



**Update on the Preparations for the Hybrid 68th  
Session of the UN Commission on the Status of  
Women (CSW68)**

**Dates: 11 to 22 March 2024.**

**Venue: In Person-United Nations Headquarters,  
New York, United States of America**

- **Priority Theme:**

Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective

- **Review Theme:**

Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-third session)

# WHAT IS CSW?

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the global inter-governmental body dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The CSW discusses progress and the gaps in the implementation of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the key global policy document on gender equality as well as emerging issues that affect gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. The outcomes of each session are forwarded to ECOSOC for follow up.

# WHAT IS CSW?...

The principal output of the CSW is the **Agreed Conclusions (AC)** on the priority theme set for that year. The Agreed Conclusions contain an analysis of the priority theme and provides concrete recommendations for governments, intergovernmental bodies and other institutions, civil society actors and other relevant stakeholders, to be implemented at the international, national, regional, and local level. [\*\*Read more on CSW here.\*\*](#)



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# How do I Register for the Hybrid CSW68?

The CSW68 registration begun on **6th October 2023** and closes by **26th January 2024**. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) that are accredited to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) may designate representatives to attend the in-person CSW68. [Please click here to register for CSW68.](#) Please note, online registration is mandatory.



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# How do I Register for the Hybrid CSW68?

Due to space constraints, the numbers of attendees to CSW sessions should be kept to a minimum and should not exceed 20 representatives per organization.

To facilitate registration for feminists who aren't part of an ECOSOC accredited organization, WRC has created [this form](#). Please fill out the [form](#) if you are a WRC member who needs support with registration and/or if you are an ECOSOC-accredited member willing to offer a spot on your delegation.



# **How Can I Engage, Contribute & Take Action Pre, During and Post CSW68?**

**The active participation of NGOs is a critical element in the work of the CSW. NGOs have been influential in shaping the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality, they continue to play an important role in holding international and national leaders accountable to the commitments they made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Read more on NGO Participation [Here](#)**



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# **How Can I Engage, Contribute & Take Action Pre, During and Post CSW68? ...**

**CSW should not be seen as a once-off event but rather as a process for influencing and getting international standards and norms on the priority theme and the emerging theme. It is a movement building space for women, girls, young women, gender non-conforming and all feminists, gender activists and advocates in all their diversity to converge, share, network and shape ground-breaking policy demands on the theme.**



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**Check out below some of the ways you can meaningfully engage, proactively contribute, and take action to contribute and influence the CSW68: -**

- **Making a speech during the general discussion:**

Subject to time availability, oral statements may be delivered during the general discussion by a limited number of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC. Please note that preference will be given to NGOs speaking about the priority theme or review theme, and to NGOs speaking on behalf of groups of organizations, caucuses, or coalitions. Oral statements should not exceed three minutes (approx. two pages double-spaced using font size 12). Instructions will be communicated, via e-mail, to the NGOs that will be selected.





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- **Intervening from the floor during an Interactive Dialogue:**

A limited number of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC will be able to make oral interventions during the interactive panels. Interventions must be focused on the theme of the panel and not on any other issues. Oral interventions will be delivered virtually through online connections. Interventions at interactive expert panels are NOT to be in the form of prepared statements; NGOs are therefore not required to submit copies of such interventions.



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**These interventions must be in the form of comments or questions addressed to the panel experts. Interventions should not exceed three minutes. Instructions will be communicated via e-mail by UN Women to organizations that will be selected to make an intervention. Sign-up for NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC wishing to express interest in intervening during a dialogue or an interactive panel usually opens in January 2024.**



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- **Mobilizing and information sharing:**

Use your digital and traditional platforms to hold discussions with the constituencies of women and girls that you work with and represent to identify their priorities on the theme of CSW68 and consolidate/ share with your CSW68 government delegation. To collate our digital conversations, kindly use the hashtags **#CSW68Africa, #CSW68** on twitter, Instagram and facebook and tag **@FemnetProg** and **@ngocswafrica**



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**Check out below some of the ways you can meaningfully engage, proactively contribute, and take action to contribute and influence the CSW68: -**

- **Follow-up and Contribute to National CSW68 processes:**

Reach out to your Ministry of Gender and UN Women Country Office for updates on national preparations and to influence your country's position. In addition, find your government's delegates to CSW68 and ask to meet with them to influence your country's position. Every policy discourse on gender equality, women and girl's empowerment should be guided by priorities and aspirations of African women and girls in their diversity.



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- **CSW68 Side Events:**

Activities and events held outside the of the session of the Commission, provides an excellent opportunity for Member States, UN entities and NGOs to discuss themes of the Commission and other critical gender equality issues. Permanent Missions and UN entities interested in organizing a CSW68 side event are asked to contact UN-Women via email to [csw.sideevents@unwomen.org](mailto:csw.sideevents@unwomen.org).



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- **CSW68 Parallel Events:**

NGOs parallel events are coordinated by the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY), which is a group of New York-based women's NGOs in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. For more information on the NGO CSW68 Forum and on NGO parallel events, please visit the website of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY). All questions on NGO-sponsored events should be directed to the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW/NY) via [info@ngocsw.org](mailto:info@ngocsw.org).





**Check out below some of the ways you can meaningfully engage, proactively contribute, and take action to contribute and influence the CSW68: -**

- **CSW68 Bureau:**

The Bureau of the Commission plays a crucial role in facilitating the preparation for, and in ensuring the successful outcome of the annual sessions of the Commission. Bureau members serve for two years. In line with ECOSOC decision 2002/234, the Commission holds the first meeting of its subsequent session, immediately following the closure of the regular session, to elect new members of the Bureau as needed.





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**The Bureau for the 68th session of the  
Commission on the Status of Women (2024)  
comprises the following members:**

- **H.E. Mr. Antonio Manuel Revilla Lagdameo  
(Philippines), Chair (Asia and Pacific States Group)**
- **H.E. Ms. María del Carmen Squeff (Argentina),  
Vice-Chair (Latin American and Caribbean States  
Group)**
- **Mr. Māris Burbergs (Latvia), Vice-Chair (Eastern  
European States Group)**
- **H.E. Ms. Yoka Brandt (Netherlands), Vice-Chair  
designate (Western European and Other States  
Group)**
- **Ms. Dúnia Eloisa Pires do Canto (Cabo Verde),  
Vice-Chair designate, African States Group)**



# Important Dates & Events Leading to CSW 68

- The **Africa pre-CSW expert group meeting** (hybrid) will take place **10-11 November** (in Addis in person) and **Ministerial Meetings** on **14th November** also in Addis but hybrid.
- **NGO CSW/NY October Monthly Meeting- Virtual Roundtable: Financing for Development and SDG Summit in relation to Gender Equality & Poverty- Tuesday, 17th October 2023, 6:00PM EAT. Register Here >>>**  
**<https://bit.ly/3QigKmx>**
- **NGO/CSW68 Forum**- The Civil Society gathering parallel to United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 68)- **10th -22nd March 2024**



# Important Dates & Events Leading to CSW 68...

- FEMNET Secretariat will be sharing updates on important dates and key events as we prepare for Africa Disrupt and CSW68 in New York. If you wish to be part of the mailing list, kindly share your information with us on **this link**
- For the purpose of better coordination, Women's Right Caucus has developed a more permanent listserv that will be used for CSW 68 and all future CSWs. For this reason, the form is more comprehensive and longer than in past years. It will ask you to sign-on to the guiding principles and values of the caucus, ask more details on your areas of work, and whether you want to co-lead or join any working groups as well. Click on **this link to register.**
- FEMNET Secretariat is looking for a consultant to help with the drafting of the position statement.

Apply using **this link**



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**Follow & Engage on twitter using the hashtag #CSW68Africa and #CSW68 – tagging @FemnetProg and @ngocswafrica**

**For questions, clarifications and more information, please contact Esther Nyawira, Girls & Young Women Programme Coordinator on email [e.nyawira@femnet.or.ke](mailto:e.nyawira@femnet.or.ke) and Rachel Kagoiya, Communications & Information Lead on email [r.kagoiya@femnet.or.ke](mailto:r.kagoiya@femnet.or.ke).**

