

## UN CSW Working Group



### **Actions/Activities/Achievements:**

#### **1. Info Sessions on CSW to BPW members:**

The Commission on the Status of Women adopted agreed conclusions on **“Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”** on 25 March 2022.

The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The next session will take place 6-17<sup>th</sup> march, 2023 as a hybrid session.

- Priority Theme : Innovation and technological change and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls
  - Review Theme : Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls ([agreed conclusions](#) from the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session)
- 2. Submission of the BPW Statement for the UN CSW – the working group has submitted the full statement as a draft for consideration of the Executive Board in support of the preparations and participation to the Meetings.**

### 3. Organization of Girls Congress – mentoring the next cadre of female leadership

With the support of UN Women and IFBPW  
UN Steering Committee

- Brainchild of and Implemented by Girls Congress Director Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco via a Fulbright-Hays Grant 
- Project of BPW Rizal, Manila and Dipolog under the leadership of Myrna Yao 
- Next steps: Replication to other Provinces
- Inviting possible replication in partnership with other BPWs in Asia Pacific and beyond



Speakers included US Vice President Kamala Harris, Charge d'Affaires Heather Variava, Secretary of the Department of Education Leonor Briones, Philippine Commission on Women Chair Sandy Montano



Other speakers from all over the world.

### 4. CSW NIGERIA IN BRIEF

## NIGERIA AND THE RIGHTS OF THE GIRL CHILD

Top on the agenda for the CSW 2023 session should be the role of government in settling the unrest especially in northern parts of the country as well as the endless issues that affect gender equality and the empowerment of women. Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) continues to be one of the main focus through human rights activist founder, who has saluted the parents of abducted Chibok girls for their courage and resilience.

On April 14, 2014, Boko Haram invaded the Government Girls Secondary School in Chibok, Borno State. More than 270 young girls were kidnapped and though some have regained freedom or escaped, others remain in captivity.

The Presidency and Government of Nigeria were silent on the 8th year anniversary on April 14, 2022. The activist charged the parents and Nigerians to use their votes wisely in the 2023 general elections.

More than 100 Chibok girls are still being held by the Boko Haram sect responsible for over a decade of murder and destruction.

The terror of the group has caused the death of thousands of people and displaced millions in (mostly) Nigeria and neighbouring countries.

*(Daily Post, April 14, 2022)*



### WORKING TOWARDS MEETING THE SDGS (EDUCATION)

BPW under the Federation of Nigeria's Business and Professional Women, has over the years worked with young girls on empowerment, life skills and career building.

Overall, the focus of the Clubs has been to work with schools, particularly girls' schools,

promoting the ideals of empowerment and entrepreneurship. Consequently, the focus has been on Goals 4 & 8.

The Executive of BPW Lekki has held 6 sessions in 2022 for the children and facilitated by our members. We have drawn on the strengths of our members and their professionalism to impact the lives of the children positively.

One of the schools is Aunty Ayo Secondary School, Biaduo Street, Ikoyi which held a special Summer camp for the children to enable them improve on their academic capabilities.

The inclusion of BPW's intellectual capability brought greater understanding of the world of work for the children.

Our work holistically in other schools has seen us implement a "career fair" in which students had the opportunity to speak with professionals from various fields including

health care, human resources, law, engineering, education, technology and finance.

Other work included beauty, bead making, slippers making interactive sessions to allow better participation and better learning outcomes.

BPW Nigeria, shall propose for a side event that fosters vocational skills training in beauty, beadmaking and crop growing.

Our agenda for 2023 shall continue to promote economic empowerment and food security for sustainability; but shall also foster Goals 2 & 3 to continue to work in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. Steering the discussions and organizing the strategic planning for the regional action plan on women peace and security of ASEAN

