support badges – Midnapore & Mayurbhanj
- 27 Nov: Seminar on women's rights – Rayagada
- 28 Nov: Women's Rally – East Champaran
- 29 Nov: "Women are Power" fest – Mayurbhanj
- 30 Nov: Women's Health check-up camp – Midnapore
- 1 Dec: Women's Drama – Midnapore
- 2 Dec: "Women are Power" fest – Jharkand
- 3 Dec: Women's Health check-up camp – Mayurbhanj
- 4 Dec: Wall-Writing – Mayurbhanj
- 5 Dec: Poster designing – Kolkata
- 6 Dec: Seminar – Kolkata
- 7 Dec: Women's Health Check-Up Camp – Jharkhand
- 8 Dec: Anti-dowry campaign gathering – Kanyakumari
- 9 Dec: Poster & Handicraft Exhibition – Kolkata
- 10 Dec: Public Meet on Female Foeticide – East Champaran

Swadhina writes: "You are invited to join our movement towards elimination of gender violence. You are free to participate in any of the programmes. Write to us, call us or drop in at our place to know more about our activities or simply to encourage us."

**Contact:** Swadhina, Peace & Women's Empowerment Desk, 34/C Bondel Road, Kolkata (Calcutta) – 700019, India, Phone: (00 91 33) 2477944 / 2470934 / 2406244; Fax: (009133) 2470934; email: [swadhina@vsnl.com](mailto:swadhina@vsnl.com) or [mainoffice@swadhina.org](mailto:mainoffice@swadhina.org); website: [www.swadhina.org](http://www.swadhina.org)

## **Ireland**

- ◆ Women's Aid will be holding a number of events:
  - I. **Dining Out To Make A Difference Campaign:** The Dining Out to Make a Difference Campaign will run in 20 of Dublin's finest restaurants during the 16 Days Campaign (November 25<sup>th</sup> - December 10<sup>th</sup>). During the campaign, participating restaurants will add €1 to diners' bills, which will go directly to Women's Aid. It is hoped that this innovative way of raising both funds and public awareness, will work on two levels - by challenging the silence that still exists around domestic violence, as well as raising much needed funds for the organisation. For further information contact the *Communications & Fundraising Department at Women's Aid on 01-8684721.*

2. **E-Mail Awareness Campaign:** '16 Facts for 16 Days' is an awareness campaign aimed at opinion leaders and those who can influence change in Ireland, including politicians, the media and trade unions. Issues and statistics (both Irish and European) relating to violence against women are e-mailed every day of the 16 days of the campaign. Groups around the country are invited to forward these statistics to key policy makers and those with influence in their local area. To participate simply e-mail [Niamh.mccarthy@womensaid.ie](mailto:Niamh.mccarthy@womensaid.ie) with your e-mail address, and she will forward you a statistic on violence against women every day from November 25<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>. You can then simply forward this statistic on to those who you are trying to influence in your area.
3. **Direct Mail Campaign on Domestic Violence:** Women's Aid will kick off its Direct Mail Campaign on Domestic Violence during the 16 Days Campaign. Letters will be sent to the general public educating them about the reality of domestic violence and asking them to assist us in our work addressing domestic violence by making a donation to Women's Aid. The Direct Mail Campaign will raise much needed funds for Women's Aid, but because each recipient will receive a personalized letter outlining the reality of domestic violence, it is hoped that it will raise awareness amongst members of the general public who may never have encountered the issue.
4. **Information Workshops:** Women's Aid is running a number of two-day workshops for Family Resource Centres around the country. The workshops aim to provide participants with an understanding of the issue of domestic violence and the confidence to speak with, and refer women who disclose abuse and violence. The venues and dates are as follows: Sligo - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2003, The Coach House Hotel, Ballymote, Sligo; Cork - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> & Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2003, Le Cheile Family Resource Centre, Mallow, Co. Cork, Limerick - Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> & Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2003, Limerick Ryan Hotel, Limerick City; Dublin - Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> & Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2003, North Star Hotel, Amiens Street Dublin 1

*If you are interested in attending any of the workshops contact either Wendy or Sharon at Women's Aid on 01-8684721. Please note that the workshops are open to Family Resource Centres ONLY.*

- ◆ The National Network of Refuges and Support Services is also planning a two-day event around the theme of Violence Against Women that will incorporate their AGM. The event will take place on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> November 2003. *For further information contact the Network on 0902-79078.*
- ◆ Southside Addressing Violence Effectively (SAVE) in Dun Laoghaire is organising a one-day awareness event on the issue of Violence Against Women. The event is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003. Email [saveforum@eircom.net](mailto:saveforum@eircom.net) for further details.
- ◆ The Open Door Network in Kerry have organised a 'Shadow and Light' Competition. The competition invites multi media entries including short stories, poems, portraits, paintings, sculpture and photographs that should raise awareness of the effects of violence against women and children and the courage of all who survive violence and abuse. Selected entries will be exhibited during the 16 Days of Action and selected pieces will be published on calendars, cards and postcards. The closing date for entries is the 17<sup>th</sup> October. *Entry forms can be obtained from the Open Door Network, 2 Denny Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry or from their website [www.opendoornetwork.net](http://www.opendoornetwork.net).*
- ◆ The Community Response to Domestic Violence Network, Galway and Mayo has negotiated with the Irish Museum of Modern Arts, St. Michael's Resource Centre, Dublin, the Galway Arts Centre and

Galway County Council to bring the 'Once is Too Much' exhibition to Galway during the 16 days campaign. Past experience of showings of the exhibition has demonstrated the need for appropriate supports for women and children that have experienced violence in their lives. The Galway Arts Centre will host the exhibition and the network will provide the appropriate support services. The network, in conjunction with Waterside House and the Galway Rape Crisis Centre, will co-ordinate training of between 25-30 volunteers to provide the necessary supports. The exhibition will be held from 7<sup>th</sup> November until 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003. A launch will be held on 25<sup>th</sup> November to highlight the start of the 16 Days Campaign.

◆ Amnesty International (Ireland) will focus on violence against women in Russia as a part of their ongoing campaign 'Justice for All in the Russian Federation' (for more details go to [www.amnesty.org](http://www.amnesty.org)). Amnesty will be placing media articles in publications such as Metro Ireland and Gazeta (Russian Magazine) and Irish Women's Organisations magazines including case studies for letter writing action. Amnesty will also be putting letter writing and petition actions up on their website [www.amnesty.ie](http://www.amnesty.ie). The organisation is also planning a Russian evening in the Freedom Café and details will be announced later. For further information contact Eileen Brannigan on 01-6776361.

◆ The National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women with help from funding by the Department of Justice, Equality, and Law Reform are launching their national awareness poster campaign on the issue of domestic violence. For further information contact Nicola Murphy on 6028202.

◆ Longford Women's Centre is planning an awareness workshop on domestic violence during the 16 days of Action. Contact 043-41511 for further details.

◆ Forward Steps Family Resource Centre, Carlow is organising an information evening in conjunction with Carlow Women's Aid. For further information please phone 0503-52776

◆ Inishowen Women's Centre has organised various events to be held during the 16 Days of Action, including:

- A White Ribbon Awareness Campaign will be taking place in Inishowen from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November to Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- Coffee mornings will be held in Carndonagh on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November, in Buncrana on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November and in Moville on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- A conference on Disability and Domestic Violence will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December (EU Day of the Disabled)
- An Awareness Day with Donegal Rape Crisis Centre is organised for Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December. For further information on Inishowen activities contact Mary Doherty on 077-732232.

◆ Meitheal again will be concentrating on a number of areas during the 16 Days Campaign. They will place a poster saying 'Meitheal Supports the 16 Days of Action Against Violence Against Women' on the front door of their building for each of the 16 days. They will also post one of the Women's Aid 16 Facts (see above) for each day during the campaign. On the final day Meitheal staff will have a tea-light candle burning for each of the women murdered in Ireland. These lights will be displayed in their window. Meitheal also plans to support the activities of other organisations during the 16 Days. For further information please call Rosemary on 01-6719803.

[Click here to view the complete information pack for all of the above events in Ireland.](#)

### **Additional Ireland events:**

- ◆ The Donegal Women's Domestic Violence Service will be hosting a number of events:
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Nov (10am-4pm) –  
Information Stand (art, poetry & posters) @ Letterkenny Court Yard  
92 lit candles (represents no. of women murdered in Ireland)  
One minute silence @ 11am  
Prayers by Fr. Pat McGarvey & Reverend Sheila Johnston  
Badges for sale  
Collection boxes  
Interview on Highland Radio  
Minute silence on Highland Radio (requested)
  - 25<sup>th</sup> Nov – 10<sup>th</sup> Dec  
Information Stands in the following libraries: Letterkenny, Milford, Dungloe & Carndonagh  
Coffee mornings – Women's groups  
Radio update  
Donegal Women's Domestic Violence Service

**Contact:** Anne McGettigan, Donegal Women's Domestic Violence Service,  
[mcgettigananne@hotmail.com](mailto:mcgettigananne@hotmail.com)

### **Kazakhstan**

- ◆ Podrugi Crisis Center will center their campaign around the theme “Right to Life Free of Violence,” and they are planning the following actions:
  - **November 25<sup>th</sup>** – press-conference in Almaty, in Astana, where information about the annual international Campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence”, its objectives, target groups, achievements, and planning activities in 2003.
  - **December 2<sup>nd</sup>–4<sup>th</sup>** - “Knock at the door” action in Majilis and Senate of the Parliament of Kazakhstan, Astana city. Objectives of the Action: lobbying the Law on Domestic Violence in the Parliament, meetings with deputies.
  - **November 25<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> December** – demonstration of the social video about the problem of domestic violence on 3 TV-channels: “Yuzhnaja stoliza”, “Rahat”, “31-channel”. Potential audience is over 2,000,000 people.
  - **November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup>** – working meetings of Podrugi Crisis Center with representatives of the department for protection women against violence, and with policemen of 71 Community Police Stations of Almaty city. Goal: to provide with informational materials: booklet for a policeman “All about domestic violence”, manual «Civil and criminal legislation of Kazakhstan regulating family-domestic relations», booklets, posters, calendars; renewal of information stands in police.
  - **November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup>** – seminars on domestic violence for medical personnel of ambulance stations “03”, hospitals ## 4,7,12.

[Click here to view schedule in Russian.](#)

**Contact:** Podrugi Crisis Center, Almaty city, microdistrict 10, build 1, apt.1, Kazakhstan, 480035, Tel/fax: (3272)984677, Hotline: (3272) 984585, E-mail: [podrugi@alnet.kz](mailto:podrugi@alnet.kz)

- ◆ Union of Crisis Centers of Kazakhstan: In 2003 in the framework of the International Campaign “16 days against violence” Union of Crisis Centers of Kazakhstan (including Podrugi Crisis Center,

Almaty; “Forget-me-not” Center of support for women, Ridder town; Association of Single Mothers, Tekely town; Feminists League of Kazakhstan) is planning the action “Life without violence - is our right, and where is the Law?”:

- Press-conference in Almaty and Astana
- Meetings with women from cities and villages – activists of the campaign in 2000-2003 “Women’s Rights and Social Equality ” in Tekely and Ridder towns.
- “Knock at the door” action. Goal: lobbying the law about domestic violence in the Parliament, meetings with deputies.
- To publish 2 stories of women who suffered from violence in local magazines.
- To publish articles about the International Day of elimination of violence against women in national, regional and local Media.
- Demonstration of the social video on TV-cannel every day from November 25<sup>th</sup> – December 10<sup>th</sup> , 2003, also in Kazakh.
- “Flame of Solidarity” action for pupils as a token of support of the international movement against violence.
- Distribution of informational materials among people.

[Click here to view schedule in Russian.](#)

**Contact:** Almaty city, Microdistrict 10, bld 1, apprt 1Kazakhstan, 480035; Tel/fax (3272) 281296; E-mail: [soyuz@alnet.kz](mailto:soyuz@alnet.kz)

## Kenya

◆ The Coalition on Violence Against Women, Kenya is focusing on the theme: “Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights: Eradicate Violence for a Progressive Society.” Their events include the following:

- **Saturday November 22** Launch of the Campaign in Nairobi
  - Events: Procession and public debate from Uhuru Park at 9.00am and will end in Charter Hall at 2.00pm.
- **Tuesday November 25** *International Day Against Violence Against Women*
  - Event: Cocktail /Dinner as a lobbying forum for the Domestic Violence (Family Protection) Bill. The Guest of Honour is Hon Kiraitu Murungi – Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (*by invitation only*)
- **Tuesday November 25 – December 2**
  - Event: Medical legal camp organized for the rape victims in Samburu / Laikipia (allegedly by the British Soldiers stationed in this area) - (*This event will be organized by the Amnesty International Kenya Office – contact person is Miriam Kahiga on email: [amnestykenya@sections.amnesty.org](mailto:amnestykenya@sections.amnesty.org)*)
- **Thursday November 27**
  - Event: Tribunal in Kibera (Nairobi) from 2.00pm to 4.00pm
  - Event: Procession in four divisions of Kisii District
- **Thursday November 27**
  - Event: Flagging off of the Men’s Traveling Conference from Kenya to Tanzania, then to Malawi at 7.00 a.m. The conference will end in Lilongwe on December 1,2003 (*organized by FEMNET contact person is Hezbon Wanyama on tel: 0721-665658 or Derrick Naggi on email: [admin@femnet.or.ke](mailto:admin@femnet.or.ke)*)
- **Friday November 28**

- Event: Tribunal in Pumwani (Nairobi) from 2.00 pm to 4.00pm
- Event: Symposium in Kisii Town – at the Mash Park Hotel from 9.00 am to 4.00pm
- **Monday December 1 – World AIDS Day**
- **Tuesday December 2**
  - Event: Procession in Voi Town
  - Event: Symposium in Taveta
- **Wednesday December 3**
  - Event: Procession in Taveta
  - Event: Symposium in Voi District
- **Thursday December 4**
  - Event: Symposium in Nairobi at the Silver Springs Hotel – from 9.00 am to 5.00pm
- **Thursday December 6 Commemoration of the Montreal Massacre**
- **Tuesday December 9**
  - Event: Procession and Symposium in Mombasa Town – (*The Action Aid Mombasa Office will organize this event – contact person is Carol Angir on email: carola@actionaidkenya.org*)
  - Event: Procession and Symposiums in the Dadaab Refugee Camps - (*This event will be organized by the Care Kenya – Refugee Assistance Project – contact person is Fidelis on telephone number 2718512/3*)
- **Wednesday December 10 International Human Rights Day**

*All the symposiums will be attended by community leaders and will seek to take stock of the progress made since Vienna (1993) and the Beijing (1995) Conferences*

**Contact:** Ane Muthoni Ndungu – Program Officer (Advocacy), Tel 574357/8 Fax: 574253 Email: [info@covaw.or.ke](mailto:info@covaw.or.ke)

◆ The Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya (FIDA Kenya) is a non-profit, non-partisan and non-governmental membership organisation. FIDA Kenya is committed to the creation of a society that is free of all forms of discrimination against women through provision of legal aid, monitoring women's rights, advocacy, education and referral. Membership to FIDA Kenya is open to Kenyan women lawyers and women law students. The organisation was started in 1985 after the 3<sup>rd</sup> UN Conference on Women, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya. There are more than 360 FIDA Kenya members. The Secretariat is located on Amboseli Lane, off Gitanga Road in Nairobi. The Kisumu Legal Aid Clinic was opened in 1997. It is located off Owuor Otiende Road, Opposite Gulf Stream Hotel in Milimani, Kisumu. FIDA Kenya works to achieve its mission through four main teams namely, The Strategic Leadership Team, the Legal Aid team, The Rights Team and the Finance and Administration Team. Realizing that women form the majority of Kenya's population and play an ACTIVE and SIGNIFICANT part in the development of our society, yet they face major systemic obstacles that prevent them from full enjoyment of their rights and privileges, FIDA Kenya:

- Offers quality legal services to a limited number of women;
- Creates awareness of legal rights and educates women on how to claim them through self-representation in court;
- Researches, monitors and reports womens rights violations;
- Lobbies and advocates for reform of laws and policies that discriminate against women and;
- Undertakes transformative social interest litigation.

- To improve the legal status of women in Kenya
- To enhance public awareness of womens rights issues
- To increase access to justice by women in Kenya

The following is FIDA – Kenya’s 16 Days of Activism Calendar:

*"Enhancing Access to Health Rights and Sanitation in Kenya*

Day	Activity	Venue
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> * Nov	School sensitization	Mukuru Primary School
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	School sensitization	Nyanza - Koru Girls High & Joel Omino Primary Nyanza Province
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	School sensitization	Huruma Girls Secondary School (8am-10.30am)
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	School sensitization	Kiboro Primary - Mathare 11am-1pm
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Radio talk show with guest speaker (head mistress)	Nation/KBC/kiss
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov		
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Community sensitization	Mathare (9 -12.00noon)
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Community sensitization	Mukuru (9 -12.00noon)
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Media supplement Television Program	Nation & Standard
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec		
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	TV talk show	KTN
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 15. Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Community sensitization Sensitization	Kawangware Dagoretti Children's Home
16. Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Policy Forum (open to the public)	Ufungamano House, Nairobi 9.00 – 2.00p.m

---

**Contact:** The Executive Director, Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya, Amboseli Road, off Gitanga Road, P. O. Box 46324, NAIROBI, Kenya, Tel (254) 020 570444/573511, E-mail: [info@fida.co.ke](mailto:info@fida.co.ke); or Kisumu Legal Aid Clinic (FIDA Kenya Kisumu Branch), Awuor Achieng Road, Opposite Gulfstream Hotel, Milimani, P. O. Box 19219, Kisumu, Tel/Fax (254) 035 43719/23160, E-mail: [fidaksm@africaonline.co.ke](mailto:fidaksm@africaonline.co.ke), FIDA Kenya Web Address (URL) [www.fidakenya.org](http://www.fidakenya.org)

## Malawi

The Society for the Advancement of Women (SAW) is focusing their 2003 campaign on the theme of Gender Based Violence and HIV/AIDS. There will be an Awareness campaign in the city of Lilongwe, Kawale Township, Chief Malili, Lilongwe Rural 25-28 November 2003 Mzuzu City, Chibavi Township and Erukweni Mzimba rural 3-6 December, 2003. There will also be TV/Radio Interviews with Victims of gender-based violence and HIV from SAW's shelter for Battered Women on 7-9 December, 2003. A press conference will be held from 10am- 12pm at Lilongwe Hotel 10 December, 2003, marking the end of the campaign.

**Contact:** [saw@africa-online.net](mailto:saw@africa-online.net)

## Mexico

◆ El Centro de Documentación Betsie Hollants held the following movie screenings followed by debates to honor the 16 Days Campaign: *En el Tiempo de las Mariposas*, Jueves 27 de noviembre (In the Time of the Butterflies, 27 November); *María Candelaria: Xochimilco*, Jueves 04 diciembre (Thursday, 04 December); *El Secreto de Romelia*, Jueves 11 de diciembre (Thursday, 11 December); *Mujeres Insumisas*, Jueves 18 de diciembre (Thursday, 18 december); and *Las poquianchi*, Jueves 08 de enero (Thursday, 08 January).

**Contact:** [cidhal@prodigy.net.mx](mailto:cidhal@prodigy.net.mx)

◆ UNIFEM, Mexico, is supporting the Federal District government and civil society in organizing to commemorate November 25<sup>th</sup>. The Grupo Interagencial de Género de NNUU in Mexico is going to participate with an informational stand and shops at a fair in the capital. In addition, the Grupo Mujer Arte is coordinating activities within civil society. <<UNIFEM, oficina regional con sede en México, estamos apoyando al gobierno del Distrito Federal y a la sociedad civil mexicana en la organización de la jornada conmemorativa del 25 de noviembre. El Grupo Interagencial de Género de NNUU en México va a participar con un stand informativo y con algunos talleres en la feria del zócalo capitalino. Además, la sociedad civil está planeando actividades para los 16 días en la ciudad de México, estas actividades están siendo coordinadas por el Grupo Mujer Arte.>>

**Contact:** Amaia Perez, Asistente de Comunicacion y Difusion, UNIFEM, Mexico, Telephone: 52 55 52 63 98 11 Fax: 52 55 52 03 18 94, email: [Amaia.perez@unifem.org.mx](mailto:Amaia.perez@unifem.org.mx).

## Moldova

The Gender Center of Moldova, along with a number of other organizations supported by OSI – Budapest, has the following workplan in place for the 2003 16 Days:

Date	Event	City	Partners
November 25	Press-conference Video spot on National TV	Chisinau	Gender-Center, Club "10+", Imperativ, National Association of

			Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology
November 25 – December 10	Broadcast of Campaign PSA	Republic of Moldova	Gender-Center, Club “10+”, Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology
November 25 – December 10	Activities at the local area organized by the specialists in social assistance (in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor and Social Protection)	Republic of Moldova	Ministry of Labor and Social Protection
November 25 – December 10	Lessons at Universities and schools on prevention of gender violence	Republic of Moldova	Ministry of Education
November 26	“Silent Witness” Exhibition Round-table “Gender Equality in Moldova”	Chisinau/	Club “10+” UNIFEM project, National Women’s Studies and Information Center
November 27	Workshop “Gender Violence Phenomenon” at the Moldova State University	Chisinau	Imperativ, Association of Applied Psychology
November 28	Talk-show on National TV “Buna Seara”	Republic Moldova	Gender-Center, Club “10+”, Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology
November 29	Meeting in the Butuceni village with women Video spot on TV	Orhei region	Imperativ
November 30	Video spot on TV Radio transmission “Antena C”	Republic Moldova	Club “10+”,
December 1	Lessons on Prevention HIV/AIDS at schools	Republic Moldova	Gender-Center, Club “10+”, Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology
December 2	“Silent Witness” Exhibition	Balti	National Association of Women with University Diploma
December 3	Workshop “Gender Violence Phenomenon” at the Moldova State University	Chisinau	Imperativ, Association of Applied Psychology
December 4	Workshop “Gender Violence Phenomenon” at the ULIM University	Chisinau	Imperativ, Association of Applied Psychology
December 5	TV-show “Cartierul tineretii”	Republic Moldova	Gender-Center, Club “10+”, Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of

			Applied Psychology
December 5-7	Workshop for Women's NGO from rural areas "Development of the abilities on elaboration and implementation of the projects in gender equality"	Chisinau	National Women's Studies and Information Center
December 6	Radio transmission "Antena C"	Chisinau	Imperativ, Association of Applied Psychology
December 7	Workshops "Gender Violence Phenomenon", Universities	Cahul, Balti	Gender-Center, Club "10+", Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology
December 8	Workshop for lowers "Gender Equality legislation"	Chisinau	UNIFEM project, National Women's Studies and Information Center
December 9 – December 10	National Conference "Gender Violence: legislation and strategies of prevention of it in Moldova"	Chisinau	SOROS Moldova Foundation, Gender-Center, Club Club "10+", Imperativ, National Association of Women with University Diploma, Association of Applied Psychology

## Mongolia

Studio "Erkhes" carried out a number of activities to mark the 2003 16 Days Campaign. They produced and distributed a programme on the facts that state officials and policemen violate and torture women. They produced another programme on the facts that the Mongolian Police Office tortures offenders to charge with different kinds of crimes. Some of them admit false accusation because of policemen's terrible violation. They spread this programme through Mongolian National Television. They also arranged human rights seminars with several human rights organizations and produced additional programmes on facts about court's false activities, which were also spread nation-wide via Mongolian national television. They organized a Press Conference about all above mentioned conflicts on December 10 on the occasion of International Human Rights Day.

**Contact:** Studio "Erkhes," [erkhes\\_ngo@chinggis.com](mailto:erkhes_ngo@chinggis.com)

## Nepal

With the mission of social justice to all, Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC) has planned to celebrate the event of 16 Days of Activism at the community, district and national level. For the past 12 years, WOREC has been working to stop violence against women in Nepal through advocacy campaigns, awareness raising, community mediation, women's health programs, programs against trafficking and support for the recovery of survivors of violence. In the current context of political conflict in Nepal between the government and the Maoists, violence has become of even greater significance, particularly with the increase in gender-based violence that has accompanied the conflict. Our tentative schedule of activities for the 16 Days Campaign is as follows:

- **November 25:** Rally (community, district and central office in Kathmandu)
- **November 26:** Collection of Poster Competition for violence against women and conflict
- **November 27-28:** Two-day workshop on 'Violence and its Impact on Women's Health' at Morang district with nominated and elected women's representatives
- **November 29-30:** WOREC Open House and Information Dissemination (Kathmandu)
- **December 1-9:** A series of two-day workshops on 'Violence and its impact on Women's Health' held consecutively in Rupendehi district, Dhanusha district, Siraha district, Udayapur district and Kathmandu with nominated and elected women's representatives
- **December 9:** Poster exhibition and Press Conference
- **December 10:** Celebration of Human Rights Day

[Click here for a letter from WOREC](#)

**Contact:** Ms. Jyoti Paudel, Programme Co-ordinator, WOREC, Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), Gaurighat, Kathmandu, Nepal, P.O.Box: 13233, Tel No: 977-1-4494815/4476073, Fax No: 977-1-4471104, URL: [www.worecnepal.org](http://www.worecnepal.org), [pmgmt@worecnepal.org](mailto:pmgmt@worecnepal.org)

## Nigeria

◆ **BAOBAB** has planned various events to raise awareness, gain media attention on women's human rights issues and distribute information to a large audience. During this time, their banner will be hung outside the BAOBAB office except when it is in use for other events. On November 25, there will be a Press Briefing and Trek to which BAOBAB is inviting selected NGOs and media to participate in a trek around Victoria Island. During the trek, they will carry a 16 Days of Activism banner and distribute VAW leaflets and stickers and wear BAOBAB T-shirts. A press briefing will take place in BAOBAB's conference hall before the trek in hopes that some media will stay with them during the trek, or at least have the opportunity to take photos as the trek begins. On November 28, there will be an Obalende Trek in which BAOBAB will distribute information to as many people as possibly by wearing T-shirts and going to the Obalende area with stickers and VAW leaflets. There they will ask bus drivers to place the stickers in their buses where the message will reach hundreds of people every day. On December 2, there will be a Film Presentation for Students from selected schools to watch the film *Yesterday*. After the film show there will be time for discussion about their reactions to the issues portrayed in the film, which are rape, female genital mutilation and widowhood rites. Students from six different schools are being invited. BAOBAB is asking for students in leadership roles who will hopefully organize follow-up events in their schools.

See <http://www.baobabwomen.org/upcomingevents.html> for more information!

**Contact:** BAOBAB for Women's Human Rights, 232A Muri Okunola Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, P. O. Box 73630, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria, Tel: 234-1-2626267, 3400484, Tel/Fax: 234-1-2626267, email: [baobab@baobabwomen.org](mailto:baobab@baobabwomen.org)

◆ The Civil Resource Development and Documentation Centre (CIRDDOC), which has been part of the 16 Days Campaign since 1996 has organized the following activities:

- **November 26<sup>th</sup>** - a tribunal will be held on the violations of Reproductive and Abortion Rights of women in Nigeria at Abuja, Federal Capital Territory.

- **November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>** - Moot Court Competitions will be held by Law Students in Nigeria on Reproductive Rights. This is aimed at creating awareness of issues of violence against women among the law students.
- **Other activities** – A National Tribunal on Violations of Women's Political Rights in Nigeria will be held in order to take stock of the marginalisation that women suffered at the recently concluded elections in Nigeria. Women politicians who braved it out in the highly volatile political terrain of Nigeria are expected to testify at the tribunal. I.E.C materials are being produced on issues of violence against women for distribution during the campaign. Three billboards denouncing violence against women will be put up in different parts of the city. There will be TV and radio discussions on the local television and radio stations in Enugu on violence against women.

**Contact:** CIRDDOC, Fourth Dimension Complex, 16 Fifth Avenue, City Layout, New Haven, Enugu, Enugu State Nigeria, Tel/Fax: 234-42-456904, 234-42-459969, email: [cirddoc@rbow.net](mailto:cirddoc@rbow.net) or [cirddoc@aol.com](mailto:cirddoc@aol.com).

◆ The Federation of Ogoni Women Association (FOWA), an affiliate of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), will hold the following events for the 16 Days Campaign:

- **November 25** - Memorial Lecture in honour of the Mirabal sisters assassinated on Nov. 25 1960 by the Raphael Trujillo dictatorship in the Dominican Republic. Topic: "The Role of Women in a Democratic System--the case of the Mirabal sisters."
- **December 1** – Seminar: HIV/AIDS and its effect on women in society.
- **December 6** - Talkshop: Preventing Violence against Women.
- **December 9** - Lecture: "The Vienna Declaration - Maintaining the Momentum Ten Years After ( 1993--2003)."
- **December 10** - Peaceful procession.

**Contact:** Friday Gawa, Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), 27 Odu Street, Ogbunabali, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria; Telephone: 234-84-233907; email: [fgawa@yahoo.com](mailto:fgawa@yahoo.com)

◆ Women's Rights Advancement & Protection Alternative, which recently successfully represented Amina Lawal in appealing an Islamic court's sentence of death by stoning for her alleged commission of the crime of adultery will, through November and December:

- Conduct public education session on the draft bill on violence against women;
- Pursue litigation that will set strong precedents for women's human rights;
- Initiate public dialogue and discourse on the codification of certain Islamic family laws;

**Contact:** Saudatu M. Mahdi, [saudatu@yahoo.com](mailto:saudatu@yahoo.com), Women's Rights Advancement & Protection Alternative, Plot 792, House 6, Off Adermola Adetokumbo Crescent, Behind Rockview HoT: PO Box 3363, Wuse II, Garki Abuja, Nigeria, T: 234-9-4132932, T: 234-9-4131438, M:234-90-803092, F: 234-9-4132932

◆ Teachers Without Borders, Nigeria has coordinated an extensive campaign for this year's celebration of 16 Days. A group of NGOs including Community Based Organizations, Faith-Based Organizations, Women and Youth Associations, in partnership with government agencies and activists have packaged the programs below to carry out during the 2003 Campaign against violence against women in Nigeria. The following is their program:

**Program Venue: Port Harcourt, Calabar, Enugu, Lagos, Abuja, Ibadan, Benin,  
Tuesday, November 25, 2003: International Day for the Elimination of Violence  
Against Women**

*Formal Flag off of the Nigeria 16-Day Campaign*

*Venue: Alfred Diette Spiff Civic Center, Moscow Road, Port Harcourt, Nigeria*

- Activities:
- Public Awareness Seminar on “The Elimination of Violence Against Women in Nigeria (EVAWIN)”
- Courtesy Call on the General Manager, Radio Rivers, FM, Port Harcourt, Ms. Medline Taydor, Former Commissioner for Women Affairs
- Visit to the Women Skills Acquisition Center at the Ministry of Women Affairs and Youth Development, Marine Base, Port Harcourt and The Adolescent Project (TAP), Elemenwo
- Feature on Radio Debate: Point-Counter-Point; Topic: Violence Against Women – Men or Women to be blamed?
- Drama on the Dangers of Violence Against Women to the Society by the Youths Arrow Ministry as well as anti-gender violence songs by the Islamic Sisters Association

**Wednesday 26 – Saturday 29 November 2003:**

- Activities:
- Community Gathering for Teaching & Learning Sessions on “The Elimination of Violence Against Women in Nigeria: The Origin and Role of the 16-Day Campaign”
- Formation of Community Action Committee on Elimination of Violence Against Women in Nigeria (CACEVAWIN); Venue: Selected Communities in different parts of Nigeria
- Eliminate Violence Courtesy Calls on Selected State Governors, Speakers of House of Assemblies, Women Affairs Ministries, and Interactive Sessions with Women NGOs/CBOs.
- Inter-School Essay Competition: Topic - Violence Against Women in Nigeria: What Needs to be Done

**Friday, November 28, 2003:** Jumat Service in mosques with sermons by Imams  
Sermon Topic: Violence Against Women on Earth: A Sin Against Allah in Heaven  
Jumat Service to be coordinated by Alhaji Okiri and the Islamic Sisters Association.  
Islamic Prayer Sessions for the Elimination of Violence against Women

**Sunday November 30, 2003**

- Activities:
- Church Service in Christian Churches and Fellowship centers
- Christian Sermon on Violence Against Women on Earth: A Sin Against God in Heaven
- Prayer Sessions on Elimination of Violence against Women
- Television Show: The Globe in 60 Minutes to feature speaker on the 16 day campaign at the RSTV, Port Harcourt
- Special Ceremony at the Women Affairs Ministry: Bridge of Harmony Ceremony for the Dissolution of Resentments and Elimination of Violence Against Women

### **Monday December 1, 2003: World AIDS Day**

- Activities:
- Lecture on “Women and HIV/AIDS in Nigeria”
- Focus on “Elimination of Stigma, Discrimination, and Violence Against Women Living With HIV/AIDS (WLWHA) and Women Widowed By HIV/AIDS (WWBHA)
- The Plight of Nigerian Women Living With HIV/AIDS, Widowed By HIV/AIDS and Girl-Child Orphaned By HIV/AIDS
- Update on Mother-To-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS I Nigeria
- Special Meeting between the Rivers State Governor and His Wife with Women Living With HIV/AIDS, Women Widowed By HIV/AIDS to break the stigma, discrimination and violence against WLWHA

**Tuesday December 2, 2003:** Community and Work-Place Awareness Talk on the 16 days of activism against gender violence in Nigeria

### **Wednesday December 3, 2003:** International Day of Disabled Persons:

- Activities:
- Ability-In-Disability Sessions (AIDS)
- Lecture on “Identifying the Inherent Ability in Disabled Women of Nigeria
- Exhibition: Ability In Disability of Women
- Para-Soccer Competition at the Alfred Diette Spiff Civic Center, Port Harcourt
- Media Show on Nigeria Television Authority (NTA) Channel 10 featuring Ability-In-Disability; The contributions of Media Women to the empowerment of disabled persons
- Presentation of Special Award to Mrs. Helen Nwosu, Producer, “NTA PH Ability In Disability Show” as well as presentation of Commendation Certificate to the General Manager, NTA Port Harcourt

### **Friday December 5, 2003:** International Volunteers Day

- Activities:
- Lecture: Volunteering for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (VEVAW)
- Formation of Volunteer Groups:
- Nigeria Anti-Gender Violence Corps
- Couples Against Gender Violence
- Presentation of Awards to 2003 Violence-Free Couples in Nigeria
- Presentation of Awards to 2003 Gender-Friendly Organizations
- Commendation Letter to the National Youth Service Corps for encouraging culture of voluntary service among Nigerian Youths, and submission of proposal for the formation of Anti-Gender Violence Community Development Group in the NYSC

### **Saturday December 6 – Tuesday December 9, 2003:**

- Activities:
- Special Advocacy Visits to Political Leaders
- Operation Sign To Stop Violence Against Women: Collection of Nationwide 144,000 Supporters’ Signatures for the “Elimination of Violence Against Women” for presentation to the Nigeria National Assembly.

### **Wednesday December 10, 2003: Human Rights Day**

- Activities:
- Lecture: Violence Against Women Violates Human Rights: Maintaining the Momentum Ten Years After Vienna (1993-2003).
- Peaceful March Against Violence Against Women
- Planting of “Women’s Rights Tree” at the Elenwo Peace (Non-Violence) Zone by respected women leaders, Wives of Executive Governors, Wives of Political Leaders, Women Ambassadors, Women educators and leaders of NGOs
- Presentation of Year 2003 International Award on Activism Against Gender Violence in Nigeria. Some of the recipients among others, include:
  - ◆ His Excellency, Sir Dr. Peter O. Odili and Justice Mrs. Mary Odili – Executive Governor of Rivers State and His Wife
  - ◆ His Excellency, Donald Duke and Her Excellency Onari Duke of Cross River State
  - ◆ Ambassador Nne Korubo, Nigeria Former Ambassador to Jamaica
  - ◆ Chief Mrs. Sylverline Nwachukwu
  - ◆ Mrs. Sarah Jibril – Former Presidential Aspirant, Federal Republic of Nigeria
  - ◆ Mrs. Emem Edison Udosen
  - ◆ Senator Florence Ita Giwa
  - ◆ Senator Kanu Agabi – Special Adviser to the President on Ethics and Good Governance
  - ◆ Campaign Communiqué
  - ◆ Nigeria Declaration on “Elimination of Violence Against Women in Nigeria”

### **Participating Organizations:**

- Teachers Without Borders – Nigeria
- Religious Youth Service – Nigeria
- Heaven-Bound Women Ministries
- Islamic Sisters Association
- Nigerian Television Authority
- Rivers State Broadcasting Corporation
- Ministry of Women Affairs
- Cross River Radio
- The Adolescent Program (TAP), <http://www.taprivers.org/>
- CARP
- WFWP
- FFWPU
- PLAN
- Nigeria Union of Teachers
- General Action Against The Violation Of Human And Children’s Rights

**Contact** - Campaign Coordinating Organization: Teachers Without Borders – Nigeria, Shop 3, Inside Alfred Diette Spiff Civic Center, Moscow Road, Port Harcourt, Nigeria, <http://www.teacherswithoutborders.org/>, Contact Person: Raphael Ogar Oko, E-mail: [twb-nigeria@justice.com](mailto:twb-nigeria@justice.com), Telephone: 234-8033170116

## Norway

A number of Women's Organisations in Norway have for many years now been involved in the campaign and are planning to hold diverse events, such as marches and meetings, this year as well. On the 25th of November, FOKUS (Forum for Women and Development), will hold a bridal-march through the streets of Oslo entitled "Imagine a World without Violence Against Women - Can love kill?." This year the women's organisations in Norway want to draw the attention to all the women killed every year by their (ex)husbands or boyfriends. Women will march through the streets of the capital, dressed up as brides, asking the question "Can love kill?" The march will end up in front of the Parliament, where there will be an appeal of the day. Later in the evening there will be a discussion meeting with representatives from women's organisations, researchers, politicians and male organisations working against violence against women.

**Contact:** Sidsel E. Aas, Informasjonsleder/ Head of Information, OKUS ( Forum for kvinner og utviklingsspørsmål /Forum for Women and Development), Storgt 11. N-0155 Oslo, Norway; PH: + 47 23 01 03 00/44; Fax: + 47 23 01 03 01; web: <http://www.fokuskvinner.no/>

## Pakistan

◆ The Nomad Centre & Art Gallery is conducting a programme with over 100 children from Rawalpindi (a sister city of Islamabad) from private, public and community schools on the topic "How Youth Perceive Violence Against Women." The process started in August this year with visits to schools, interviews, selection of participants and then four major workshops were conducted at Nomad Centre, Islamabad to sensitise and create awareness about the subject, which included the viewing of a video on "Discriminatory Practices Against the Girl Child," a discussion on how youth view violence in all its forms particularly against women, followed by an art workshop, conducted by our art teachers. Free art material is provided to all students. They also interview the children using a format created by an experienced psychologist. The posters will be exhibited between November 25 and December 10. All participants are given certificates of participation and 2/3 will be selected on merit, whereby their posters will be printed and distributed widely. The press and media will cover the event and highlight the issue. OXFAM is supporting the Nomad Centre & Art Gallery on this project.

**Contact:** Nageen Hyat, Activist & Director, Nomad Center & Art Gallery, Pakistan, [anhyat@hotmail.com](mailto:anhyat@hotmail.com)

◆ An organization will hold an exposure to destitute house run by Charity Sisters for Single Mothers (divorced, separated and widows) and their daughters (students of adult literacy center) on 25th November to express our solidarity with the survivors of violence in the destitute house at Youhanaabad, Lahore. They are also planning to organize a street play as a continuation of activities of the 16 Days Campaign.

◆ Working Women Organization\* aims to use their 16 Days activities to put more stress and draw attention to the sensitivity of the issue, and motivate people to raise their voice against this crime. WWO strongly condemns all kinds of violence and discrimination against women. Given below is the schedule of activities:

### November 25, 2003

WWO will start campaign with talk show on "Violence Against Women" with the collaboration of Pakistan Television Corporation in which general people including women and men share their views about violence against women and how to eradicate it. PTV telecast this show at 10:00 am on November 25, 2003 in its "KHAWATINE TIMA" programs.

#### November 29, 2003

WWO will publish special edition of its newsletter about "Violence Against Women" and underline the causes of violence against women and its effect on women lives. Leaflets, posters, stickers will be developed to raise awareness among people on violence against women and gender discrimination, describing the strategies how to eradicate physical and mental violence against women. Printing material will be distributed widely.

#### December 1, 2003

Meeting will organize with lawyers, women parliamentarian, and members of law enforcement agencies to put the light about laws against violence and stress to make new legislation, which protect women rights, and element violence against women. Material will be distributed among factories and offices workers. Printed material will also send to newspapers to highlight this issue widely. Distribute leaflets, posters and sticker in schools and colleges in Lahore, Rawalpindi, Faisalabad, Sialkot, Shaikhupura.

#### December 2, 2003

WWO will organize meeting in its literacy and health care centers with women workers, In these meetings WWO will distribute leaflets about violence against women. Lady doctors will also be invited to deliver lectures on violence and its bad effect on women and family. Corner meetings will organize in slum, sub urban and rural areas to emphasize the issue of domestic violence against women and its effect on women as well as their family. Discuss this issue with male members of family along with women.

#### December 3, 2003

WWO will present drama and skits in communities, raise the issues of violence against women, its impact on women mental and physical health and the consequences.

#### December 4, 2003

Gate Meetings organize in Gulberg Industrial Area with the workers of different factories, highlight the reason of violence against women and how to eliminate this curse.

#### December 5, 2003

Write letters to concern authorities regarding Gender discrimination, violence against women and protection of victimized women and also urge to government authorities to Implement Convention for the Elimination of all kind of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and ILO Convention, 100, 111. Send recommendations to formulate laws against violence and sexual harassment at workplace.

#### December 6, 2003

WWO will present Drama in Kot Lakhpat Industrial Area, related with violence against women, sexual harassment and its impact on women. Also present drama in Brick kiln area Manga Mandi, to show up what kind of violence women are facing, and its consequences.

#### December 8, 9, 2003

Meetings with employers, law enforcement agencies, NGO's and civil societies organizations, discuss them about physical and mental violence against women, and chalk out strategy to overcome these problems at workplace.

#### December 10, 2003

Press release will send to all newspapers about the activities which WWO organized under this campaign.

### December 18, 2003

To celebrate International Human Rights Day, WWO will organize a "Human Chain" in Lahore on December 18, 2003 and different cities of Punjab, formal and informal sector women/men and children, media persons will join. WWO will bring to light the issues and problems women workers are facing at their workplace, mental and physical violence, gender discrimination and sexual harassment against women, which damaging the capability of women. And also put attention on the violation of human right taking place in our country.

**Contact:** Working Women Organization, E 5, 48/A Rehmania Street, Zaman Colony, Cavalry Grounds, Lahore, Pakistan; Tel: 92-42-6686519 / 6686382; Fax: 92-42-6686519; Email: [wwo@brain.net.pk](mailto:wwo@brain.net.pk); [rubinawwo@nexlinx.net.pk](mailto:rubinawwo@nexlinx.net.pk)

### **\*FINAL REPORT ON WORKING WOMEN ORGANIZATION**

Working Women Organization held a number of events to mark the 2003 16 Days Campaign. They are as follows:

**Talk Show:** Campaign started with talk show telecast on PTV on 25<sup>th</sup> of November 2003. Theme of show was "Violence against Women". WWO designed and hosted show that got tremendous feed back. Audience and participants of the show expressed deep concern regarding the issue.

**Produced short handout:** About the basic causes, impacts and strategies of elimination of violence WWO produced short handouts. It's distributed among 700 local and national organizations and 200 international labor, women and human rights organizations. This handout appreciated by different organizations and they endorsed WWO's campaign. 800 factory workers also received material and they liked the simple way of explaining this very important matter.

**Literacy & health care centers' role:** WWO discussed this issue with 150 women students in WWO's literacy centers. WWO believes awareness is the first step to eliminate this curse. In centers WWO arranged lectures by lady doctor concerning physical and emotional impact of violence on women and children as well as on society.

**Role Play & skits:** For getting communities attention and highlighting women issues, women workers studying in WWO's literacy centers presented role-plays and short skits. Through plays they presented women victimization and society's role for stopping this injustice. Skits showed that victim' silence and lack of awareness is big reason of crimes happening against women. Communities appreciated these plays and expressed their understanding towards violence against women and its effect on women besides on entire whole society.

**Meetings:** Out side 15 factories, gate meetings organized with workers (men & women). Nearly 500 workers (men & women) joined meetings and talked about violence and discriminations against women. Meetings with trade unionists, lawyers, women parliamentarian and members of law enforcement agencies were organized. 10 lawyers gave commitment to WWO that they would give legal support to victimize women. Women parliamentarians give promises that they will work for legislation against sexual harassment and protect women against violence against women. 8 big trade unions federations accepted that with out getting protection, women whom are half population couldn't exercised their abilities and cannot play

major role in development of the nation. So in terms of progress of workers, women workers issues must get priorities in trade unions' agenda. Because trade unionists are much responsible for abolishing any sort of discrimination, practising against women workers. WWO met chamber of commerce and industry office bearers and discussing that equal and protective work environment can increase workers capacity of work as well as production. So it is good for employers to provide better environment to women workers.

**Recommendations to concern authorities:** WWO wrote letters to concern authorities and emphasised on following recommendations:

- Emotional and psychological violence should recognise as crime by legislation.
- WWO recommended that government must prepare a policy and legal framework for "zero tolerance" to gender-based violence and formulate a strategic framework for the protection of women under which family protection homes and crisis centers should be set up in every district.
- Educational curriculum should revise to reduce and eventually eliminate prejudice against women and to promote the equality of men and women.
- Gender discrimination, particularly relating to evidence, should be removed from the statute book and members of the criminal justice system should receive adequate, if necessary additional and continuing training to enhance their understanding of violence against women, its causes and consequences.
- An adequate number of women judges should be appointed and trained.

Similarly, specialized prosecutors to handle cases of sexual abuse and rape should be appointed and additionally trained in gender violence to deal with such offences.

- For protection of women workers government must implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, labour laws & ILO convention 100, 111.

**Human Chain for Protection of Women Rights** On the eve of International Human Rights Day Working Women Organization organize "Human Chain" in front of Lahore Press Club with the slogan of "All Human Beings are born equal and free". A strong chain of human hands declared that we can not tolerate any discrimination and exploitations on the basis of colour, creed, religion, sect and gender. 350 women workers from formal and informal sectors and children joined the chain and chanted slogans like "Women rights are human rights" "stop anti workers policies", "eliminate black laws against women," down with feudalism, "stop inflation," "stop privatization".

**Media Coverage:** Newspapers gave enormous coverage to this campaign.

**[For the full report, please click here.](#)**

◆ **Awaz-e-Niswan (Voice of Women)** is a non-government, non-profit and secular women's organization formed by a group of motivated, professional volunteers working for societal transformation. It was formed in 2001 for the uplift of weaker segments of society especially single mothers, (widows, divorced and separated women) heading the families by volunteers who shared a common perspective on women's rights, development and advocacy. It aims to strengthen the process of social development and empowerment of women without ethnic, religious, political and linguistic biases paying special attention to this marginalized group of women. It was realized that they are the most vulnerable group of women in society as globally the proportion of women headed households is rising because of increased levels of marital dissolution (through abandonment, separation, divorce, or death). With no spouse present, they are solely responsible for a home and family. Though, it is difficult

to get data on women headship in Pakistan due to socio-cultural and religious norms e.g. divorce is allowed in Islam and is easy to obtain though it is socially disapproved, and divorced woman at times become social outcasts. Similarly, separated women are not accepted in the society and blamed as a bad woman. Therefore, available data do not reflect the true picture of reality. According to Pakistan Fertility Survey (household data), only 2% are recorded divorced or separated, and 3% were widowed. Awaz-e-Niswan (Voice of Women) firmly believe that the paramount solution to improve their situation could only be achieved by developing abilities of these women to mobilize, manage and control local and external resources independently. Therefore, it is focusing on building their capacities in different sectors for example in self-growth, basic skills in reading and writing, saving habits, running their own small businesses. Awaz-e-Niswan envisaged to organize two activities. First, in collaboration with a local group names Talitha Qumi (Training Institute for Health) on 9<sup>th</sup> December and secondly, a one-day seminar on 10<sup>th</sup> December (Street Play followed by interactive lecture on the global campaign). The focus of the program is to encourage survivors of violence to speak up on the issue and ensure them of the support system Awaz-e-Niswan and establish involvement of the community at large.

**Contact:** Awaze Niswan [awazeniswan@yahoo.com](mailto:awazeniswan@yahoo.com)

## Philippines

◆ The Alternative Network of Bicol Women has coordinated with the governor, Luis R. Villafuerte, to create a streamer with the theme on it which will be hung at the Plaza Rizal. They have also been announcing over their radio program advocating the campaign on 16 days of Activism Against Gender Violence and coordinating with other NGO's and PO's.

**Contact:** Atty. Lina Aguilar-General, Chairperson, Alternative Network of Bicol Women, [attylinageneral2002@yahoo.com](mailto:attylinageneral2002@yahoo.com)

◆ Women's Legal Education, Advocacy and Defense or WomenLEAD Foundation is a feminist legal resource institution in the Philippines committed to advancing and protecting human rights of women and girl-children. It is an organization created and led by women for women. WomenLEAD is a member of various networks advocating for the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girl children. Here is the list of activities WomenLEAD will undertake in celebration of the 16 days of activism against VAW.

**Date: November 25, 2003**

**Time: 1:30 – 4:00 PM**

**Venue: Senate Grounds, CCP Complex**

A gathering for peace on the Senate grounds in celebration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> death anniversary of Maria Teresa Carlson\* and in memory of countless victims of wife battery and abuse. An ecumenical mass will be celebrated and several speakers from the Task Force Justice for Maria will address the Senate. The program will stress on the importance of passing a law that will give women a fighting chance to stop the abuse. (Maria Teresa Carlson was a battered wife who killed herself by jumping from the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor of the condominium where she resides. In 1996, she had spoken to the media about her ordeal as a battered wife but later retracted her statements and reconciled with her governor husband. Task Force Justice for Maria is a network composed of women's organizations lobbying for the passage of a law penalizing abuse of women in intimate relationships.)

**Date: November 27, 2003**

**Time: 1:00 – 4:00**

**Venue: ESI Bldg. Miriam College, Quezon City**

A round table discussion on women's rights, spirituality and religion. Objectives of the RTD are:

- (1) To discuss patriarchy in the context of the religious and surface women's discrimination in religious institutions/ society;
  - (2) To deconstruct laws on women that perpetuate women's subordination and VAW in general;
  - (3) To directly address the issue of religious fundamentalism and how it affects women's rights; and
  - (4) To identify future forms of collaborations and action to combat religious fundamentalism
- Speakers are women from different denominations.

**Date: December 1, 2003**

A press conference which will focus on the status of AIDS prevention in the Philippines after so many years and how the government has fared in doing its job. AIDS is an issue of women's reproductive health and the government should take responsibility for women's health. The press forum will be sponsored by the Reproductive Health Advocacy Network, a coalition of non-government organizations advocating for reproductive health and women's rights of which WomenLEAD is the convener.

**Date: December 5, 2003**

A Consultative Meeting on Reproductive Health as an Electoral Agenda. WomenLEAD together with Kilos Kabaro 2, a coalition of women's organizations which deals with issues on globalization, war and violence against women will draft an electoral agenda for the upcoming national elections. The particular stress of the electoral agenda would be its strong position on reproductive health and rights.

**Date: December 8, 2003**

**Time: 9:00- 5:00**

Participants of the Comprehensive Paralegal Training Program of WomenLEAD will have an exposure trip to various non-government organizations advocating for human rights. The activity aims to provide the participants with a better understanding of the human rights advocacy work of other NGOs and could relate the inputs with the work that they do.

**Date: December 8, 2003**

National Lesbians Day. WomenLEAD will do radio guestings and TV appearances to discuss issues on discrimination experienced by lesbians. The Feminist Counseling and Legal Services Program of WomenLEAD will conduct a free legal clinic during the Pride March which is slated on December 13.

**Date: December 10, 2003**

WomenLEAD will have a media campaign on Human Rights Day. The focus will be on the situation of Women's Human Rights and recent developments on the International scene - while advancing women's equality and freedoms on the one hand, the gains of the women's human rights movement is also being attacked on the other hand.

Contact: Abigail Cainglet, Campaigns Coordinator; Lara Javier, Information Officer; (632) 4366738; 4356823, Email: [wlead@philonline.com](mailto:wlead@philonline.com)

◆ The Women and Gender Commission of the Major Religious Superiors in the Philippines (WGC-AMRSP) and the Institute of Formation and Religious Studies (IFRS) Student Body will be holding a prayer campaign for the elimination of all forms of violence against women. They earnestly invite participants to use the following prayer guide during your sharing/praying time in your communities,

convents, seminaries, schools, parishes and homes. "We, and millions of victims, count on you to find creative ways to actively support and promote this campaign." The launching of their 16 Days Prayer Campaign will take the form of a PARALITURGY on Tuesday, November 25, 2003 at 11 a.m. at the IFRS Lobby, 28, Acacia St. New Manila. Their Prayer Campaign is as follows:

**VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS A SIN AND A CRIMINAL ACT  
WHICH MUST BE ELIMINATED!  
WOMEN OPT FOR PEACE, LIFE, AND INTEGRITY OF CREATION!**

May we invite everyone to join us in our prayer.  
Here we offer you the prayers and intentions for each day of the 16 Days.

**Opening Prayer: O God of Life, You call us to respond with greater commitment to the needs of women for their development, rights, defense, upliftment and freedom. We are asked to define new ministries, to make new roads in our apostolic strategies to respond to new situations and new questions of the poor and of women.**

But sometimes, just sometimes we lack the drive to take the risk. Sometimes, just sometimes we need to be reminded again of our lukewarm response. We forget...sometimes to take upon ourselves the cause of women in our everyday encounters with life.

And yet we believe in the united efforts of women and men,

We believe that the power to create and re-create is in our hands.

We remember and pray for each and every survivor/victim of gender violence.

PLEASE LIGHT A CANDLE for every petition. For...

Nov. 25: Women victims of domestic violence, battered wives, marital rape

Nov. 26: Victims/survivors of rape, incest, sexually abused/harassed

Nov. 27: Female infanticide and selective abortions, female genital mutilation

Nov. 28: Maltreated and sexually abused children

Nov. 29: Victims/survivors of sex trafficking and prostitution

Nov. 30: Women victims of unfair labor practice (e.g. contractualization, etc.)

Dec. 1: Victims/survivors of AIDS

Dec. 2: Victims of war/militarism

Dec. 3: Victims of media violence

Dec. 4: Women migrant workers

Dec. 5: Women victims of sexual abuses in the church

Dec. 6: Women victims of violence/injustices from the rural areas

Dec. 7: Women from the cultural minorities who suffer violence and injustice

Dec. 8: Women/children suffer from acute poverty and displacement

Dec. 9: For all victims of gender violence particularly violence against Lesbians and gays

Dec. 10: Women in death row and all those detained and victims of Human

Rights Violations (HRV)

**Final Prayer: O God, unite us with your grace and wisdom. Shower your blessings upon us as we look forward to the age of peace, when violence is banished, both women and men are able to love and to be loved, and the work and wealth of our world is justly shared. We look forward to the future in faith and hope. May it come soon. Amen.**

## Poland

The Network of East-West Women (NEWW) will hold a number of events to honor the 16 Days Campaign this year.

**Contact:** Malgorzata Tarasiewicz, Director, NEWW-Polska, at [tarasiewicz@neww.org.pl](mailto:tarasiewicz@neww.org.pl) or see: <http://www.neww.org.pl>

## Portugal

The Portuguese Association of Jurists Women (P.A.J.W.), an NGO founded in Portugal in 1988, has joined the campaign 16 days of activism against Gender Violence since last year. In 2002, the Portuguese Association of Jurists Women organized with the Portuguese Section of Amnesty International, last year on November 25<sup>th</sup>, a vigil was organized in front of the Nigerian Embassy protesting against Amina Lawall death sentence. This year the Portuguese Association of Jurists Women created a new section on its web page [www.apmj.org](http://www.apmj.org) related to the juridical issues on the crime of domestic gender violence, putting on line a assemblage of the Portuguese legislation on the subject, as well as a selection of Jurisprudence on the same matter. They will also promote in Viana do Castelo (a northern town in Portugal) in collaboration with the local branch of the Bar Association, a Colloquium on the crime of domestic gender violence, on December 4<sup>th</sup>. The target public being lawyers, judges and public prosecutors. For December 10<sup>th</sup> the P.A.J.W. is organising a dinner in Lisbon which will assemble a wide range of jurists, and will pay homage to a very well known Portuguese women jurist Maria Lucilia Miranda Santos, now aged of 80 years who has devoted her life to the defence of Human Rights, specially Women's Rights.

**Contact:** Mulheres Juristas, [apmj@assptmulheresjuristas.org](mailto:apmj@assptmulheresjuristas.org)

## Romania

The Romanian partners include:

- APoWeR/APFR, Timisoara Association for the Promotion of Women in Romania, Timisoara / Asociatia pentru Promovarea Femeii din Romania, Timisoara – APFR
- FORUM made of SEG (Society for Gender Equality) & Society of Bucovinean Ladies, Suceava
- PATRIR Romanian Institute for Peace, Cluj-Napoca
- ALTERNATIVE SOCIALE, Iasi
- University Student League, Alba-Iulia

[For a full schedule click here.](#)

**Contact:** Adela DINU, APoWeR / APFR, Timisoara

## South Africa

♦ Women'sNet will be doing a website for activities and information for the campaign which will seek to highlight various 16 Days activities taking place around the country for organizations that need more publicity. They are working with national structures such as the National Gender Machinery (made up of government and NGO's).

**Contact:** Sally-Jean Shackleton, Information Co-ordinator, Women'sNet, <http://womensnet.org.za>, T +27 11 833 5959, [sallys@womensnet.org.za](mailto:sallys@womensnet.org.za)

◆ Masimanyane Women's Support Centre will hold a number of events to celebrate the 16 Days Campaign. These include:

- **November 25<sup>th</sup>** - Masimanyane Women's Support Centre will host an international panel entitled "Global Trends in Women's Rights" with panelists Alda Facio (Costa Rica), Barbara Liminowski (Poland), Maria Grateriol (Columbia) and so far unconfirmed speakers from African countries.
- **December 1<sup>st</sup>** - Masimanyane Women's Support Centre will hold a seminar on women and HIV/AIDS.
- **December 10<sup>th</sup>** - Masimanyane Women's Support Centre will host a workshop dealing with national instruments for the protection of women's rights.

**Contact:** Lesley Ann Foster, Masimanyane Women's Support Center, at [nwsc@iafrica.com](mailto:nwsc@iafrica.com).

◆ Western Cape Network on Violence Against Women has planned many events to celebrate 16 Days including discussions, rallies, marches, media training workshops and seminars, among others.

[Please click here for the complete schedule.](#)

**Contact:** Western Cape Network on Violence Against Women, PO Box 5, Athlone, 7760, Cape Town, South Africa, Tel +27 21 633 5287, Fax + 27 21 637 0785, [network@womenscentre.co.za](mailto:network@womenscentre.co.za)

◆ CIVICUS has issued a statement on the important role played by civil society in counteracting the pervasiveness of gender violence. [Please click here to view the full statement.](#)

**Contact:** [cswatch@civicus.org](mailto:cswatch@civicus.org), web: [www.civicus.org](http://www.civicus.org)

## Sri Lanka

◆ The Institute for Social Development has printed a poster on violence against women that highlights the kind of violence that women have historically faced, as well as women's forms of resistance to violence. They will also conduct a door to door campaign against domestic violence throughout the 16 Days.

**Contact:** K. Yogeshwari, Field Coordinator/Gender Educator, Institute of Social Development, 652/3, Peradeniya Road, Kandy, Sri Lanka. [kandyisd@slt.net.lk](mailto:kandyisd@slt.net.lk).

◆ Various organizations in Sri Lanka have teamed up to implement both a media campaign as well as awareness projects at the rural and village level:

1. The National Television "Rupavahini" is focusing on the theme 'VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN' in their women's programme chat show on week days from the 25th of November to 10th December. This is being arranged by OODARU, (Media women's organisation) e-mail: [<oodaru2003@hotmail.com>](mailto:oodaru2003@hotmail.com) Activists, men and women who have worked with victims of violence as legal consultants, social workers and counsellors are being interviewed on their work.

2. A Tamil language National Daily "Thinakkural" (the Tamil daily with the largest circulation) is carrying a supplement on the 10th of December on the theme "women's rights are human rights". Special articles will be appearing on VAW issue.

3. Womens' Development Center of Vavuniya district in the Northern part of Sri Lanka has set forth a campaign of wearing a white band during the 16 days of activism as a sign of protest against violence against women.

4. In the districts of Mannar (North) and Trincomalee (East), women are carrying out an awareness raising campaign in the villages using theatre performances, video shows and training workshops to discuss about the problem. In Batticaloa district (East) women's organisations have got together to put up banners and conduct meetings. This is being done by INAINTHA KARANGAL, a network of women.

**Contact:** [anushant@sri.lanka.net](mailto:anushant@sri.lanka.net)

## Tanzania

◆ The African Youth Development Foundation has put together a number of events for this year's 16 Days Campaign. These include a Consultative Workshop for young women in Dar es Salaam for mark the Anniversary of International Day against Violence Against Women on November 25<sup>th</sup>, a football competition for young women's football teams in Dar Es Salaam from November 28<sup>th</sup> through December 1<sup>st</sup>, a Disabled Youth Consultative Workshop on Gender Violence, HIV/AIDS Related Stigma and Discrimination in Dar es Salaam to mark the Anniversary of International Day for the People with Disabilities 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2003, a Youth Arts Festival on Gender Violence against women and girl-child on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and a Youth Conference on Gender Violence and Human Rights on December 10<sup>th</sup>. In addition, a netball match as part of the AFRICAN MAMA Project will take place between girls from Tandale and girls from Magomeni will take place on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM at Turiani Primary School, Kondo Street near by Tanesco Magomeni, Kinondoni Street Dar Es Salaam. AYDF asks that, if possible, people come with fliers, banners, tshirts, posters or anything else that will be either a gift to the players or campaigning material against gender violence/HIV/AIDS against women and the girl child.

[Please click here for complete plan.](#)

Contact: **Kasanza Kitwana**, AYDF Executive Chairperson, AFRICAN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (AFRICAN YOUTH), P.O.BOX 16464 DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA, TEL 255 0744 471 150, [africanyouth2000@yahoo.com](mailto:africanyouth2000@yahoo.com) Email: [africanyouth2000@yahoo.com](mailto:africanyouth2000@yahoo.com)

◆ The Womens Legal Aid Centre (WLAC) will in November and December conduct public education sessions and on Domestic Violence and Discriminatory Inheritance Laws and continue its radio program on Women's Rights.

**Contact:** Womens Legal Aid Centre(WLAC), P.O BOX 79212, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, T: 255-022-2183769

## Uganda

◆ Law and Advocacy for Women in Uganda (LAW-U) will participate by organizing during November and December. They will conduct a Legislation Initiative on the Domestic Relations Bill (provisions regarding Polygamy, Married Men's Exemption from Sex-Based Adultery Laws, Brideprice, Marital Rape, Female Genital Mutilation); and Strengthen Ugandan Parliaments Work on Women's Rights (the Director is a member of Parliament).

**Contact:** Postal Address P. O. Box 25324, Kampala, Uganda, Street Address Raja Chambers, Plot No. 3, Parliament Avenue, (Opposite the British High Commission), Tel 256-41-235445, Fax 256-41-345605, Ms. Dora Kanabahita Byamukama, E-mail [dorabyam@infocom.co.ug](mailto:dorabyam@infocom.co.ug), Web Address <http://www.wougnet.org/Profiles/lawu.html>

◆ The Center for Domestic Violence Prevention and Raising Voices of Kampala will be conducting numerous events in honor of the 16 Days Campaign this year, including marches, radio shows, exhibitions, and community dialogues. [Please click here for a detailed schedule.](#)

**Contact:** [info@raisingvoices.org](mailto:info@raisingvoices.org)

## Ukraine

◆ The Center for Ukrainian Reform Education, in association with the Public Association “Gender Center,” will participate in the 16 Days Media Campaign Against Gender Violence (which will also be held in Moldova and Romania). The Media Campaign will translate, dub, and broadcast a cartoon against gender violence. Center for Ukrainian Reform Education will hold press club meetings in Kyiv, Kharkiv, and Donetsk where representatives of the League of Ukrainian Women-Voters "50|50", the Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women, the Kharkiv city women's NGO “Nadiya,” and representatives of the NGO “Men Against Violence” will tell the journalists about the 16 Days Campaign and about their activities in the field of fighting against gender violence. In addition, Winrock International and the UNDP Equal Opportunities Programme will finance three more press club meetings in Luhansk, Kherson and Uzhgorod, and the publishing and distribution of a brochure against gender violence.

**Contact:** Elizaveta Barany, Project Manager, Center for Ukrainian Reform Education, 42-44 Shovkovychna St., 11th floor, 01601 Kyiv, Ukraine; Phone: (38 044) 4906988; Fax: (38 044) 490 6989; Web: <http://www.cure.org.ua/>; E-mail: [inbox@cure.org.ua](mailto:inbox@cure.org.ua); the Kharkiv City Women's NGO "Nadiya" – Olga Kovtun (6/8 Petrovskogo St., Kharkiv, 61002 Ukraine, (38 0572) 19 44 02, [kharkiv\\_women@ukr.net](mailto:kharkiv_women@ukr.net); Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women - Ludmila Gorova, 45 Artioma St., Donetsk, 83086, Ukraine, (38 062) 334 3443, [postmaster@liga.donetsk.ua](mailto:postmaster@liga.donetsk.ua)

◆ The Ukraine Civic Women Parliament, a non-Government, non-profit organization will participate by organizing informational pages concerning international positive gender practice issues to be included in the magazine “Political Marketing.”

**Contact:** Lyudmila Merlyan, Head of Gender Department, Ukraine Civic Women Parliament, Ukraine, Kiev, 45 Vladimirska str., of.24, ph./fax 38 044 2283854, e-mail [L\\_Merlian@yahoo.com](mailto:L_Merlian@yahoo.com), [politmarket@ukr.net](mailto:politmarket@ukr.net)

◆ The League of Ukrainian Women Voters '50/50', the Donetsk Regional League of Business and Professional Women, the Kharkiv City Women's NGO "Nadiya", and the International Charitable Organization "Center for Ukrainian Reform Education" has implemented an extensive Work plan for the “16 Days against Violence Campaign” in Ukraine that includes television programs, documentary films, training sessions, exhibitions, and round table discussions, among others. [Click here for the complete work plan.](#)

**Contact:** Svetlana Drobysheva, office 12, 9a Riznytska St., Kyiv, Ukraine, (38 044) 573 9106, [larysa@gid.kiev.ua](mailto:larysa@gid.kiev.ua)

◆ Women Informational Consultative Center in Zhytomyr has began the informational campaign on stirring up the community for rendering legal assistance to the victims of human trafficking and domestic violence in Zhytomyr Oblast (Ukraine) and rendering reintegration assistance to the victims. The Informational campaign will be devoted to the Universal Action “16 Days Against Gender Violence” and it will be held from November 11 till December 10, 2003. A group of prepared lecturers of the Women Center will visit 27 little towns of Zhytomyr Oblast. Up to 800 people, representatives of different groups of society, will take part in lectures and discussions. More than 5 thousand informational booklets will be distributed. On November 20, Women Center will hold the press

conference for the journalists of Zhytomyr region mass media with an aim of getting them to take part in the Action from November 25 till December 10. During the press conference issues of effective legal assistance of victims of the violence and trafficking in Ukraine will be discussed. In the framework of the Action a fundraising campaign on getting funds for founding a shelter for the temporary stay of the victims of human trafficking and domestic violence on the basis of Women Informational Consultative Center will be carried out.

**Contact:** Irina Babenko, [wicc\\_ir@zt.ukrtel.net](mailto:wicc_ir@zt.ukrtel.net)

◆ The American non-governmental organization "Winrock International:" Within the framework of two of three of Winrock's projects in Ukraine ("Community Response to Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking" and Trafficking Prevention Program) they have 13 centers in different regions of Ukraine, which take active part in the 16 Days Campaign. As a head office, located in Kyiv - the capital of Ukraine, they also support the Campaign all over Ukraine: they make a large distribution of the information materials about the Campaign, gender issues, etc., of their literature on the above mentioned issues as well. This year they published the Manual on How to Conduct the 16 Days Campaign in Ukraine; they also distribute it among government and non-governmental organizations of Ukraine. It has been an incredible success! In addition, Winrock makes a final global report of the Campaign in Ukraine.

[Please click here for the full calendar of Winrock's Trafficking Prevention Project 16 Days campaign.](#)

[Please click here for the full calendar of Winrock's "Community Response to Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking" Project 16 Days campaign.](#)

**Contact:** Svetlana Kravchenko, Information Coordinator, Project "Community Response to Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking," Winrock International Ukraine, [sveta@winrock.kiev.ua](mailto:sveta@winrock.kiev.ua), [www.winrock.org.ua](http://www.winrock.org.ua)

## United States

◆ Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights, on November 25<sup>th</sup>, officially launched the Stop Violence Against Women website, a resource for individuals and organizations working to eliminate violence against women in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). The launch was held at the Budapest Offices of the Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute (OSI). The website is located at [www.stopvaw.org](http://www.stopvaw.org) and was designed in Minnesota by the Women's Human Rights Program at Minnesota Advocates with the support of UNIFEM, OSI, Urban Planet, the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center and many volunteers. The website's resources address domestic violence, trafficking in women, sexual assault and sexual harassment, and include training modules and online reference materials. It also provides an opportunity for women's rights activists in the CEE/CIS region to form partnerships and mentoring relationships through the message board include on the website's "country pages." These pages summarize development related to efforts to combat violence against women in each of the countries of the CEE/CIS region. Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights works locally, nationally, and internationally to protect universal human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute promotes the advancement of women's human rights, gender equality, and empowerment as an integral part of the process of democratization.

**Contact:** Cheryl Thomas, Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights (612-341-3302, Ext. 102; email: [cthomas@mnadvocates.org](mailto:cthomas@mnadvocates.org)) or Éva Földvári, Network Women's Program of the Open Society Institute (36-1-327-3139; email: [foldvari@osi.hu](mailto:foldvari@osi.hu))

◆ Amnesty International USA's Women's Human Rights Program will be focusing their 16 Days efforts on gender-based violence in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico in order to build on the momentum created

from their work on violence against women in Ciudad Juárez and to highlight Amnesty International's August 2003 report, *Intolerable Killings: 10 years of abductions and murder of women in Ciudad Juárez and Chihuahua*. [Click here for more information.](#)

**Contact:** AIUSA's Women's Human Rights Program, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, SE Washington, DC 20003, email: [akozma@aiusa.org](mailto:akozma@aiusa.org) OR Sheila Dauer, Director, Women's Human Rights Program, Amnesty International USA, 322 8th Ave, 10th Fl, NY NY 10001, telephone: 212/633-4251, email: [sdauer@aiusa.org](mailto:sdauer@aiusa.org).

◆ Silence Speaks, an organization in California that teaches survivors of violence against women how to create short digital videos, or "digital stories," of courage and healing, will be holding a screening of these videos as a way of raising awareness about the issue of violence against women and mobilizing people to get involved in prevention. A screening will also be held in Texas.

**Contact:** Amy Hill, Silence Speaks Coordinator, at [amylenita@concentric.org](mailto:amylenita@concentric.org) or see: <http://www.silencespeaks.org/>

◆ COWGIRL Media will hold a screening of Lourdes Portillo's award-winning documentary, *SEÑORITA EXTRAVIADA*, a groundbreaking investigation into the unsolved rapes + murders of more than 300 young women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico since 1993 - women working in American factories amidst the chaos + corruption of one of the world's largest border towns, followed by a 'what you can do' briefing, to mark International Human Rights Day and the last day of the 16 Days Campaign on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The details are as follows: WED, DEC 10, 2003, 6:00 - 7:30PM, MAKOR, 35 WEST 67TH (CPW + Columbus, mid-block, North side), \$5 Donation. More on the Film at:

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/pov2002/senoritaextraviada/index.html>

<http://www.lourdesportillo.com/senoritaextraviada/index.html>

<http://www.wmm.com/catalog/pages/c579.htm>

**Reservations Required, Contact:** Ruth Patkin c/o COWGIRL MEDIA, 212-713-1695 or [patkin@cowgirlmedia.com](mailto:patkin@cowgirlmedia.com)

◆ As part of the local celebration of the 16 Days Campaign, the Domestic Violence Awareness Coalition of Dallas, Texas is sponsoring a workshop called "Women's Rights as Human Rights," which will be held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Center for Community Cooperation, 2900 Live Oak, Dallas, TX 75204. The workshop seeks to make the connection between violence against women and human rights violations through discussion and a panel of local activists.

[Click here for to view flier with list of speakers.](#) **Contact:** John Glass 214-500-7812 or Christina 214-653-3699. The Domestic Violence Awareness Coalition is also sponsoring "Silence Speaks: A Video Festival." The event will be held at the Magnolia Lounge at Fair Park on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Throughout the afternoon, several moving and inspiring films on violence against women issues will be shown, interspersed with discussion. Local TV producer June Owens will be present for the showing of her video "Domestic Violence is Everybody's Business." Other videos to be presented include 'digital stories' by a diverse group of youth, videos by men organizing against violence against women in the U.S. and Latin America, and a feature length documentary by Grace Poore: "Voices Heard, Sisters Unseen." [Click here to view flier and complete film schedule.](#)

**Contact: 214-578-6127.**

◆ The International Women's Human Rights Clinic (the Clinic) at Georgetown University Law Center (<http://www.law.georgetown.edu/clinics/iwhrc/>) and its African partners work to promote and advance women's human rights throughout the world. The Clinics current programs are focused on improving womens lives in Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Uganda through concrete legal reform measures and public education designed to ensure that the new laws will be effectively implemented for women. The primary areas the Clinic and its African NGO partners Leadership and Advocacy for

Women in Africa Ghana (LAWA-Ghana); Womens Rights and Protection Alternative (Nigeria WRAPA); Womens Legal Aid Centre (Tanzania WLAC); and Law and Advocacy for Women Uganda (LAW-Uganda) are: \* Eradicating Domestic Violence and reforming Domestic Relations Legislation on Polygamy, Married Men's Exemption from Sex-Based Adultery Laws, Bride Price, Marital Rape, and Female Genital Mutilation, \* Economic Empowerment: Reforming Discriminatory Laws, and Encouraging Women Political Participation, \* Ending Trafficking in Women. They will be participating in the 16 Days Campaign Against Violence by collaborating with other advocates and raising awareness through scheduled activities and events. They will be sending messages of solidarity with their sisters world wide, and a list has been created <http://lists.kabissa.org/mailman/listinfo/womens-rights-africa> allow for the proliferation of information about the 16 Days Campaign to people who are new to it. They wrote an introductory letter about the 16 Days Campaign and the organizing presently going on to send through the listserv and invited others to join. Also, they encouraged people to sign on to the 16 Days listserv. Events are still being planned as they get more people involved at the Law Center as well as their Partners in Africa, whose activities are also included in the calendar.

**Contact:** S. Vanessa von Struensee, JD, MPH, Grants Administrator/Senior Legal Researcher, International Women's Human Rights Clinic, Georgetown University Law Center, McDonough, Room 553, 600 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001 USA, Office Phone: 202-662-9778, Clinic Phone: 202-662-9640, Fax: 202-662-9411, email: sv59@law.georgetown.edu

◆ The American Friends Service Committee National Women's Program has organized a number of events at the Friends Center in Philadelphia for this year's 16 Days. Check out the following link for more information and fliers: <http://www.afsc.org/events/default.asp>

**Contact:** Anna Kwan, AFSC/NWP, (215) 241-7185, American Friends Service Committee, National Women's Worldwide Program, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, 215.241.7185, [akwan@afsc.org](mailto:akwan@afsc.org)

◆ The 16 Days Committee and the Bahá'ís of Lake Worth, Florida are sponsoring a "16 Days Campaign to End Gender Violence" event from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 6th. The free event will be held at the Friends (Quaker) Meeting House at 823 North A Street in Lake Worth and will include a film festival, speakers, the Clothesline Project and a moment of silence to honor victims of gender violence. The purpose is to raise awareness about violence against women and encourage community members to take action to end abuse. For special assistance or more information contact 561-585-9325.

**Contact:** Penny Darling, 561-585-9325, [twowings2fly@aol.com](mailto:twowings2fly@aol.com)

◆ The Rutgers 16 Days Coalition, made up of a diverse array of campus and community-based organizations, will hold an assortment of events to commemorate this year's 16 Days Campaign, including film screenings, a candle light vigil, online actions, and panel discussions. The schedule is as follows:

**Tues Nov 25th**

Dean Ambar (The Dean of Douglass College) starts off the 16 Days campaign with a dinner, followed by the screening of "Senorita Extraviada" at the Rutgers University Women's Center at 8pm. (3rd Floor, Douglass College Center). Dinner is [RSVP'd](#), but movie is open to ALL!

**Wed. Nov 26th**

Participate in an Online Action! Learn about the murders of the women of Ciudad, Juarez, Mexico. <http://www.theage.com.au/articles/2003/11/14/1068674380245.html> End Violence Against the Women of Juarez. Sign a petition for the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights. <http://www.petitiononline.com/JUAREZ/petition.html>

**Thurs. Nov 27th**

Participate in an Online Action! Urge the President of Pakistan, as well as other government officials to condemn the Jirga system, sodomy, and the gang rapes of women in Pakistan.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/pwaisbd/petition.html>

**Fri. Nov 28th**

Participate in an Online Action! Read about the sexual assaults that some women are facing as part of the Air Force Academy:

[http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD\\_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031771739689&path=!news&s=1045855934842](http://www.timesdispatch.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=RTD%2FMGArticle%2FRTD_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1031771739689&path=!news&s=1045855934842) Sign this petition to condemn sexual assaults at the Air Force Academy.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/sfvafa/petition.html>

**Sat. Nov 29th**

Participate in an Online Action! Fight for civil and political rights for Afghan women: Sign this petition: <http://www.petitiononline.com/AFGWOMEN/petition.html> and visit the Revolution Association of the Women of Afghanistan's website. <http://www.rawa.org> to learn about what this organization has done/is doing for the women of Afghanistan..

**Sun. Nov 30th**

Participate in an Online Action! Protest the widespread and systematic use of rape as a weapon of war by the Burmese military regime in Shan State. Sign the petition:

<http://www.petitiononline.com/Forumasi/petition.html>

**Mon. Dec 1st**

World Aids Day. BiGLARU will hold a candle light vigil at Brower Commons (College Ave) remembering the women who've lost their lives due to violence and Aids. 7:00 pm. There will be candles provided, names of victims listed, an open forum for sharing personal stories, a moment of silence, and a few songs/chants in remembrance of the deceased. Please come out and support this event!

**Tues Dec 2nd**

- Manavi screens "Knowing her Place: An Intimate Portrait of an Indian Woman in America", a movie which deals with domestic violence, in the story of an Indian woman who moves to the US and is ostracized because of her culture. There will be a discussion afterwards, led by members of Manavi in the Rutgers University Women's Center at 8pm (3rd floor, Douglass College Center). Manavi is a non-profit organization for women who trace their cultural heritage to Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. Manavi's goal is to increase awareness of women's rights in society and encourage social change to end all violence against them.

- Community Empowerment Project holds anti-war teach in.

"10 LIES YOU WERE TOLD ABOUT THE 'WAR ON TERROR'"

9 pm, Scott Hall rm 135. College Ave Campus.

**Wed. Dec 3rd**

- Radigals (Undergrad Women Studies Association) screens "Boys Don't Cry" which explores the true life and death of Brandon Teena. Movie starts at 8pm in the Graduate Student Lounge (located behind Au Bon Pain on College Ave)

- A group of Women, Culture and Society students will set up an informational table containing resources on Violence Against Women and the 16 Days Campaign in Alexander Library on the College Avenue Campus from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.

#### **Thurs Dec 4th**

- Livingston College Governing Association screens "Rape Is", in College Hall in the Livingston Student Center at 8pm. Sexual Assault Services will lead discussion afterwards.
- Screening of "Macho" in the Lippincott Main Lounge. 7:30 pm. (Lippincott Dorm, Douglass Campus. "Macho" deals with a men against violence group that was successful in combatting sexual assaults in Nicaragua.
- Screening of "KIDS" with BiGLARU and the Children Aids Network. Time/location TBA
  - Discussion/Teach in on situation of women of Iran. Location/ Time TBA

#### **Fri. Dec 5th**

- Culture Jam presents teach-in on globalization's effects on women, and Coca Cola with Prof. Ethel Brooks, and Mike Crawford. Held in Freylinghuysen AI (College Ave) at 7pm.
- RU Hillel holds 16 Days event. more info TBA

#### **Sat Dec 6th**

Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre. Free Self Defense Class. Location and Time TBA.

#### **Sun. Dec 7th**

Free Self Defense Class. Location and Time TBA.

#### **Mon Dec 8th**

- Graduate Student Film Group screens "Senorita Extraviada" at Zafras Restaurant, located at 46 Patterson St. Senorita Extraviada deals with the missing and murdered women of Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, and critically examines the context that allows for such a situation to go unquestioned. 8pm.
- Teach-in/Discussion on Hyde Amendment and Reproductive Rights. Lippincott Main Lounge, Lippincott Dorm, Douglass Campus. 8pm

#### **Tues Dec 9th**

- Radigals presents Ellen Fischer-Turk, a phototherapist who will discuss her work on women who have suffered from internalized violence (eating disorders), and victims of violence through photography.

8pm, Graduate Student Lounge, College Ave (behind Au Bon Pain)

- Palestinian Women in the Struggle for Liberation

Palestinian women activists and academics discuss the historic role of Palestinian women in their struggle for liberation from oppression, occupation and military violence.

Sponsored by New Jersey Solidarity, a grassroots organization committed to resistance and action in support and solidarity with the Palestinian struggle for justice, human rights, self-determination and national liberation. For more information: [www.njsolidarity.org](http://www.njsolidarity.org) , [info@njsolidarity.org](mailto:info@njsolidarity.org)

#### **Wed Dec 10th**

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY! (we are planning something VERY special! please check back for the news!)

For schedule updates, please see <http://www.16days.cjb.net>.

**Contact:** Sara Nordstrom at [sarainghana@hotmail.com](mailto:sarainghana@hotmail.com) or Nahal Zamani at [nahal@eden.rutgers.edu](mailto:nahal@eden.rutgers.edu).

## Uzbekistan

The Information and Social Marketing Research Center (ISMRC) is planning a new, four-month long project on gender entitled "Gender Education - interaction of NGO with mass-media on overcoming of gender stereotypes." The objective of the project is to raise public awareness of women's NGOs and the issues they deal with. The project will hopefully commence at the end of November or at the beginning of December. One of the main tasks of this project is to conduct a social advertising campaign on gender education on TV "Mulokot".

**Contact:** Victor Sechkin, Chairman of Council, Information and Social Marketing Research Center (ISMRC), 25 Istiklol Street, Kokand, Ferghana region, Uzbekistan, 713000, Phone/Fax: (998 7355) 23983, E-mail: [ismr@dinosoft.uz](mailto:ismr@dinosoft.uz); [svismr@mail.ru](mailto:svismr@mail.ru)

## Zimbabwe

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation is an international alliance established in 1993 to nurture the foundation, growth and protection of citizen action throughout the world, especially in areas where participatory democracy and citizens' freedom of association are threatened. The Civil Society Watch (CSW) Programme within CIVICUS aims to mobilise quick, principled and helpful responses to events that threaten civil society's fundamental rights to collectively express itself, associate and organise throughout the world. Our organization under the auspices of the CSW Programme would like to use the opportunity of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence to highlight the plight of women in Zimbabwe who have been subjected to sexual and gender based violence such as rape and assault, as well as other women's rights violations due to the state of unrest in the country. In addition, we would like to highlight the crackdown on women's civil society organizations in the country by the Zimbabwean government in particular on the limitation of the right of these CSOs to collectively organize and express themselves. They are in the processing of crafting strategies about how this intervention would be made but they would like to also use their website and possibly their newsletter in this regard.

**Contact:** Rachel Irura, CIVICUS Associate, Civil Society Watch, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, P O BOX 933, SOUTHDALE, 2135, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA; email: [rachel@civicus.org](mailto:rachel@civicus.org); web: [www.civicus.org](http://www.civicus.org); phone: [\(+27\) 11 833 5959](tel:+27118335959); fax: [\(+27\) 11 833 7997](tel:+27118337997)