



Call for Applications to the Beijing +25 Civil Society Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific.

UN Women is launching this call for applicants to the Beijing +25 Civil Society Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific, to ensure the effective and coordinated engagement of regional and national women's rights organizations/civil society organizations in the regional review process in the lead up to the global review of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) in 2020.

Background

The 25-year anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) is in 2020. The anniversary provides a pivotal moment to review state action and compliance in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). It also provides an opportunity for feminist movements to analyze the political, economic and social economies of the moment and consider ways to advance women's human rights in an era marked by deepening inequalities within and between countries, of climatic, anthropogenic crisis and of sustained backlash against women's human rights. The review also provides an opportune moment to influence the critical review of the first five years of the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other critical gender-related global and regional commitments.

The Beijing +25 review process begins in 2019 and will culminate in a global review at the 64th Session of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) in March 2020. The global review should highlight the achievements, barriers, compliance and failures of UN Member state governments, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995). It may also provide an opportunity to look at emerging areas that were less evident (or acute) from the original framework which have served to restrict women's enjoyment of their rights. The review process will involve civil society; governments have been encouraged to engage civil society in their national review processes and they will also be engaged in both regional and global review processes.

In the Asia Pacific region, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and UN Women's Regional Office for Asia Pacific will facilitate the regional review process. These organizations are collaborating to ensure that civil society is engaged in the regional review process which will culminate in the *Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: Beijing+25 Review* will take place between 25 and 28 November 2019 that will be immediately preceded by a CSO Forum.

To ensure that civil society engagement is effective and coordinated in the regional review process, a Beijing+25 Civil Society Steering Committee for Asia and the Pacific shall be established comprising of up to ten civil society organizations. This steering committee will work closely with the UN regionally and nationally to provide inputs to the reviews – both nationally and regionally, including organizing the CSO Forum prior to the *Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: Beijing+25 Review* in November in Bangkok and provide concrete inputs into the negotiated processes of the states and into the intergovernmental process- leading up to CSW 64.

Overall objectives of the Steering Committee

- To coordinate and facilitate input and participation of women's rights organizations/civil society organizations (both regional and national) in the Beijing +25 regional review process, and the SDGs+5 review processes;
- To share information and outcomes of the national and regional reviews to their constituencies and to UN Member state governments and other institutions;
- To lead and facilitate substantive input and advocacy into the draft outcome documents for the *Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: Beijing+25 Review* and Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) review in November 2019;
- To consult with women's rights organizations/civil society and liaise with UN Women and ESCAP to influence the structure, content, participation of women's rights organizations/civil society and outcome at the intergovernmental meeting in November 2019
- To conceptualize, plan and organize the Civil Society Forum in November 2019 (in the context of available resources) ensuring:
 - Participation of diverse constituencies and sub-regions from Asia and the Pacific Region in the processes (including developing criteria for selection of women's rights organizations/civil society organizations, representation etc.);
 - Development of the Civil Society Forum (intergovernmental regional review) agenda and content;
 - Development of a joint CSO statement for feeding into the *Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: Beijing+25 Review*;
 - Identify post-meeting follow-up actions to be undertaken.
- To develop communication mechanisms with broader civil society about the processes, consultations and outcome follow-ups, leading up to CSW 64;
- To develop processes for the engagement of civil society after the regional review process, to ensure that regional priorities are reflected in the CSW 64 and the methods of work and thematic priorities of future sessions of the CSW.

To ensure implementation of the tasks support these efforts the steering committee will establish a focal point system with working committees.

Please note that the working language will be English.

Please further note that one of the Steering Committee members will be selected to receive and manage funds from UN Women's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, towards the facilitation of the Steering Committee's agreed activities. In this regard, the selected Steering Committee member will be required to undergo a corporate Due Diligence check including a capacity assessment which will be undertaken by UN Women, and to submit a project document and detailed budget in line with the agreed activities of the Steering Committee and UN Women's corporate financial rules and regulations.

The deadline for receiving applicants is 20th April 2019 (midnight Asia/Bangkok time).

Applications should be submitted in English via e-mail address: roap.coordination@unwomen.org

You can also communicate any questions/requests for clarification concerning this Call vide the above e-mail.

Criteria for selection of Steering Committee membership

- Regional or sub-regional organizations and/or international organizations with demonstrated presence in Asia and the Pacific. *As such, applications submitted by individuals will not be accepted.*
- **Expertise and history** of work on women’s human rights, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and processes of review /Agenda 2030 and the SDGs localization and review processes
- Organizations that are committed to and act in accordance with global **human rights** principles and also practice **inclusive and progressive feminism**, whose work does not marginalize or deliberately exclude women (including transwomen, intersex and gender non-conforming persons), on grounds of ethnicity, nationality/citizen status, ability, race, age, caste, indigeneity, socio-economic status, migrant status, household status, HIV and AIDS status, sector of work, religion or other factors
- Demonstration of **capacity to coordinate and represent** issues or sub-regions and of key constituencies, which should include:
 - Sub-regions of Pacific, South Asia, Central Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia (at least one of these sub-regions);
 - Constituencies representing (at least one of these constituencies):
 - Rural women
 - Migrant women
 - Indigenous women
 - Women with disabilities
 - Urban poor women
 - Young women
 - Older women
 - Women and girls in all their diversities, including diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression
 - Women survivors of violence
 - Women living with HIV and AIDS
 - Women workers from a diversity of sectors
 - Women in ICTs
 - Women in media
 - Women in or affected by conflict situations (including women refugees or internally displaced)
 - Others
- **Capacity and time** to provide substantive expertise, leadership, technical support and advocacy to inform and influence the process.
- **Steering committee members must also be able to commit time and human resources** to the steering committee which includes (inter alia):
 - attending regular teleconferences (fortnightly moving to weekly);
 - regular email contact;
 - writing and editing documents;

- communicating with constituencies or sub-regions;
- participating in **working** committees;
- inputting to the survey process;
- contributing language for civil society statements and review of draft government documents;
- actively contributing to the civil society forum planning, preparation, delivery, evaluation and follow-up steps;
- attending the CSO Forum and the *Asia-Pacific High-level Intergovernmental Meeting on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women: Beijing+25 Review* in November 2019.

The duration of this Steering Committee’s mandate will extend to the global review process i.e. the CSW 64 in 2020.

Selection process

The selection will be conducted by a UN Women Selection Committee composed of membership from UN Women Headquarters, the regional offices covering Asia and the Pacific and selected country offices in the region. This Selection Committee will be convened within one calendar week of the closing date for receiving applications, and the results will be communicated to the ten organizations by the end of the following calendar week of the same, the goal being to virtually convene a first meeting of the Steering Committee membership by the third week of May 2019.

Documentation required

UN Women will circulate this call through UN Women offices regionally, through regional inter-agency coordination mechanisms, and existing regional and national gender equality, women's rights and women’s empowerment networks/coalitions, organizations and movements.

Applicants should submit the following (which should speak directly to the criteria for selection of Steering Committee members):

- Organizational profile referencing the organizational mandate, target constituencies and program profile including leadership and engagement in intergovernmental processes (Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and Agenda 2030 and SDGs and other critical global commitments) and the organization’s programming principles and approaches.
- The profile should also provide the organization’s geographical areas of coverage (countries), including where the organization has offices. An indication of civil society/women’s rights networks that the organization is part of, would also be desirable;
- Legal registration documentation, clarifying the legal identity of the organization and country of establishment;
- Management structure and profiles of the organization’s management;
- Profile of the person who will be representing the organization on the Steering Committee), confirming their capacity and availability to effectively participate in the Steering Committee.
- A letter of recommendation for the applicant, from a Women’s Right Organizations/civil society organizations and/or UN agency (ies).

Applicants should include with their submission a cover note providing information on the primary contact for your organization for the purposes of this application:

Name:	
Title:	
Address:	
Telephone Number	
Email Address:	