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women, sharing knowledge,  
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## **August 2004, No. 3: Women media practitioners agreed to help end commercial sexual exploitation of children**

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ISSUES

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## **WOMEN MEDIA PRACTITIONERS AGREED TO HELP END COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN**

Women media practitioners in Kenya agreed to move immediately to stop the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

The Association of Media Women in Kenya said that commercial sex work among children is one of the worst forms of child labour. Thus, they banded together to plan for ways to end this problem. One immediate goal is to strengthen the capacity of the media, especially in highlighting the worst forms of child labour and lobby for its elimination, since they observed that the news in Kenya was "pre-determined and neglected social issues."

This goal was finalised at a workshop that took place from 13 to 14 July 2004 in North Coast Province, Kenya.

At the workshop, the media women wanted to initially focus their efforts locally since they observed "the Province is under threat of sex tourism as authorities kept quiet due to the sensitivity of the tourism industry." North Coast province is known for its beaches, a famous destination for foreign tourists.

Haida Bruno, vice-chairperson of the Child Welfare Society of Kenya, spoke at the workshop and shared information about this. "A recent survey showed that young girls were lured into hotels and private villas where they were sexually exploited on the promise of riches and trips abroad."

*Source: "Media Women Battle Child Sex Work" published in The Nation (Nairobi) on 15 July 2004.*

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## **AUTHORITIES URGED TO PROTECT PEOPLE WITH MENTAL DISABILITIES**

Authorities in Fiji are called on to afford more protection to people with mental disabilities, especially children.

This call was released by Dr. Shish Narayan, St. Giles Hospital Medical Superintendent. According to Narayan, mentally disabled persons need special care and treatment due to the delicate nature of their conditions. Children with mental disabilities especially need more understanding, but they end up being mistreated by their own families due to lack of comprehension of the children's sickness. Thus, Narayan sees the need for special facilities to house both children and adults with mental disabilities.

As the head of Fiji's only psychiatric hospital, Narayan is overseeing the case of a young woman locked up in a chicken coop by her family when she was just a child. The woman was discovered four years ago in the area of Labasa and has been staying in St. Giles since. She was diagnosed as suffering from a severe case of mental disability. Her family never came to get her back.

"Mentally disabled people have equal rights and must be accorded respect, no matter what their conditions are. Mental disabilities make people no less human than others. I am calling on authorities to criminalise the degrading and inhuman treatment of mentally ill persons in Fiji," said Narayan.

The woman is already in her 20s when she was discovered and had been living inside a chicken coop for 10 years. Narayan observed that the woman developed the characteristics of a chicken - she could hardly walk or stand, and her hands and legs were contracted as if mimicking a chicken. She does not eat with her hands but rather spreads the food on the floor and picks on it like chickens do.

Narayan revealed the Labasa woman's situation in the wake of a similar case featured in the media recently: that of a man from Navua who was raised inside a chicken coop for 20 years. Narayan is also attending to that man. He said cases like these need special attention, suggesting that special homes should be built for people with disabilities since the hospital can only provide treatment.

"When you put things on the table and see how you can address these problems, I think first we must have the commitment of the government and of course the non-government organisations. There has to be sustainability whereby government gives a certain amount of money for the running of institution hostels or homes for these people."

Dr. Shaista Shameem, Fiji Human Rights Commission Director, agreed with Narayan's call. Aside from protecting basic human rights, she said the state is obligated to protect children because Fiji is a signatory to the Convention of the Rights of the Child. "The Bill of Rights chapter in the Constitution protects people from cruel and degrading treatment and the burden is on the state to ensure people are treated humanely and with dignity."

*Sources: "Another 'Chicken' Abuse Case Revealed" released 14 July 2004, "Make Mistreatment a Criminal Offence" released 16 July 2004, "'Chicken' Children Criminal - Rights Commission" released 21 July 2004 all from PINA Nius Online and circulated via the Pacific Women's Information Network <[pacwin@lyris.spc.int](mailto:pacwin@lyris.spc.int)>.*

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## **IRANIAN WOMEN FIND VOICE THROUGH BLOGGING**

Women in Iran are finding a new outlet for their oft-suppressed voices - blogs.

Iranian women who want to say what is on their minds are utilising new media technologies, specifically blogs, to express themselves. Short for web logs, blogs are Internet websites that serve as personal diaries or journals for those who want to write and say something.

Blog writers-or bloggers--need not be formal, fluent or grammatical in their writings, similar to when one writes for recording personal thoughts. They also need not identify themselves as blogs can be maintained by anonymous users. Most blogs are available for free while some offer subscription rates for extra services. Blog readers also have the capacity to interact with the bloggers through the use of the blog's commentary services.

Blogging elevates the personal into a public level as bloggers make their thoughts available online, and others can access it freely. This is what Iranian women are using to talk about their opinions freely and without censorship. "Finally, you have a voice in a country where it's very hard to be heard," said Lady Sun, the online identity of one of the first Iranian women to start a blog.

Lady Sun refused to identify herself online or offline for fear of being persecuted. This is but one example of what happens to women who speak their minds freely about Iranian culture, society, and especially politics. Since they cannot do it openly, the Internet has become a refuge for sharing how they feel and think about current conditions in their country. This is the reason why blogging boomed in Iran within the last two years -- it provides a kind of "cyber-sanctuary" for the educated, young and computer-savvy Iranian women.

The blogs in Iran also serve as alternative media sources for women who want to read about news, to know what other women are doing and to learn about other things involving women in their communities. Blogs also have the capacity to carry photos and links to other news and information sources online. Since the government is controlling mainstream media in Iran, blogs often serve as the primary news source for women who want to read the "true side of the story."

*Source: "Blogging boom gives Iranian women a voice" as posted last 23 June 2004 at <[http://www.iranian.ws/iran\\_news/publish/printer\\_2705.shtml](http://www.iranian.ws/iran_news/publish/printer_2705.shtml)>.*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONFERENCES  
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## **VACANCY: MARITIME PORT SECURITY OFFICER FOR SPC IN FIJI**

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community's (SPC) Regional Maritime Programme (RMP) is looking for someone to fill the position of Maritime Port Security Officer.

The main task of the Maritime Officer is to assist the Pacific Island countries and territories to better manage their maritime responsibilities in respect of port security, safety and operations. The RMP aims to strengthen maritime institutions, human resource capacity, and improve the exchange of information and experience among Pacific Island countries and territories.

Specifically, the Maritime Officer has the following duties:

- Provide assistance to the regions, port managers and operators in the areas of port security operations; provision of port services, current port operations' best practices, stevedoring operations and issues relating to the ship/port interface.
- To constantly update relevant information from international and regional ports organisations including security information, and make it available to RMP personnel.

This is an advisory position. The successful candidate must have the following essential qualifications and experience:

- Senior management experience in the maritime or ports sector of the Pacific Islands region
- Tertiary qualification (either University degree or Master/Chief Engineer) with qualifications in port management or operations
- Project management experience
- Quality management training

This job is based in Fiji. The appointment will be for a period of three years in the first instance, subject to the satisfactory completion of a one-year probationary period. The contract may be renewed for a further period subject to performance and continued funding availability.

Applications should be addressed to the Senior Deputy Director-General of SPC. The deadline for submission of applications is on 31 August 2004.

To submit applications or learn more about the vacancy, please contact:

Secretariat of the Pacific Community

Suva, Fiji

Fax: (679) 370-021

E-mail: <[recruitsuva@spc.int](mailto:recruitsuva@spc.int)>

Website: <<http://www.spc.int>>

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## **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS: ENCOUNTER TERROR**

New World Disorder (NWD) is now accepting entries for its Encounter Terror project.

Encounter Terror is an international call for artworks about "the inexhaustible volatile

battle cry of the concept of "war against terror." NWD believes that it is time to gather artists' reactions from different countries and witness how people are affected by incidents relating to this issue. The project will also explore how people of different nationalities encounter terror and discover their reactions to this issue.

Submissions of one-minute action artworks using the parameters of a one-minute video frame exposure as the art space are welcome. This means no camera movements and no editing work should be implemented in executing the artwork. Submissions must exactly be a one-minute performance by an individual, a group of artist or any collaboration. Entries must be in Hi-8, video CD (VCD) or VHS (NTSC) formats.

Please enclose the following information in your submissions:

- title of the performance
- performance artist/group name, e-mail and postal address
- brief background of the performance artist/group
- brief description about your work
- date of performance
- art statement
- photos of the work presented

Submitted pieces will be digitally compiled and a catalogue will be printed. The deadline for submission will symbolically be on the commemoration of the World Trade Center bombing in New York, USA on 11 September 2004.

NWD is an open, collaborative and loose multimedia art initiative based in the Philippines with international members. This group is a community of creative individuals who articulate the repercussions of imperialist globalisation.

For further information, please contact:

Mideo M. Cruz

New World Disorder

#177 Sto Cristo Sur

Gapan City, Nueva Ecija

3105 Philippines

E-mail: <[Info@newworldorder.tk](mailto:Info@newworldorder.tk)>

Website: <<http://www.newworldorder.tk>>

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## **CALL FOR ESSAYS ON WOMEN WITH CHRONIC ILLNESSES**

Essays are sought for an upcoming Canadian anthology on women with chronic illnesses.

Diane Driedger and Michelle Owen, instructors from the Department of Sociology of the University of Winnipeg in Manitoba, will co-edit an anthology of essays by, for and

about women with chronic illnesses. They want to create a publication that will combine personal reflection and theoretical analysis. Their intention is to make the book as accessible as possible, and to be available for use in rural community settings as well as educational institutions in Canada and in the international arena.

By chronic illness, the editors are referring to women with diabetes, multiple sclerosis, fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue syndrome, arthritis, lupus, HIV/AIDs, mental illness and cancer (or cancer survivors), to name a few. According to the editors, the idea for this project developed, in large part, from their own experiences as women living with chronic illnesses.

Possible topics to be explored include:

- \* Body image
- \* Sexuality
- \* Family
- \* Employment
- \* Attitudes
- \* Technology

One-page abstracts of essays should be submitted by 31 August 2004.

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Michelle Owen  
Department of Sociology  
University of Winnipeg  
515 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3B 2E9 Canada  
Tel: (1-204) 786-9973  
Fax: (1-204) 774-4134  
E-mail: <[m.owen@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:m.owen@uwinnipeg.ca)>

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CAMPAIGNS

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## **FEMINISTS LAUNCH CAMPAIGN TO RETAIN GENDER EQUALITY IN JAPANESE CONSTITUTION**

Feminist groups in Japan led by the Asia-Japan Women's Resource Centre (AJWRC) launched a campaign to stop attempts by the ruling political party to drop gender equality from their Constitution.

The women are alarmed over recent suggestions by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to revise the Constitution, especially articles that afford women basic human rights. Conservatives and right wing politicians are supporting these changes.

The LDP's working team on revising the Constitution released an interim report on 10 June 2004 detailing their suggested changes. One recommendation is to revise Article 24 which ensures equality between men and women in marriage and family. They are pushing for prioritising values of family and community over gender equality, saying "the present Constitution gives too much importance to rights of individuals." It also calls "shameful" the reality that Japanese people do not think much of family, community and the nation, and insists the "Constitution must ensure that protecting family is the foundation to secure the nation."

Feminists see this as a serious threat on basic women's rights which will negate their efforts for the past years. If passed, the suppression of women in families will be constitutionalised, and human rights abuses in households--such as domestic violence--will again be buried in secrecy.

To learn more about this campaign and how to contribute, please get in touch with Hisako Motoyama <[h-motoyama@nifty.com](mailto:h-motoyama@nifty.com)> of AJWRC.

Below is the full text of the AJWRC statement about the campaign:

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### **Japanese women launch a campaign to stop the ruling party's attempt to drop gender equality from the Constitution**

Alarmed by the ruling party's attempt to revise the Constitution for enshrining "family values," Japanese feminists have launched a new campaign to defend the present article that ensures gender equality in marriage and family matters.

In the interim report issued on 10th June 2004, Liberal Democratic Party's project team on the revisions of the Japanese Constitution suggested that the Article 24 of the present Constitution which ensures equality between men and women in marriage and family should be revised, for "values of family and community should be given importance." The Yomiuri Shimbun, major right-wing newspaper in Japan, also made similar recommendation on this year's Constitution Day that a provision "family should be protected as the foundation of society" should be added before the present clauses of the Article 24.

After the former imperial regime was defeated by the Allied Forces in 1945, the U.S. occupation authority took on democratization of political, economic and legal systems of Japan. The present Japanese Constitution which was enacted in 1946 declared sovereignty in people,



fundamental human rights, abolishment of all the military forces as provided in the Article 9, and gender equality in public and private spheres. Besides the Article 14 on women's equal rights in civil affairs, the Article 24 ensured that marriage should be solely based on agreement of husband and wife with equal rights, and that family laws should be based on dignity of individuals and essential equality of both sexes.

Right wingers and the conservatives have accelerated the efforts to revise the Constitution since early 1990s, as the United States requested Japan to actively participate in multilateral military actions in the Gulf region. While the major arguments take place around Article 9 which prohibits the government from taking part in and even preparing for any military actions, conservative parties also insist that ideas such as "national identity" or "authentic traditions and cultures of the nation" and "citizens' obligation to serve the nation" should be ensured in the Constitution. The LDP's recommendations on the Article 24 that values of family and community should be prioritized over gender equality can be understood in this context. In the concluding report of the working team on the Constitution, the LDP members make statements such as follows: "the present Constitution gives too much importance to rights of individuals. It is shameful that recently Japanese people do not think much of family, community and the nation and that some of them even insist for the system of retaining separate family names. Constitution must ensure that protecting family is the foundation to secure the nation." (Masahiro Morioka, an LDP member of the House of the Representatives)

Women's groups are seriously alarmed that not only far-right wingers but even the ruling party publicly deligitimatise fundamental principles of gender equality and fundamental human rights as provided in the Constitution. In the appeal to mark the launch of the campaign, they state: "Before the present Constitution was enacted, women were only a property belonging to patriarchs. Only recently are women able to speak out about domestic violence based on gender equality. Violence against women, children, disabled and sexual minorities in family has been silenced for keeping family. The idea to prioritize family, community and state over individuals means nothing but to justify such violence and suppression in family, and further lead to national mobilization for war, which is the ultimate violence. It should not be allowed that state defines a form of family and force it upon individuals."

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ISIS CURRENTS  
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**ONLINE VERSION OF WOMEN IN ACTION NO. 1, 2004 NOW AVAILABLE**

The online version of Women In Action, Isis International Manila's magazine publication, is now uploaded.

The No. 1, 2004 issue carries the theme "Corporatised Media and ICT Structures and Systems." To access it, please visit <<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/index.html>>.

Here is the line-up of articles available online:

Editorial: For Whom Media Speaks: The Paucity of Today's ICT Explosion  
<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/editorial.htm>>

"Globalisation and Media: Making Feminist Sense"

By Susanna George

-- Locates recent developments in media-the fantabulous business mergers, the permeation of advertising in all of human activity, the ringside view of the Iraq war-within the overall struggle against patriarchy.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/susanna.htm>>

"IT in India: Social Revolution or Approaching Implosion?"

By Kalyani Menon-Sen

-- Warns against the dangers posed by the IT Revolution including those faced by the numbers of women employed in call centres-their unused college education, abnormal working hours and consequently, compromised human interaction and relationships.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/kalyani.htm>>

"When Technology, Media and Globalisation Conspire: Old Threats, New Prospects"

By Anita Gurumurthy

-- Speaks about the downsides of globalised ICTs and the actions that must be taken to counter these.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/anita1.htm>>

"False and Real Differences: Alternative and Mainstream Media in Latin America"

By Maria Suárez Toro and Margaret Thompson

-- Relates how a women's organisation seized the potential of modern ICTs, introduced webcasts of its community radio programmes and captured a market-of women and men-looking for information other than that provided by mainstream media.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/maria.htm>>

"Choices We (Must) Make For Ourselves: Women and Transnational Media"

By Lynne Muthoni Wanyeki

-- Analyses the methods of exclusion employed by the major media establishments-whether those supportive of America's agenda against the Muslim world, or those that seek to perpetuate the traditional, one-dimensional representations of Arab and

Muslim women.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/muthoni.htm>>

"Media and ICT Systems, Globalisation, Militarism and Fundamentalisms"

By Anuradha M. Chenoy

-- Dissects how media and ICTs are being used in India by nationalist groups to push their fundamentalist and militarist agenda. Such "virtual recruitment" of foot soldiers perpetuates not only women's subordination but also the ruling elite's strategic political control.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/anuradha.htm>>

"Knowledge Economy: Does It Come with a Knowledge Society?"

By Anita Gurumurthy

-- Presents the irony of a "knowledge society" in a context where ICTs are galloping but one-third of the population is illiterate and knowledge remains controlled by a few.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/anita2.htm>>

"Recalling the Past, Looking to the Future"

By Marilee Karl

-- Explores the changes-big and small-brought about by the women's movement's use of various communication technologies to forward gender equality; and identifies the issues that have fallen in the wayside.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/marilee.htm>>

"Common Agenda, Different Methods: Women's Use of ICTs in Conflict Situations"

By Ruth Ojiambo Ochieng

-- Examines how ICTs became a vehicle in Uganda for putting women's agenda on the international negotiating tables.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/ruth.htm>>

"WILMA: Making a Difference"

By Rhona O. Bauista

-- Describes the making of an ICT application that preserves information resources useful to women's movements and links feminists, activists and the public, with or without Internet connectivity.

<<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/wia/wia1-04/rhona.htm>>

The print edition of Women in Action will be off the press by the end of August 2004. For more information, please write to:

Media, Information and Communications Programme

Isis International-Manila

3 Marunong St., Bgy Central, Quezon City

1100 Philippines

Fax: (63-2) 924 1065

E-mail: <[communications@isiswomen.org](mailto:communications@isiswomen.org)>

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ISIS ON WSIS  
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## **COMMUNICATION RIGHTS ADVOCATES CONNECTING CSOS FOR WSIS PHASE TWO**

Communication rights advocates are compiling initiatives of civil society organisations (CSO) involved in the WSIS process.

The U.S.-based Center for International Media Action (CIMA), a non-profit organisation focused on media policy and social justice, is calling on all CSOs to share their strategies, ideas and motivations in relation to the WSIS Phase Two in Tunisia. This project is being conducted with the help of the International Forum Organizing Group of the World Forum on Communication Rights (WFCR). The WFCR is an independent civil society-led event held alongside the WSIS Phase One in Geneva, Switzerland last December 2003. The one-day forum was initiated by the Communication Rights in the Information Society (CRIS) campaign network.

The aim of this project is to connect organisations whose goal is to advance human rights and social justice within media, information and communication policies worldwide. CIMA hopes that like-minded groups working on these common issues could strengthen their network and their plans towards WSIS Phase Two. They are particularly interested to learn the plans of CSOs who attended the WFCR. CIMA also intends to link WFCR participants with CSOs who did not attend the event but are working on similar advocacies.

To achieve this, CIMA will create an online directory to help facilitate the networking among advocates. They will also provide relevant analysis of the latest works of media activists which they will make available to interested groups.

Those who want to participate in CIMA's project could answer their online survey. This can be found at the WFCR website <<http://www.communicationrights.org/>> and is available in English, Spanish and French. The survey is also available via e-mail; please send a note to <[survey@mediaactioncenter.org](mailto:survey@mediaactioncenter.org)>. Groups who do not want to be listed in the directory can still participate anonymously to help CIMA learn about international efforts to transform media and ICTs.

For more information, please contact:

Center for International Media Action  
1276 Bergen Street, #4 Brooklyn, NY  
11213 USA  
Tel: (1-646) 249-3027/ (1-518) 678-9540  
Fax: (1-815) 642-0801

E-mail: <[cima@mediaactioncenter.org](mailto:cima@mediaactioncenter.org)>

Website: <<http://www.mediaactioncenter.org/>>

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## **CSO PROPOSALS NEEDED FOR EUROPEAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON MASS MEDIA POLICY**

European civil society organisations involved in the WSIS process could contribute their proposals in the upcoming Seventh European Ministerial Conference on Mass Media Policy.

This event will take place in Ukraine from 10 to 11 March 2005. It will be conducted by the Council of Europe's (COE) Steering Committee on the Mass Media (CDMM). The COE is the continent's oldest political organisation created to enact the following:

- defend human rights, parliamentary democracy and the rule of law;
- develop continent-wide agreements to standardise member countries' social and legal practices; and
- promote awareness of a European identity based on shared values and cutting across different cultures.

The theme of this conference is "Integration and diversity: the new frontiers of European media and communications policy." It is intended as a public consultation on the COE's future activities in the media field. Thus, media advocates and media-oriented civil society organisations are invited to submit proposals detailing their ideas about these activities.

The main topics of the conference are:

- 1) freedom of expression and information in times of crisis,
- 2) cultural diversity and media pluralism in times of globalisation
- 3) human rights and regulation of the media and new communication services in the Information Society

The CDMM is currently preparing the drafts of the political declaration, resolutions on the three main topics, and action plan outlining priorities for future work within the Council of Europe in the area of media law and policy. These documents are expected to be adopted by the Ministers at the conference.

The proposals should be two pages written in English or French. The deadline for submitting proposals is on 31 August 2004.

For more information, please contact:

c/o Media Division  
Council of Europe  
Avenue de l'Europe  
67075 Strasbourg Cedex  
France

Tel: (33-3) 8841-2000

E-mail: <[media@coe.int](mailto:media@coe.int)>

Website: <<http://www.coe.int>>

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## WEB RESOURCES

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### **Café Progressive**

Café Progressive is a progressive launch pad and a thriving independent and alternative community of progressive resources and ideas for teachers and educators, political activists, multicultural students and citizens.

The site offers news, perspectives, surveys, capacity building resources for non-profit organisations, curriculum ideas and fora for progressive educators, parents and activists. Useful sections include the Web Guide with extensive web links to progressive education, politics, independent media, gender and sexuality, race and racism, world cultures and activism, as well as Inter-activism with its e-campaigns, forums, mailing list, advertising, among other cyber-protest tools.

Language: English

E-mail: <[webguru@usa.com](mailto:webguru@usa.com)>

Website: <<http://www.cafeprogressive.com/>>

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### **World Social Forum 2005 (WSF 2005)**

The WSF is an open meeting place where social movements, networks, NGOs and other civil society organisations opposed to neo-liberalism and a world dominated by capital or by any form of imperialism come together to pursue their thinking, to debate ideas democratically, to formulate proposals, share their experiences freely and network for effective action.

This site contains detailed information, including the organisational thematic consultation database, on how to take part in the forthcoming WSF 2005 to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil in January 2005. It also has an agenda of global and regional events and mobilisation section, which links to the Forum and social movement's world-wide struggles. A new addition to the site is the Library of Alternatives which features articles, speeches, documents and other papers about the World Social Forum written by internationally-known social justice activists and thinkers. A WSF Memorial section from past fora houses all documents, photographs, proposals, synthesis and final declarations from activities proposed by organisations which have participated at the WSF from 2001 to 2003.

Language: English, Portuguese, French and Spanish  
Mailing address:  
Rua General Jardim, 660  
8º andar, sala 81 Cep 01223-010  
São Paulo, Brazil  
Tel: (55-11) 3258-8914  
Fax: (55-11) 3258-8469  
E-mail: <[fsminfo@forumsocialmundial.org.br](mailto:fsminfo@forumsocialmundial.org.br)>  
Website: <<http://www.forumsocialmundial.org.br/home.asp>>

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## **Bangladesh Women's Health Coalition (BWHC)**

Established in 1980, the BWHC is a national NGO fired with the vision of equity of women in a just civil society. BWHC believes in collaborative activity as it maximises the use of scarce resources and enables to achieve synergetic effect to the programmes.

The site provides information about BWHC activities and its active involvement in reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, adolescent programmes and women's development issues.

Language: English  
Mailing address:  
10/2 Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur  
Dhaka 1207 Bangladesh  
Tel: 8110974 / 8110975  
Fax: (880-2) 811-7969  
E-mail: <[bwhc@bdonline.com](mailto:bwhc@bdonline.com)>  
Website: <<http://www.bwhc.org/>>

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ABOUT "we!"  
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**we!** is the newsletter of Isis International Manila, an international NGO servicing women's information and communication needs within and beyond Asia and the Pacific region.

**we!** provides the latest information on the issues, campaigns, conferences, training opportunities, funding possibilities and other goings-on in the women's movement. It also provides updates on national, regional and international events organised by NGOs, government bodies and multilateral agencies that impact women.

**we!** comes out in both electronic and print editions. The electronic edition is circulated weekly, and the print version, monthly. In consideration of the limitations of print space and time-bound nature of some of the materials, not all articles and postings in the electronic version will be included in the monthly version.

Isis International-Manila encourages feedback and looks forward to receiving information about your activities, issues and campaigns. Archives of we! may be viewed at the Website: <<http://www.isiswomen.org/pub/we/archive/index.html>> Send communications to [we-admin@isiswomen.org](mailto:we-admin@isiswomen.org)