

WUCWO Newsletter February 2016

WUCWUO President officially made a Consultative member of the Pontifical Council for Culture's Commission of Women



During the last meeting at the Pontifical Council for Culture, the President General, Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, was appointed member of the Commission for Women of the same Council. The contribution to the commission as WUCWO President General will reflect the worldwide experience of our organization in order to promote the presence and active role of women both in the Church and in the world, in this way we can offer a strong contribution to building a culture based on the respect of the dignity of the human being in every reality and situation. At the moment, the Commission is thinking about organising an event to be held in conjunction with the Jubilee of Mercy.

Women and Work



On December 4th and 5th the President General participated in the Seminar *Women and Work* held by the Pontifical Council for Laity in Rome. This seminar was also organized to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Letter to Women written by St John Paul II. The event, which also saw some representatives of WUCWO member organisations, reflect about the challenges women, from all continents, have to face

in keeping work inside and outside their homes together. The Holy Father, in his message to the participants, encouraged women to reinforce their role in the family and in the education of their children, at the same time, he considers their contribution in building economical and political structures rich in humanity essential.

Statement about Family at UN, Geneva



WUCWO continues to work on the theme of family, in accordance with the resolution adopted at the General Assembly of Fatima, at the international level. We recently co-signed two written statements for the 31st Session of Human Rights Council of the United Nations in Geneva. One is titled: "Children are not for sale!" and has to do with surrogacy as a violation of human dignity. The other is about "Family protection". We have done so together with Giovanni XXIII Association and other Catholic NGOs.

Human Trafficking: Talitha Kum an WUCWO



Talitha Kum, the International Network of Consecrated Life Against Trafficking in Persons, together with the Pontifical Academy of Sciences of the Holy See, organised an international meeting in which WUCWO took part, in the Vatican, on January 25th to 31st. WUCWO also contributed to the work of the team, based in Rome, that prepared the World Day of Prayer for Human Trafficking, held on February 8th 2016. (See: wucwo.org)

ACF (Action Catholique des Femmes, France) Photography competition



Theme: “They, alone” fighting against loneliness by joining together! It is a photo exhibition project on social solitude interjecting with women involved in the voluntary sector. The contest “They, alone”, is primarily aimed at women working in the field and women concerned by the theme of solitude. The competition consists of selecting the best photographic creations on the theme of social solitude affecting women. The winning photographs will be published by the ACF Association website for at least 12 weeks, in a specific section accessed from the homepage. The photographs will also be part of a travelling exhibition across France for an entire year at the end of the contest. The contest is open from the 1st January 2016.

CWL Fiji: Clean water with solar lights



Catholic Women’s League Fiji initiated a project supported by the Australian- funded Fiji Community Development Program to provide portable solar lights kit and provision of clean tap water to two marginalized and remote communities in 2014 and 2015. Forty households in Nanuku settlement, Vatuwaqa benefited from the solar electrification after 20 years of sourcing light from kerosene lamps, candles or electricity hired from nearby sources. The families will benefit by saving \$30 per week and \$1560 annually.