

Secretariat's Report: 2009

For 2009, the Secretariat has been occupied with the following work: 1) finishing up the activities under the UNIFEM Project; 2) coordination work with the Asian IP Caucus in preparation for and during the 8th Session of the UNPFII last May 8-30, 2009 in New York; 3) preparatory work for the 3rd Conference of the AIWN; and 4) engagement with the different processes on climate change.

The last two country activities were done for the first semester under the UNIFEM project. These were the follow-up activity with the Indigenous Women's Network of Thailand (IWNT) and the series of consultations done with indigenous representatives and non-government organizations working with indigenous peoples in Cambodia. The earlier activity, like the two other activities held last 2008 in Indonesia and the Philippines, was a workshop on enhancing documentation for those engaged in the data gathering and report writing. Cases gathered from the field were presented where the discussions defining data gaps, enhancing writing and initial analysis.

Following these were two regional consultations: one was a regional on indigenous and ethnic minority women and the other was a consultation on ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations)-related bodies. The regional follow-up on the status of work on indigenous and ethnic minority women involve the seven countries covered by the UNIFEM-CEDAW SEAP, i.e., Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos and East Timor. A bulk of the discussion was on the macroeconomic framework and indigenous and ethnic minority women's rights and enhancing the proposed Manual on CEDAW for Indigenous Women. After this, most of the participants participated in the Regional Consultation on the ASEAN Human Rights Body and the ASEAN Commission on Women and Children organized by the APWLD and the IWRAW-AP.

In Cambodia, the Secretariat piggy-backed on the series of consultations organized by the Forum Asia in April. These focused on the land problem issue in Cambodia and its impact on indigenous women. The consultations involved indigenous community representatives, students under the Cambodian Indigenous Youth Association and NGOs working with indigenous peoples, such as the Indigenous Community Support Organization and the ADHOC, among others. Results and insights from these project activities were used as inputs to the submissions and oral interventions during the 8th Session of the UNPFII in May.

The second quarter was more focused on the preparations for the proposed 3rd AIWN Conference, as well as the preparations for and participation to the 8th session of the UNPFII. During the Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 8th Session of

the UNPFII, the Secretariat was assigned as the focal point on women and gender matters. In this respect, the Secretariat facilitated the drafting and finalization of submissions and oral interventions; facilitated the participation of members from the Indigenous Women's Network of Thailand, the Indigenous Women's Forum of North East India and the National Network of Indigenous Women, Nepal; organized the AIWN side event entitled "The Role of Indigenous Women in the Implementation of the UNDRIP: Exploring local-Global-Local Synergies in the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People" and linking and meeting with members present and other organizations in preparation for the proposed 3rd Conference of Asian Indigenous Women.

For more details please refer to the table below.

ACTIVITY , Date and Place	Participation	Results/ Major Discussion Points
1.UNIFEM Project		
a). Country follow-up on documentation process and experiences, assessment of data gathered February 12-13 Chiang Mai, Thailand	>Total Pax: 25 (1 male, 19 females and 3 observers [1 UNIFEM,1 Asia Foundation,1 male CHR]) >IP Groups represented: 1. Lisu 2.Hmong 3. Lahu 4. Karen 5. Mean 6. Shan 7. Akha 8. Lua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of VAW cases attributed to culture and tradition; • Non-citizenship status among many hilltribes women deprive them of other rights and services, i.e., access to health care and education, mobility, etc. • Displacement prevalent vis-a-vis Thailand's Forest policy; • IWNT resolved to strengthen its ranks to address VAW in the name of culture and tradition and structural discrimination
b. Cambodia Consultations Pnom Pehn and Kampong	>Total pax: 35 (21 female, 28 male)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining, hydropower dams and economic land concessions as

<p>Tom, Cambodia 8-12 March 2009</p>	<p>>IP Groups Represented: 1. -Bunong 2. Kuy (Kui), 3.Stieng 4.Brao 8.Chorng 9. Por 11Suoy 12. Por 13. Tampuon</p> <p>IPOs/NGOs : 1. IRAM 2. ICSO 3. CIYA 4. ADHOC 5. PyD</p>	<p>main issues affecting women;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacement results to uncertainties and insecurity; • VAW increased due to escalating inability among men to provide for their families vis-a-vis uncertainties
<p>c. Follow-up and finalization of country reports</p>	<p>AMAN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 HerStories • 1 Film Documentary
	<p>BAI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 community case studies
	<p>IWNT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 cases/IP group
<p>d. Ff-up meeting to the SEA Regional Training and Strategic Planning Workshop on CEDAW for EM and IW 15 -16 February Chiangmai, Thailand</p>	<p>Secretariat IWNT BAI AMAN ICSO Burma</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of working draft of the Manual on CEDAW for Indigenous Women
<p>e. Manual on CEDAW and Indigenous Women write-up</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floated for comments before finalization
<p>2.UNPFII 8th Session</p>		
<p>a. Asia Regional Preparatory Meeting on UN Mechanisms and Indigenous Peoples 3 - 6 March 2009-09-18 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</p>	<p>AIPP-member IPOs; IP-NGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIWN tasked on women and children matters; interventions; • Secretariat as focal point for the Philippines in the Asia Selection Process for an IP Expert to the UNPFII

<p>b.8th Session UNPFII 18-29 May 2009 New York</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 written/oral interventions on Human Rights; Women; 2nd IP Decade and UNFPA; • AIWN Sidevent : "The Role of Indigenous Women in the Implementation of the UNDRIP :: Exploring Local-Global-Local Synergies in the Second Decade of the World's Indigenous People"
<p>3. ASEAN Civil Society</p>		
<p>Women's Consultation on the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the ASEAN Human Rights Body 18-19 February Bangkok, Thailand</p>	<p>Secretariat AMAN IWNT BAI ICSO WLB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy on indigenous women's situations and perspectives on human/women's rights
<p>4. AIWN 3rd Conference</p>		
<p>a. Continuous Communications on Status of Preparatory Work</p>	<p>Coordinating Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postponed to 2010 to give more time for resource generation
<p>b. Site visit and local coordination</p>	<p>Secretariat, NNIW</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scout possible venue, cost, etc.
<p>5. AP NGO Forum on Beijing +15</p>		
<p>"Weaving Wisdom, Confronting Crises, Forging the Future" 22-24 October 2009 Miriam College, Quezon City, Philippines</p>	<p>Asia-Pacific Women NGOs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Input on indigenous women in the Asia-Pacific NGO Forum on Beijing +15 Final Declaration • AIWN side event: "Indigenous Women Negotiating the MDGs and Climate

		Change"
6. Climate Change Processes		