

WUCWO Newsletter September 2015

Meetings with Ambassadors to the Holy See



Prof. Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, WUCWO President, shared the conclusions of the international conference 'Women and the Post 2015 Development Agenda: The Challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals' held in May, that were consigned to Pope Francis, with Monica Jimenez de la Jara Ambassador to the Holy See for Chile, Luis Latorre Tapia Ambassador to the Holy See for Ecuador, Miroslava Rosas Vargas Ambassador to the Holy See for Panama and Carlos Avila Molina Ambassador to the Holy See for Honduras in various meetings

throughout the month of July. The meetings saw commitments from some of the Ambassadors to sustain WUCWO at the international fora with regards to some of the conclusions of the Conference as well as opened avenues for possible future projects.

Vice President General



The Vice President General, Maribeth Stewart, spoke at the Convention of the Catholic Women's Association of Cameroon in the USA that was held in Atlanta, GA from 14-16 August 2015 and found a wonderful joy-filled group of ladies. She spoke about WUCWO using a power point presentation and they enjoyed learning more about WUCWO's international voice. She was honoured to have been invited to be with them.

WUCWO Argentina



Since 2013, WUCWO Argentinean organisations have been taking part in a round table on **Human Trafficking** organised by the Justice and Peace Commission of the Bishop's Conference of Argentina. On July 30th, a theatre piece called *Mika* was shown at Buenos Aires, inspired from the story of Marita Veron who is a victim of human trafficking. The large audience numbers and the media helped to raise awareness of this grave violation of human rights and encouraged people to act against it.



Manos Unidas

Manos Unidas from Spain has shared with us that in July, they established an emergency fund of 30,232euros to help 7000 people directly affected by the floods that hit Bangladesh, one of the poorest countries in the world. The houses, made of bamboo, have completely disappeared; the rice, vegetables, and banana crops were flooded by mud and water. The roads were rendered useless and thus providing food and medical care very difficult. The fund will be used to rebuild houses, build wells for drinking water, paths and bridges for access.



Femina Europa

Femina Europa, from France, with three other NGOs has worked on the declaration entitled 'Women of the World' which was presented to the European Parliament in Brussels and to the CSW in New York. The declaration was signed by 148 NGOs from 5 continents, including WUCWO as an international organisation.

[Click here to read the declaration](#)

[See also the note in "Homme Nouveau"](#)



ACF France

From the 27th to the 29th September, ACF is offering a spiritual break at Lourdes, an international Marian site, to live and celebrate faith together, to rejuvenate from our often stressful and hectic lives. Listen to the words that Bernadette said: "She told me to tell you...", discover the wealth of an association of women, the strength of belonging to the Church, enjoy a time for sharing and meeting with women from across France, taking part in conferences,

debates, celebrations and time for prayer and friendship...

Japan



The National Catholic Women's League of Japan held their General Assembly from 15th-16th May 2015, the theme of which was *Spirituality of Dietary Habits towards fostering the Child's Mind and Heart*. During the Assembly, reports from member organisations were presented and Rev. Fr. Koshi Ito made a presentation and reaffirmed the significance of the primary figure of the family stressing that the mutual spirit of love and concern which enlivens the family creates 'a positive sense of self-worth and dignity in the child'.