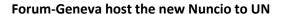
WUCWO Newsletter June 2016



Attention: Please send us news of your organisations (in 4 or 5 lines, with a photo in jpg) and of the activities realized in July and August. These informations can be very useful to other organisations.

Important: These informations are used to reach, thanks to you, all the members of your organisations. Please, we would be glad if you could send them as soon as possible.

Thank you very much!





On June 8th, the President General, Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, was in Geneva for a meeting with Abp. Jurkovic, the Permanent Observer of the Holy See at the UN in Geneva. It was the first time the Nuncio met the various NGOs operating in Geneva, such as Caritas Internationalis, Point Coeur, Dominicans for Justice & Peace, Society of St Paul, Congregation Sisters of the Good Shepherd, Salesian Sisters, MIAMSI, New Humanity, Papa Giovanni XXIII, Pax Romana, OIDEL, ICMC and of course, WUCWO. Each representative talked about the specific aim of its organisation and the activities carried on. It was an occasion for the President to remind the activities WUCWO carries on as coordinator of the Family working group and the event organized in Rome last April to introduce the post synodal Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia* to the Ambassadors at the Holy See.

Meeting with Natasha Govekar



The Pope Francis has appointed a woman as director of the theological-pastoral department of the Vatican Secretariat for Communications: Natasa Govekar. She received the President and the Secretary General on the 13th May. WUCWO has made available to the Holy Father the communication mediums it uses (the website, the review, the Newsletter, the program Radio Vatican and the network of communication that include its 100 member organisations). Natasa Govekar has been invited by the President to the Second Meeting of Middle-East Women, that will take place in Bari from the 19th to 23rd October 2016.

Meeting at the Commission for Latin America



WUCWO has been invited by Cardinal Marc Ouellet, President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, to attend to the celebrations of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, that will take place in Bogotá, Colombia, from the 27th to 30th August 2016. In this regard, the Secretary General of the Commission, Guzmán Carriquiry, has received the President and the Secretary General. During the meeting, it has been agreed that WUCWO's representative would be the Vice-President General, Maribeth Stewart. In addition to the bishops and lay people of Latin America, the representatives of Canadian and American Episcopal conferences are expected.

One Minute for Peace

On the 8th June, at 13:00, at the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Rome, Abp. Rino Fisichella led a prayer for peace. All pilgrims circulating near the Sanctuary were invited to join this minute for peace. WUCWO coorganise this event for several years now. Virginia Pastor attended this event on behalf of WUCWO.



General Apostolic Assembly of ACF



On the 25th and 26th June, the *Action Catholique des Femmes* (ACF) will hold a General Apostolic Assembly in Paris. The main theme of the event will be the isolation faced by women. The new National Chaplain, the new President and the new Vice-President will attend the assembly. Several training workshops will be organised to encourage communication between women, their involvement within the association and the retransmission of experiences to departmental and local teams after the event. As for the apostolic part, it will allow to celebrate the joy of believing, to work on the following steps of the associative project, to meet with familiar faces, to interact with new persons... and simply to

share moments of happiness and friendship!

CELEBRATION OF WUCWO'S DAY

Association des Femmes Catholiques, Gabon

WUCWO's Day of Prayer in Gabon took place on two days. The first day, a distribution of water at the *Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Libreville* was held. This is the biggest health care centre of Gabon and the lack of water is an ongoing problem. Therefore, it was decided to make this gift to relieve the thirst of the sicks. More than 1200 litres were offered by the Catholics women of Libreville. The second day, a mass was held.



National Council of Catholic Women, Zambia

Zambia decided to celebrate WUCWO's Day in Parishes rather than in one central place in order to enable all women to participate. It was felt that when it is put at a central place, some women fail to attend due to distance. Mary Yunike, as WUCWO Board member, wrote a speech with greetings from the President General, the Africa Vice President and from the WUCWO Board member. This speech was read by executive members where they are present and by Diocesan Presidents where there is no National leadership. The speech talks about the theme for the prayers, general priorities, regional priorities, the location of the next regional conference and general assembly and any relevant information. The pictures were from one parish, the alter was set with the cloth of the organisation



and women posed for picture after the mass. Then, a meal was shared and the participants had the opportunity to socialize.

Movimiento Diocesano de Mujeres Católicas, Cuba

Since a new bishop was elected in the diocese of Havana, the organisation *Movimiento Diocesano de Mujeres Católicas* proposed to celebrate WUCWO's Day on the 11th June. A spirituality session on the theme of women as committed laics was organised, followed by a small concert in the afternoon. About 150 women attended the event.

OCTOBER IN BARI

Meeting with Women from Middle East



The President of WUCWO invited all organisations and their members to attend the *Second Meeting with Women From Middle East*, that will take place in Bari from the 19th to 23rd October 2016. This event will promote action and dialogue of women for peace and reconciliation in one of the world's most conflictual area, whose situation affects the entire world. We can all contribute to the success of this event by our presence or by a financial contribution. If you wish to do so, please contact the Secretariat as soon as possible.

Board and Executive Meetings of WUCWO

WUCWO's Board will held its annual meeting from 23^{rd} to 26^{th} October in Bari. The executive's meetings will take place on the 19^{th} October in the afternoon and on the 26^{th} October in the morning.

