

2012 Annual Report

Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women



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OVERVIEW

2012 marked the second year of GAATW's 2011-2013 activity cycle. During this year, we continued our programmes outlined in our multi-annual proposal.

Our 2011-2013 plans focus on creating and increasing spaces for civil society to influence global anti-trafficking efforts. This includes: (1) calling for accountability in anti-trafficking through the creation of an inclusive and transparent review mechanism to UNTOC, researching monitoring and evaluation methods in anti-trafficking; (2) strengthening women's power in migration and labour processes through our work on labour exploitation, smuggling, and the impact of demand discourses on sex workers; (3) engaging with UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies as a strategy for Members to access justice (e.g. capacity-building, compiling cases); and (4) on-going communications work to produce and disseminate information within the Alliance and the broader anti-trafficking sector.

We are happy to note that we have experienced many positive results of our work in 2012. The peer-reviewed journal, *Anti-Trafficking Review*, filled a critical gap in the anti-trafficking discourse and was well received by academics and researchers. Our work on voice and participation of women migrant workers in domestic and garment sectors was also well appreciated by colleagues working with migrant workers. The trainings we conducted with various organisations and women migrant workers met the need of the groups. The training workshops also allowed us to extend our network to new groups of people.

ACCOUNTABILITY



Our focus in this programme is to analyse and enhance accountability of state and non-state actors towards trafficked persons. At this stage the programme has not started looking at the private sector. We are focusing the state and the non-government organisations. We have a two pronged strategy for this programme; a) using international, mainly UN events, to influence states to enhance their accountability and b) using participatory methodologies to have dialogues and discussion with NGO colleagues to analyze our own accountability and take concrete measures to enhance it.

ADVOCACY AT UN EVENTS

6th UNTOC Conference of Parties

After work at the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and UN Human Rights Council in the first half of the year, GAATW's advocacy focus for the second half of 2012 was the 6th session of the UN Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and its protocols that took place in October in Vienna, Austria.¹ States had been negotiating a mechanism to monitor states' implementation of the UNTOC and its protocols (including the Trafficking Protocol) for two years, following two years of discussion on whether to have a review process at all. It was expected that the draft terms of reference would be adopted at this session and the review mechanism would then get underway in 2013.

- a) Re-establishing contacts with States Parties and NGO allies and identifying opportunities, in person or virtually, to advocate GAATW's objectives on the review mechanism.
- b) Raising the key roles of civil society in anti-trafficking responses and in the implementation of a review mechanism for the UNTOC and its protocols at the 21st session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (23 to 27 April 2012). Drafting GAATW documents for UN meetings that reflect the concerns and priorities of GAATW members (e.g. statements, resolutions).
- c) Ensuring key GAATW messages on accountability, monitoring and evaluation are taken up and referenced by relevant stakeholders involved in developing the terms of reference for a review mechanism.

¹ <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CTOC/CTOC-COP-session6.html>

- d) Creating opportunities for Members to contribute to UN discussions, such as organising side events (e.g. workshops, presentations, small group meetings) with GAATW Members at UN meetings.
- e) Continued engagement with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the UN Human Rights Council, in particular where relevant to the work on the review mechanism.
- f) Producing advocacy publications targeted for these fora, and continuing to update our website on the review mechanism, www.victimcenteredmechanism.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

Perhaps the biggest opportunity to come out of our 2012 advocacy work is the opening up of our 2013 advocacy work. With no review mechanism to monitor, we have more capacity to engage in other developments. We have identified the *UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development* that will take place in October at the UN in New York as our priority for the year. In preparation for this, GAATW-IS staff attended the State-led Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) and the civil society space, the World Social Forum on Migrations.² We used our time in these spaces to identify and network with activists who will be working towards the High Level Dialogue.

PARTICIPATORY METHODOLOGIES TO MONITOR ANTI-TRAFFICKING INITIATIVES

In 2011, GAATW-IS had piloted a participatory monitoring research in Odisha, India in collaboration with member organisations. We partnered with *Praxis - Institute for Participatory Practices* and developed a participatory monitoring framework to assess anti-trafficking work and to implement that framework in Odisha, India. Praxis is an institute committed to mainstreaming the voices of the poor and marginalised sections of the society in the process of development. This stems from the belief that for development to be sustainable, the process must be truly participative.³ The essential feature of the participatory monitoring framework that GAATW and Praxis developed is in its recognition of victims of human trafficking as the prime if not the sole agents who are equipped to monitor the efforts ostensibly implemented for their benefit.

The tool GAATW and Praxis developed facilitated an understanding of what stakeholders think are the root causes of trafficking. In light of the current debates on the inadequacy of existing legal framework to address trafficking in persons, an effort was made through this tool to assess if existing laws were comprehensive, in tune with the UN Trafficking Protocol, provide protection to victims from re-victimisation and are actually being used to prevent trafficking and prosecute traffickers. Furthermore, the tool made it possible to assess and evaluate whether anti trafficking work was sufficiently long term in its vision or merely directed towards rescuing victims and providing immediate and short term services. Through a mixture of interviews and focus groups with a range of stakeholders from state bodies and anti-trafficking NGOs; civil society; survivors of trafficking and members of communities identified as being at risk of trafficking, researchers gathered evidence of how the national/regional/local anti-trafficking initiatives are working and how well they are measuring up to their intended impact.

² <https://www.gfmd.org/en/> and <http://www.wsfm2012.org/>

³ For information on Praxis see their website: <http://www.praxisindia.org/>

In 2012 GAATW decided to begin work in three more countries to refine the tool we piloted in Odisha. We started work with:

- Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW) in Cambodia;
- Alliance Against Traffic in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN), and
- Foundation for Women, Bangkok, Thailand.

Each country project aimed to do research with different stakeholders including survivors in several districts across the country to engage with a range of different migration and trafficking situations. These three countries operate under a much more developed anti-trafficking framework and with many more stakeholders than we saw in the India pilot. Because NGOs typically do not initiate monitoring work and rarely, if ever, analyze their own accountability, this project had to be started with great care and sensitivity.

A good amount of preparatory time was allocated and it was decided that context specific strategies would be used in the 3 countries to get the project started. The process in each country was to start as a discrete and short piece of work but GAATW-IS planned to encourage partners to see it as the first of an annual series of assessments that will enable them to monitor progress in the effective, ethical and inclusive delivery of anti-trafficking initiatives. GAATW-IS also planned to facilitate fund raising at national level, if needed.

Work on this part of our Accountability programme started in late July, 2012. By end of December, the members in Nepal had completed most of the steps and report writing was in progress. In Cambodia following discussions with LSCW, we organized a two day consultation with 23 representatives from various service providing organisations. Discussion focused on what it meant to keep the victim at the centre of one's work. In Thailand following several discussions with members, GAATW-IS conducted in-depth interviews with a number of trafficked persons to find out about their anti-trafficking experiences. Work on this project will continue through 2013 and 2014.

POWER IN MIGRATION AND WORK



In 2012 our work under this programme focused on a) the domestic and garment sector in India, Nepal and Bangladesh and we also completed the work on b) smuggling which was begun in 2011.

PARTICIPATORY APPRAISAL OF PRE-DEPARTURE TRAINING MODULES

Through a participatory research and action pilot project we have been able to interact closely with returnee migrant domestic and garment sector workers in Nepal, Bangladesh and India. While we aimed to look at the pre-employment and pre-departure information and training which the women are receiving, the interactions brought up a range of other issues too.

In this project we aimed to

- Place the knowledge and analysis of women and girls who have been trafficked (or are vulnerable to trafficking) more centrally in trafficking prevention initiatives
- Enhance women's power in labour and migration processes by developing their capacity to assess and respond to risky or exploitative situations
- Strengthen women's belief in themselves as workers with rights, as persons with agency capable of assessing and resisting exploitation and violence, and as knowledgeable persons entitled to engaging with local power structures and able to assist other women in their community.

An Overview of the Project

During this period we have tried to understand

1. the context of women's migration for domestic work and garment sector work in the 3 countries (in India migration within the national borders)
2. the scenario in domestic work and garment sector work and women as workers
3. civil society and Government intervention both at origin and destination sites - who the actors are, what frameworks are being used and how those are impacting on women's lives

Our sources of information were

- 1) Secondary sources such as research and other reports
- 2) interviews and meetings with various stake holders
- 3) experiences of returnee women migrant workers in Nepal and Bangladesh and in India returnees as well as women who are working currently

Methodology used by us include

- 1) Desk research
- 2) Focus Group Discussions and in-depth semi-structured interviews - 100 in Nepal, 120 in Bangladesh, 200 in India, at each site we had 3 consecutive meetings with around 20 women for in-depth interviews, some women wanted to be interviewed on camera, some did not want recordings or felt nervous even when notes were being taken—interviewers adjusted their methodology accordingly. Of the 420 women we spoke to in 8 locations - 100 had worked in the garment sector and the rest were in domestic work. There were also 15 men - who we have not counted - who came to one meeting. All of them are working in the garment sector. They provided an interesting counter point to the women's experiences.
- 3) Participatory Analysis of the information shared by women

Some Findings:

- Around 85% of the women we spoke to are currently the sole wage earners for their families with a history of abuse/abandonment/untimely death of the partner in their marriage
- Around 80% were still in heavy debt although they have put in at least a year of work abroad. In some cases non-payment at work place, exorbitant fee for the agent, miscalculation of the cost and benefit were the causes but there were also many instances where family members had misused the money she had sent and/or taken more loans and upon return she was coerced to go again.
- More than 90% women felt distressed that regardless of their age and the kind of experience they had - their close family members suspected that they must have been sexually exploited or to put it more bluntly 'slept with other men'. Younger women told us that a 'Delhi returned' woman is seen as a 'bad woman'.
- In the name of 'safety' women are sometimes deprived of opportunities - women who stayed at hostels while working in the garment factories could not interact with others outside the hostel or factory. But their male colleagues could. As a result men who were unhappy with the job could move out and find something else.

The most immediate reaction to the FGDs and sharing of each other's stories was that "I was not alone". It was also clear that the women had thought about their experiences and analysed it to some extent. Sometimes their reaction was one of sadness, frustration and sometimes it was anger. Most wanted to try their luck again. They thought that they had learnt important lessons and next time it would be better. They had also learnt to look at themselves as individuals; become more independent, many wanted to have their own savings.

One message that comes out loud and clear is that trying to stop migration or trying to ban working class women from migrating is pointless; it only leads to people/women taking more risks. Hence the strategy of making migration safe and making work places fair. Not

just to prevent trafficking but to enhance human security to make it possible for more and more people to realize their rights.

- We have a long way to go in making migration safe/rewarding for women - some hurdles are at policy level, some at the level of society.
- Many workplace issues such as temporary work and role of labour contractors need to be addressed. For domestic workers we now have a DW convention but a lot of work needs to be done at local level.
- Evidence tells us that voices of many marginalized groups often go unheard. However, collectives need to be strengthened and they need to keep raising their voices and exercise their rights as citizens and workers. But policy change is not the panacea to the problems. An important rationale for networking and to sharing is to be able to analyse one's own experience, to see oneself as part of a group, to support each other and to learn from each other. We saw tremendous potential in the women during the capacity building training workshops.
- Recent media reports and researches in all the three countries show that violence against women is back with a vengeance. There are reports of gang rapes, witch hunting and atrocities against women. Trafficking prevention/women's empowerment efforts will need to take the larger context into account. Synergies will need to be built among various movements and concerted efforts need to be made to bring in change from ground up. Rights need to be realised at home, abroad and on the way.

From July-December 2012 interaction with the organizations in Nepal, India and Bangladesh was kept up. Findings of the research were shared at the World Social Forum on Migration in November 2012. Zero budget extension was sought and secured until end of February 2013. Some of the plans such as 1) visit to a destination country and 2) more trainings with the target group would be carried out during this time. Discussions will be held with the ILO in early 2013 to plan work in the coming years.

HUMAN SMUGGLING

In March 2012 GAATW-IS in conjunction with the OHCHR held an Expert Consultation on *Human Rights at International Borders: Exploring Gaps in Policy and Practice*. GAATW contributed to the discussion by preparing a concept paper.

The International Border

Border controls are often conceptualised as a complex mix of the following:

- Military defences against invasions and attacks on sovereignty.
- Crime prevention and policing to prevent criminal activity.
- Administrative practices to regulate entry and exit into a territory.

The policies that result from such conceptualisations have implications for the human rights of migrants at borders. From the human rights perspective, there is a pressing need to ensure that a migrant-centred approach characterises all border enforcement activities. Experts who came to the consultation are of the opinion that some steps need to be taken by the OHCHR urgently to address the human rights violations at international borders. Initiatives may include Guidance tools, normative standards and further research and

training. The meeting also recommended the crafting of multi-stakeholder strategic initiatives in relation to human rights at international borders, including

- Strategic litigation strategy at the national, regional and international level
- Broad advocacy strategy that will influence the political discourse on migration and encourage responses to irregular migration based on shared responsibility and human rights norms.
- Solidarity strategy and partnerships with key stakeholders; including countries of origin and transit, as well as the private sector such as the media and the business community

Full details of the expert meeting can be found on GAATW website as well the OHCHR site. http://www.gaatw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=1&Itemid=82&limitstart=6

To continue the discourse on the issue of human rights at the international borders, a call for papers on the Special Issue of the Anti-Trafficking Review was dedicated to this thematic focus. The Call for Papers on theme, 'Human Rights at the Borders' started in November 2012 and for release in 2013.

COMMUNICATIONS

Goal: To contribute knowledge produced by the Alliance within the anti-trafficking and related movements, by creating an environment where Alliance members feel engaged and informed through current, relevant, and accessible information that supports the principles of GAATW.



As a network secretariat communication is our core activity and the goal is to contribute knowledge produced by the Alliance within the anti-trafficking and related movements, by creating an environment where Alliance members feel engaged and informed through current, relevant, and accessible information that supports the principles of GAATW.

GAATW's communications work promotes global representation and equal access to relevant information and knowledge essential in strengthening the Alliance. GAATW's communication tools help share information amongst members and allies, deliver messages from membership to wider audience and to popularize key advocacy messages.

ACTIVITIES

The Anti-Trafficking Review, GAATW's New Peer-Reviewed Journal

The highlight of GAATW's communications work in 2012 was the launching of its new journal, the *Anti-Trafficking Review* in June 2012.⁴ For more than a decade, GAATW produced its bi-annual newsletter, the *Alliance News*, to provide in-depth reflections on anti-trafficking developments and analyses. Through the years we welcomed contributions from members, friends and like-minded groups who provided insights and updates on thematic areas around trafficking and migration-related issues. In 2011, GAATW Secretariat decided to transform the bi-annual newsletter into an annual research journal that would explore an emerging or overlooked theme in the field of human trafficking, and showcase peer-reviewed research and analyses in order to strengthen the global evidence base on anti-trafficking.

The *Review* aims to promote a human rights based approach to human trafficking and explore trafficking in its broader context including gender analyses and intersections with labour and migrant rights. And to ensure that the journal attracts and publishes high quality articles, we have instituted a formal, double blind peer review process for all articles that are being considered for publication.

The *Review* will also cater to a new and wider audience and contributions from diverse sectors including the academia, service providers and government bodies. One of the unique features of the *Review* is the debate section to allow further analysis and reflection regarding critical issues. The idea is to get diverse perspectives on the issue.

⁴ For more details and to download a copy of the first issue see <http://www.antitraffickingreview.org/>

The first issue on Accountability was launched in June 2012 in Bangkok, side by side an Experts meeting organised by DFID. The *Review* has been very well received and praised for its invaluable contribution to the anti-trafficking discourse.

In October, the IS announced the Call for Papers for the second issue on the theme, *Human Rights at the Border*. The second issue (out in 2013) builds on the smuggling and OHCHR / borders work. The launching will be held at the UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD). The aim is to use it as a platform to have conversations about human rights and trafficking.

GAATW Publications Released in 2012

1. [More 'Trafficking' Less 'Trafficked: Trafficking for exploitation outside the sex sector in Europe](#)
2. [Smuggling and Trafficking: Rights and intersections](#)
3. [What's the Cost of a Rumour? A guide to sorting out the myths and the facts about sporting events and trafficking](#)
4. [Moving Beyond 'Supply and Demand' Catchphrases: Assessing the Uses and Limitations of Demand-Based Approaches in Anti-Trafficking](#)
5. [A Toolkit for Reporting to CEDAW on Trafficking in Women and Exploitation of Migrant Women Workers](#)
6. 2012 GAATW Year Planner

We are pleased that each of the publications has been widely cited in various mailing lists and websites. The publications on demand and sporting event were also mentioned in BBC and Al Jazeera programmes and various conferences.

What's the Cost of a Rumour: thanks for the publication, which I found very useful, particularly in view of discussions on the 2012 Olympics... - Torsten Moritz, Exec Sec, Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME), 30 March

I wanted to thank you for your research on sex trafficking and the extent to which it occurs around large sporting events. ..Thanks for the clarity in your valuable research. - Tina Kelley, Covenant House NY, 22 Feb

GAATW's Communications Unit continues to consistently produce high-quality, polished publications. Three of GAATW's regular communication products were transformed significantly. Most significantly, the launch of the Anti-Trafficking Review journal on special issue, *Accountability*. The *Review* will continue to offer a unique space for dialogue between academics, practitioners and advocates seeking to communicate new ideas and findings to those working for and with trafficked persons.

LOOKING AHEAD

In our next steps we aim for social inclusion and would like to establish significant efforts to engage with members, especially with Self Organised Groups (SOGs), to ensure their voices and priorities are heard. By working closely together we can strengthen the links between members and other stakeholders who provide services and support for trafficked persons and migrant workers.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING

The Finance Unit is responsible for maintaining a clear and transparent finance monitoring system.

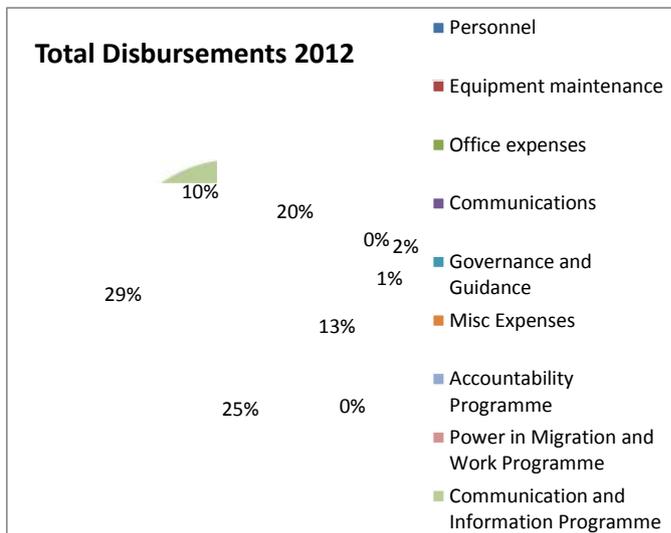
ACTIVITIES

Activities	Outputs	Beneficiaries
Financial Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daily financial administration and management Maintain close budget monitoring (monthly) Preparing inventory of office assets and equipment Annual audit Preparing budget for 2013 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget for 2012 Quarterly report 2012 Audit report for 2011 with management letter Annual report for 2011 Inventory of office assets and equipment 	IS, Donors, Thai Government
Fundraising and Fund Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and contacting new donors Submitting donor reports Preparing funding proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Narrative and financial report for donors Funding proposals 	IS and Donors

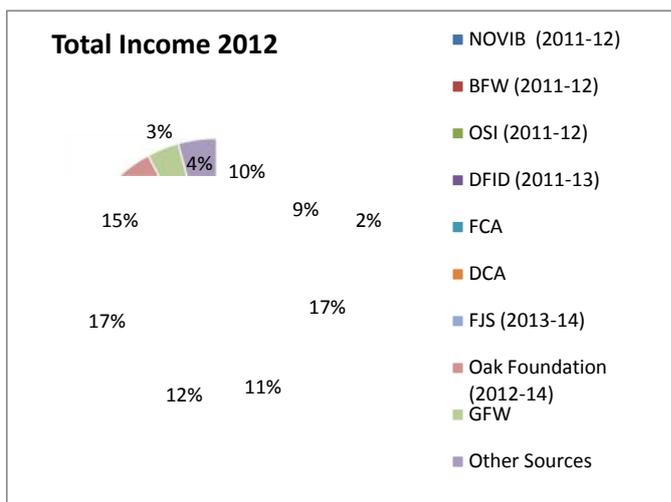
We continue to enjoy supportive relationships with our donors. Donors continue to express positive feedback about our financial management, accounting and reporting documents. Planning activities, monitoring, reporting and budgeting are systematic and linked, with involvement of staff, Members, and the Board. The functioning and accessibility of regularly updated internal procedures and PME systems are self-evident and operational for all staff.

Staff continue to be meaningfully involved in budgeting and monitoring expenditures for their respective programmes. We have maintained a culture of frugality and will continue to reflect on our expenditures throughout the year to ensure they are economical and add value to our work. Transparency is ensured by proper office and finance procedures that are in place, and updated regularly.

2012 FINANCE REPORT AT A GLANCE



Total Disbursements (in Thai Baht)	
Personnel	2,274,801
Equipment maintenance	59,721
Office expenses	226,662
Communications	73,435
Governance and Guidance	1,552,010
Misc expenses	2,694
Accountability programme	2,817,278
Power in migration and work programme	3,289,166
Communication and information programme	1,163,141
Total	11,458,908



Total Income (in Thai Baht)	
NOVIB (Carried over from 2011)	1,736,540
BFW (Carried over from 2011)	1,580,772
OSI (Carried over from 2011)	340,000
DFID (for Project in 2011-13)	3,022,187
FCA	1,983,750
DCA	2,119,302
FJS (For Project in 2013-14)	3,060,343
Oak Foundation (for Project in 2012-14)	2,670,875
GFW	633,129
Other Sources	756,035
Total	17,902,933

2012 PHOTO GALLERY



Highlights of 2012

GAATW Materials and Videos

2012 Year Planner



Special Issue: Where's the Accountability?

Editorial

Measuring the success of counter-trafficking interventions in the criminal justice sector: Who decides--and how?

GRETA's first years of work--review of the monitoring of implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings

Accountable to whom? Accountable for what? Understanding anti-child trafficking discourse and policy in southern Benin

The road to effective remedies: Pragmatic reasons for treating cases of "sex trafficking" in the Australian sex industry as a form of "labour trafficking"

Using human rights to hold the US accountable for its anti-sex trafficking agenda: The Universal Periodic Review and new directions for US policy

A lie more disastrous than the truth: Asylum and the identification of trafficked women in the UK

Debate Section

Sex trafficking, law enforcement and perpetrator accountability

Accountability and the use of raids to fight trafficking

"We have the right not to be 'rescued'...": When anti-trafficking programmes undermine the health and well-being of sex workers



GAATW's Mission

GAATW works on human trafficking, migration, and labour with a particular emphasis on women.

GAATW International Secretariat works in conjunction with more than 100 member organisations located globally.

GAATW promotes the rights of female migrant workers and trafficked persons and believes that effective anti-trafficking responses must centre on ensuring safe migration channels and labour sites.

GAATW promotes good practices in anti-trafficking initiatives along side critique of practices and policies which impact negatively or cause harm to trafficked persons, migrants, and other communities.

GAATW supports the self-organisation of women in vulnerable and marginalized situations, especially migrant workers in the informal sector and aims to strengthen their efforts of self-representation and advocacy.

Above all GAATW believes all anti-trafficking responses should be human rights centred.

The Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW) is a network of independent organisations from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. GAATW advocates for the promotion and protection of human rights of trafficked persons and migrant workers.



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"Stories of Migrating Women"

2012 BOARD MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES, AND STAFF

The Associates

Although the IS is currently managing with a very small team we have been fortunate in receiving help from various individuals. Some of these individuals are former IS colleagues but are currently working independently. These individuals have kept in touch, sent us relevant information and taken up pro-bono tasks or small consultancies. It is in this context that the thought of creating a group of associates has come up. To give legitimacy to the individuals who are supporting the IS, the group was formed in 2012.

- Nerea Bilbatua
- Julie Ham
- Caroline Hames
- Rebecca Napier-Moore
- Eleanor Taylor-Nicholson

The International Board

- Ms Manassanan Pongnorrawish, Thailand - Chair
- Ms Thipsuda (Ching) Taweesaengsuksakul, Thailand - Vice Chair & Treasurer
- Dr Ratchada Jayagupta, Thailand - Secretary
- Ms Alexandra (Sandra) Claassen, The Netherlands - Representative, Europe
- Ms Jacqueline Leite, Brasil - Representative, The Americas
- Ms Eni Lestari Andayani Adi, Indonesia & Hong Kong - Representative, Asia
- Ms Victoria Nwogu, Nigeria - Representative, Africa
- Ms Bandana Pattanaik, India - Representative, International Secretariat

The International Secretariat in 2012

- Apivart (Nong) Chaison, Finance Manager
- Nuttikan (Kae) Boonpayanroj, Office Manager (until end of February 2012)
- Zoe Carletide, Programme Officer: Communications and Research (started in October 2012)
- Alfie Gordo, Communications and Production Officer
- Bandana Pattanaik, International Coordinator
- Kate Sheill, International Advocacy Officer
- Intern: Ali Weiner (from November 2011-June 2012)
- Intern: Naran Munkhbat (February-March)
- Intern: Agnete Aslaug Kjer (June-December)
- Intern: Carolin Rehm (Aug 2012-March 2013 - Internship at Shakti Samuha, a GAATW member)

HUMAN RIGHTS

at home, abroad and on the way



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