



NAWO @ WRC, United House, North Road, London N7 9DP
020 7697 3468; www.nawo.org.uk; admin@nawo.org.uk

23 December 2016

Dear NAWO Member,

It has been a year full of surprises and changes across the world and across the UK. NAWO has continued its valuable work bringing together diverse organisations and providing a platform through which to lobby UK Government and participate in a variety of consultation papers and enquiries. We have also had joint events with members and partners across the Alliance. We look forward to new events and activities with members in 2017.

The NAWO Young Women's Alliance has grown in number and activity and we gained funding from ROSA to raise capacity of more young women to have their voices heard. Six young women received training in a variety of areas and conducted events, through which they shared information on SDG 5, to more than a hundred other young women. In addition some of their activities have the potential to reach hundreds of young people encouraging them to be activists for the equality of women and men, girls and boys. Two events were held during the 16 days of activism as part of this project, one in the House of Commons chaired by Roberta Blackman Woods MP and the other in the House of Lords chaired by Baroness Verma. The young women also wrote to MPs and wrote blogs. A full report will be available on the NAWO website [here](#).



The NAWO website has been updated and we look forward to receiving a short outline of your organisation, to highlight on the [website](#), together with photos of your key team.

The European Network meeting series was updated and we held a number of events through the year. We have an exciting set of meetings for 2017. Please do join us, invite all of your members, offer us speakers and advertise them to others. A list of dates will be sent through in the new year.



NAWO continues its role as Secretariat of the UK NGO CSW Alliance, although we do not have funding for this work at this time, though we hope to gain some in 2017. At CSW this year, NAWO had three very successful events, as well as supporting many others. We had active participation of the YWA with a delegation of 16 young women attending CSW and speaking in a variety of events. We anticipate this presence at CSW continuing into 2017 with three events planned in addition to those we support. There is a YWA delegation of 25 young women and men also attending. Read the YWA reports from CSW 60 [here](#) and the UN women report [here](#)



NAWO provided information on Europe, giving evidence on our website of the value of Europe and held an event at Europe House in February on the arguments for staying in the EU. Post June, NAWO hosted an event, again at Europe House, to bring together women's organisations to consult on the way forward post Brexit, in collaboration with EWL. A report of this meeting is on the website and available to read [here](#)

We also provided a submission on Brexit to the Women and Equalities Select Committee.



REPORT: FUTURE LOOKING MEETING
HOW DO WE WORK INTERNATIONALLY TO SECURE & ADVANCE
WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN THE POST REFERENDUM WORLD
PERSPECTIVES FROM WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS
24 AUGUST 2016, EUROPE HOUSE, LONDON

NAWO took part in the campaign to ratify the Istanbul Convention, putting forward names of partners in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland for the ICChange expert group. We encouraged members to be involved, worked on the executive group, participated in photo shoots, events in parliament, the doll activity and we were at the event in parliament on 16 December. We will continue to play a role in this important endeavor. You can read about NAWO's involvement in the campaigns on our [website](#)



From January, we worked to raise awareness on Agenda 2030 and held events on related subjects. In addition we provided a submission to the Women and Equalities Select Committee on [SDG5](#). We also participated in other enquiries. To read our submission to the WESC inquiry please click [here](#)



We held a successful seminar, after our AGM, on economic empowerment as part of our preparation for CSW. The report can be found on the website as along as the report from the AGM [here](#). We have also updated our strategy – which can also be found on the website [here](#). The on-line conversations continued through the year, assisted by Gov Faces. If you would like more information on these on line discussions, please do contact the office. admin@nawo.co.uk

NAWO continues our membership of the UK Joint Committee on Women (UKJCW) made of sister organisations in the three devolved countries with us, and through that to the European Women's Lobby. Barbara Cleary, NAWO Vice-Chair, has been elected onto EWL board and is the current UKJCW representative. NAWO continues strong links with EWL, continuing to campaign for a Europe Free from Prostitution. One of our YWA is part of the EWL youth for abolition group.

Today, we've joined 165 groups in telling the Prime Minister not to abandon our Human Rights Act.

For more information visit www.bihhr.org.uk/together

Women's Rights are Human Rights

On the 10th December, NAWO joined with 165 individuals and organisations in a letter to the PM to not abandon Human rights act. The letter, written by The British Institute for Human Rights

(BIHR) aims to show the breadth of support for the Human Rights Act across the UK. To read the full letter and more information please follow this [link](#)

We have had a great administrative team working with NAWO with enthusiastic and capable women working in a paid capacity and as interns. We are truly grateful for their hard work and commitment and are sad to say goodbye to Sarah, Monica and Bonnie who have developed their careers away from NAWO, but wish them success in their chosen field. We welcome Amy Welch who has just been employed as our Administrator.

Sincere thanks are owed to the NAWO Management Committee without whom none of the work would be possible, especially the officers for their continued support and dedication. Some members stepped down at the AGM and we wish them well in all their areas of endeavour. So thank you to Barbara, Neda, Wendi, Ann, Jackie and Lisa-Marie, Penny, Pat, Natalia and Faeza.

NAWO's year-end is December 31st therefore all subscriptions start on 1 January. Your membership is of great value to us and we seek more diversity. NAWO seeks to represent your views on the important issues of our times and every voice strengthens our collective voice. To make sure our work continues, and also to see it increase, we need your support. Please renew your subscription to NAWO – send us your news for the newsletters and your ideas for the enquiries and submissions. We look forward to holding joint events with you and continuing to campaign for all those issues that bring global local and fight for equality of women and men.

Everyone at NAWO sends you seasonal and festive greetings. We hope you enjoy your time with family and friends, the lovely food and good company, without too much stress. Let us hope that 2017 brings us some peace in the world, and that as we work for the implementation of Agenda 2030 we will see positive change for women and girls, and therefore the whole of society, in the UK and across the world. Gaining strength and support from each other, we can all continue to make a difference and change things for the better, in all our spheres of influence, one heart, one life at a time.

Once again, thank you for your continuing support as a member of NAWO

Warm wishes.

Zarin Hainsworth
Chair

Thank you all and our best wishes for a wonderful festive season and a happy and successful New Year.