

Report on the Activities of the Commission on the Status of – UN Standing Committee of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women

September 11, 2023



Introduction:

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) – UN Standing Committee of the International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW) is dedicated to advancing gender equality and empowering women in the workplace and society. The sub-committee works towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

Key Activities and Initiatives:

a. Advocacy and Policy Engagement:

Members of the CSW group were engaged in extensive advocacy efforts to influence policies and legislation that address gender disparities and enhance the status of women in the business and professional spheres. We also collaborated with governmental and non-governmental organizations to advocate for gender-inclusive policies and practices in the workplace and society.

In particular we,

Supported the drafting of BPW International Statement for UN CSW 2023 for the BPWI President

Helped organize the UN CSW Standing Committee event on Addressing the Challenges of Women in Rural Areas – wrote the concept note, created the promotional assets (Video and posters) and set up speakers, moderation

Presented during the BPW President’s event on ‘Women Investing in Digital Tech’

Drafted/wrote the Closing Statement given by VP UN Toyting at the UN CSW

b. Research and Data Analysis:

Members of the CSW group conducted research on gender-related issues analyzing data to identify disparities and propose evidence-based solutions. In particular, with its project, Girls Congress, we did a series of consultations on incidences of gender-based harassment and violence in campuses in the Philippines. We have published the reports and policy briefs based on research findings to raise awareness and inform stakeholders about the challenges faced by women especially young women in educational and work environments.

c. Capacity Building and Training:

Organized workshops, training sessions, and webinars to enhance the skills and knowledge of women in business and professions.

Provided mentorship and guidance to aspiring women professionals to help them navigate their careers and overcome challenges.

One of our main projects in Girls Congress – a mentoring and leadership program for women. It received a grant from the US State Department and the Fulbright Hays program headed by Dr. Jenny Lind Elmaco, UN Standing Committee members.

d. International Partnerships and Networking:

Collaborated with international organizations and women's networks to share best practices, knowledge, and resources for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment.

Participated in international conferences and events to present research, advocate for policy changes, and network with global stakeholders.

Attended the UN CSW meeting in person in New York

Joined the 16 Days campaign against Gender –based violence

Presented on Women and digitalization at the Young BPW Asia Pacific Conference (Taiwan)

Girls Congress

e. Public Awareness Campaigns:

Launched public awareness campaigns through social media, events, and publications to raise awareness about gender inequalities and advocate for women's rights.

Partnered with media outlets to amplify the message of gender equality and promote positive narratives about women's contributions in various fields.

We were very active in the 16 day campaign against gender based violence, as an example.

Impact and Achievements:

Increased awareness and understanding of gender-related issues and their impact on business and professional environments.

Contributed to policy changes and initiatives that promote gender equality at both national and international levels.

Empowered and supported women in various professions, enabling them to achieve their potential and contribute meaningfully to their respective fields.