



President's Letter

→ **SENEGAL:** *Political parity for women is now within reach, thanks to UN Women's support both in drafting a 2010 parity law and implementing the law during recent parliamentary elections. Female parliamentarians now constitute 44.6 percent of Senegal's National Assembly.*

→ **PAKISTAN:** *On International Women's Day 2012, the parliament strengthened the scope, authority, and funding of the National Commission on the Status of Women, which investigates women's rights violations. This bill is one of several laws passed over the past two years that advance women's rights in Pakistan. UN Women worked hand-in-hand with both local NGOs and parliamentarians to draft and implement these laws.*

→ **MALI:** *Against a backdrop of armed conflict in the north and a military coup d'état, four women from REPSFCO/Mali, a women's peace and security network, attended the country's transitional negotiations in April 2012. With UN Women's support and assistance, the delegates succeeded in having all their demands (the full participation of women in resolving Mali's conflict, respect for human rights, and an end to sexual violence) included in the final declaration.*

→ **PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS:** *For women vendors in the Pacific Islands, UN Women's support has led to improved and safer working conditions for women vendors and introduced a management model that allowed women to become leaders in the marketplace, with decision-making power on products, customers, and locations.*

→ **WORLDWIDE:** *Throughout 2012, UN Women executive director Michelle Bachelet continued to advocate for the full rights and participation of women in all countries. In January, Ms. Bachelet testified about the importance of women's rights in front of the Council of Europe and the World's Economic Forum. During the OECD's May meeting, she reminded member states about the need for gender parity in their own governments. At the Rio+20 Summit in June, Ms. Bachelet highlighted the pivotal role that women play in sustainable development and called for the active inclusion of women in all international environmental frameworks.*

These milestones represent just a small portion of UN Women's work around the globe. UN Women programs and grantees train, educate, integrate, protect, and empower women in all walks of life. UN Women's work is vertical, ranging from funding grass-roots organizations to mobilizing the entire UN system to introduce gender-sensitive programs and budgets. UN Women's influence is also horizontal, extending across society to introduce economic

reforms, instill equitable political laws and norms, address cultural barriers to gender equality, and empower individuals. With programs in over 70 countries and 18 national committees, UN Women brings together women and men, young girls and grandmothers, for the common goal of gender equality. Its message is both powerful and positive: the empowerment of women is for the greater good of all of us.

The US National Committee for UN Women (USNC-UN Women) is the bridge between UN Women and the United States. We are their 501(c)(3) representative and we work to increase financial, political, and public support for UN Women. We do this by:

- **Educating** our members and the American public about UN Women and its global projects
- **Engaging** US policymakers to support UN Women and the implementation of international agreements on women's rights
- **Raising** funds that support UN Women projects

The following pages detail how we engage our communities and members across the nation to increase support for UN Women. Whether it was the 5th annual conference in Washington, DC, or a peace walk in commemoration of Mother's Day in Los Angeles, we continually meet men and women, students and retirees, who are passionate about helping women and girls worldwide.

Finally, I am very grateful to all our members for their generosity. Without your donations, we could not carry out our education and advocacy programs within the United States, nor contribute directly to UN Women and its programs. I also thank the many volunteers at the national and chapter level who devote countless hours to USNC-UN Women. As a volunteer-led organization, we depend on your time and talents to spread the word of UN Women's vital work and raise funds to support our mission. I look forward to another year working with you as we strive to create a world where women and girls live free from violence, poverty, and inequality.

Sincerely,



Maggie Forster Schmitz

President

U.S. National Committee for UN Women



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

NATIONAL COMMITTEE UNITED STATES

USNC BOARD

President

Maggie Forster Schmitz

VP Membership

Terry Brackett

VP Strategic Planning

Francine Brown

VP Communications

Stephanie Block

VP Fund Development

Kay Colson

Secretary

Mary Dailey

Treasurer

Luci Hamilton

Carol Poteat-Buchanan

Luz Van Meek

Ann Trainor

Rene Kraus

Kim Randle

Grace Richardson

Neale Godfrey

Donald McPherson

Caroline Slobodzian

Younghee Overly

Allison Asplin

Francine Cerami

U.S. National Committee: Who We Are

The U.S. National Committee (USNC) for UN Women is an independent non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that supports the mission of UN Women and social, political, and economic equality for women and girls around the world. Our members and supporters are men, women, and children in cities around the country who give their time and resources to support a world where women of all ages have access to education and employment opportunities, and sustainable livelihoods that enable them to live free of gender-based violence.

Originally chartered in 1983 as a National Committee for UNIFEM (now part of UN Women), the U.S. National Committee is committed to expanding support and raising funds within the United States for UN Women. Through the help of our Board of Directors, Advisory Council, local chapters and members, we help support UN Women projects that span 100 countries around the globe.



Maggie Forster Schmitz,
USNC President

U.S. National Committee: What We Do

The U.S. National Committee for UN Women:

- **Advocates** for funding for UN Women through US Congress
- **Educates** on global women's issues and UN Women in communities around the country
- **Raises private funds** to support the initiatives of UN Women
- **Supports legislation** on global women's issues, especially on leadership, economic participation, ending violence against women, and peace and stability
- **Partners** with other National Committees, women's groups, and like-minded organizations
- **Creates chapters** and **builds membership** to build support and funds for UN Women and global women's rights



Board Member Ann Trainor

U.S. National Committee: Building Chapters from Coast to Coast

Our thirteen chapters play a vital and dynamic role within USNC-UN Women. They are the voice for the U.S. National Committee across the United States, hosting a variety of events that engage their communities and providing key financial support to UN Women and USNC-UN Women.

In the last fiscal year, USNC-UN Women welcomed two new chapters, Miami and Greater Los Angeles — international centers on both sides of the country! We look forward to adding more chapters in the next fiscal year.

CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

East Florida: Lalita Janke

Dallas/Fort Worth: Joy Macci

Georgia: Linda Poteat-Brown

Greater Los Angeles: Cathy Hillman

Gulf Coast Florida: Sharon Burde

Metro New York: Cheryl Benton

Miami: Marisa Feito

National Capital: Liga Plaveniece

New Jersey: Yvonne Garlin

North Carolina: Mary Beth Loucks-Sorrell

San Francisco Bay Area: Rebecca Chesney (*co-president*)

Benedicte Richardson (*co-president*)

Southern California: CeCe Sloan

University of Virginia Club: Maya Venkatraman



Highlights from 2011–2012

2012 Annual Conference, Washington, DC: *Women Lead: Politics, Civil Society, and Peacebuilding Worldwide*



Alyssa Beaulieu and Board Members
Terry Brackett and Francine Brown



Keynote Speaker
Bathilde Diouf



Interns visit Capital Hill



Civil Society Panelists and Board Member, Conference Chair
Caroline Slobodzian

USNC-UN Women Chapters Host Annual Walks to End Violence Against Women and Girls

The Chapters of USNC-UN Women hosted their annual Walks to End Violence Against Women and Girls across the United States. To highlight the walks, USNC-UN Women held a t-shirt design contest that was used by all of the chapters. The entries were all amazing and creative and the voting was close. In the end, Asher Jay was the declared winner with her forward looking design. Jay is an artist, writer, designer and activist currently living in New York.



One of the primary goals of the USNC is to eliminate violence against women and girls worldwide. Unfortunately, this type of violence is enormous: up to 70% of women experience

physical or sexual violence from men in their lifetime; among women aged 15 to 44, acts of violence cause more death and disability than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents and war combined; the cost of intimate partner violence in the U.S. exceeds \$5.8 billion per year; 102 countries have no specific legal provisions against domestic violence.

Money raised from the walks goes to support a number of programs that further the fight against violence toward women and girls, including the UN Trust Fund. The Trust Fund, administered by UN Women, is the only global multi-lateral grant-making mechanism exclusively devoted to supporting local, national and regional efforts of organizations to combat gender-based violence. Since it began operations in 1997, the Trust Fund has awarded more than US\$19 million to 263 initiatives to address violence against women in 115 countries.

Building Our Organization – Giving More to UN Women:

USNC-UN Women re-Launch Fundraising Campaign Officially Begins

In January 2012, at the semi-annual board meeting in San Francisco, the USNC board of directors took a hard look at how to achieve greater results within the current infrastructure. We determined that, for us to support global empowerment of women, we needed to increase our capacity. To sustain that capacity, we needed a new fund development strategy. So, the re-Launch campaign was designed and kicked off in early 2012 with the goal to raise \$1 million.

The strategy of the campaign is to involve the entire board in engaging more personally with our donors, seeking pledges with a 3-year commitment. The commitment would ensure income flow and the engine required to sustain USNC operational income and provide increased funds for donation to UN Women programs. In support, our board and committee members committed to personally give \$50,000 over the next 3 years, a great “down payment” for the campaign. The support of the board sets a powerful example for our members to join us in giving. In May 2012, this commitment was complemented by a grant from the Forrest and Florence Lattner Foundation, bringing the total raised and committed in the first 6 months of this campaign to \$107,650.

More information is available at www.unwomen-usnc.org/usnc_relaunch_campaign.



**NATIONAL COMMITTEE
UNITED STATES**

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



Message from Michelle Bachelet

UN WOMEN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

In creating UN Women, the international community sent a strong message that gender equality and women's rights are global imperatives. It took four years of hard work to realize the dream of millions of women and girls to have a global "champion" at the UN to galvanize stronger action to end widespread violence and discrimination against women.

I am determined that UN Women lives up to expectations as a driver for change, offering new energy, drawing on core ideas and values, and bringing together men, women and young people across the globe in a shared endeavor for gender equality.

In the second year of UN Women's existence, there is much to build on and plan for growth ahead. Working together, we can make greater progress in our priority areas of advancing women's political participation and leadership, enhancing women's economic empowerment, ending violence against women and girls, increasing women's role in peacemaking and peacebuilding, and supporting gender-responsive planning and budgeting. All of our work is grounded in human rights.

Gender inequality is not an issue confined to any one group of countries or societies. It is a universal issue. Thus, we need partners in every country to make greater progress. We must convince all political actors — including ministers of finance and trade as well as health and education — that advancing women's rights and equal opportunity is not only the right thing to do, it is vital for social cohesion, political stability, and economic growth.

National Committees play a key role in raising awareness about gender equality and advocating action in UN Women's priority areas. I extend my deep appreciation for the support that National Committees and their membership provide in funding UN Women programmes that bring about real change in the lives of women and girls and their communities.

Looking ahead, we have a great deal of exciting and ambitious work that we need to get done. I look forward to strong partnership with UN Women National Committees to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Thank you.

Michelle Bachelet
Executive Director
Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations





Financial Statement Summary*

As of May 31, 2010 through May 31, 2012

	2010	2011	2012
Cash, investments and other assets	\$206,867	\$260,913	\$268,873
Liabilities	33,549	22,133	27,255
Net Assets	\$173,318	\$238,780	\$241,618
Support and Revenue:			
Contributions	\$ 94,806	\$169,496	\$321,327
Membership Dues	36,502	23,459	28,876
Investment Income	7,903	14,754	-3,884
Other Revenue	14,846	29,202	12,141
Total Support and Revenue	\$154,057	\$236,911	\$358,529
Expenses:			
Program	\$ 94,171	\$ 98,096	\$125,491
Management & General	15,557	19,755	27,280
Fund Raising	3,958	3,598	4,420
Transfers to UN Women	15,000	50,000	198,500
Total Expenses	\$126,686	\$171,449	\$355,691
BALANCE	\$25,371	\$65,462	\$21,838

*Audited Financial Statements are available on request.



Recognizing our Major Donors

Major Gifts

The Johnson & Johnson Family of Companies
The Forrest & Frances Lattner Foundation

Corporate Supporters

Coca-Cola Company
IBM

Circles of Support

Heinz & Margaret Aeschbach
Pamela Albertson
Terry Brackett
Joan Breiner
Francine Brown
Sharon Burde
Alin & Peter E. Chelico
LaDonna Cloud
Kay Colson

Andrea Conner
Elinor Crawford
Mary Dailey
Meryl Frank
Sallie Gouverneur
Jacquelyn K. Hall
Kate Harris
Marlana High
Jeannette Hyde
Lalita Janke
Eileen Janssen
Nancy Jones
Aileen Naja Josephs
William Krause
Liz Lundeen
Terrence & Sally Morris Memorial Fund
Gemma Allen Nader
Ana Oliveira

E. Scott Osborne
Chavali Pamela Osathanugrah
Carol Poteat-Buchanan
Judy Ramey
Kim Randle
Grace Richardson
Henry Rinder
CeCe Sloan
Margaret Spallone
Nadim Shahidi
Janet Stovin
Johnny Taylor
Ann Trainor
Luz VanMeek
Jennifer Welch
Jane Jimmy
Barrie Zucal



For more information:

**1120 20th Street NW
Suite 500 North
Washington, DC 20036
Tel. 202-469-8732
www.unwomen-usnc.org**
