

WORLD MARCH OF WOMEN NEWSLETTER Volume 18 - Number 4 - December 2014

Editorial

Leaving behind 2014, we look towards 2015. We evaluate our work and the moments shared in the past year, imagining the victories to come in the year of our 4th International Action ...

Sisters, let's unite on the march!!!



For a 2015 full of feminist victories!!

INTERNATIONAL

Towards the 4th International Action - Call for Action

In 2015, we, the activists of the World March of Women, from every continent on the planet, will raise our voices between March 8 and October 17, to declare, loud and strong: "We will be on the march until women are all free!" We will be on the march until all women are free from the oppression engendered by the capitalist, colonialist, patriarchal system. Free from efforts to grab our land, our seeds and our natural resources. Free from the criminalization of our social struggles. Free from the violence that is on the rise due to increased armed conflicts and unconventional warfare conducted by fundamentalist groups, private armies, mafias and organized crime.

We will be on the march until we are all free from the financial markets and multinational corporations that speculate on natural resources, attack our hard-won rights and social gains, and force the State to privatize common goods and public services (like education, healthcare, welfare services and so on).

We will be on the march:

Until gender-based, patriarchal violence is eliminated from our lives.

Until there is an end to the exploitation, appropriation and commodification of women's bodies and women's work.

Until a stop is put to the negation of women's humanity and subjectivity, and until the exploitation of our productive and reproductive work, which are both rendered invisible and devalued, has been eliminated.

We will be on the march until we are all free from all forms of violence of which women are the first victims, but also the first survivors, and the first to defend the rights and the dignity of women and peoples.

We are millions of women struggling all around the world. In addition to caring for our families and our communities, and in addition to performing the majority of the world's reproductive work, we will be

on the march, building proposals and alternatives based on the autonomy of women and on the selfdetermination of the peoples. We are constructing solidarity networks between us, to promote equality between women, between women and men, and between peoples.

We are building a feminist, solidarity-based economy by changing reproduction and production models, and distribution and consumption models, by developing emancipatory policies based on food sovereignty and popular sovereignty. We recognize domestic and care work as fundamental to the sustainability of life, and as something that must be shared with the men in our families and communities.

We reaffirm that women's self-organization is our strategy for reinforcing ourselves as political subjects, that we are building a global force in alliance with social movements that share our anti-capitalist, antipatriarchal and anti-colonialist struggle for a society founded on the principles of solidarity, freedom, equality, justice and peace.

Let us rally around the actions of the World March of Women, until we are all free!



The International Committee meets in Johannesburg (South Africa).

Between the 20th and the 23rd November 2014 the International Committee and the International Secretariat team met in Johannesburg (South Africa). This was the second meeting of the IC, and it was mostly focused on our next International Action. The meetings were intense and full of rich discussions. We also covered other relevant issues such as the Strategic Plan, our Feminist Training, our strategic alliances for next year, and so on.

Among some of the decisions that were taken, and on which we will report more extensively on the first newsletter of 2015: the logo and call to action for the 4th International Action were adopted, it was instituted February 18th as the Day of Solidarity with the Sahrawi women and it was also approved the call for the 24 hours of Feminist Action.

The Committee also participated in the public platform of NUMSA (National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa). Several of our colleagues presented their ideas on the socioeconomic situation in their countries, as well as the reality that women and the feminist movement face in their context.

Photo gallery: International Committee meeting in Johannesburg



European delegate explaining the feminist caravan's itinerary for the 4th International Action.



Gathered in plenary



Sisters in the public platform of **NUMSA**

February 18th a day of solidarity with Saharawi women

The International Committee, as a sign of concern and support to our sisters from Sahara, responding to the request of our colleague Chaba Seini, from the National Union of Saharawi Women (UNMS), decided that the World March of Women will commemorate the day of the Sahrawi women, on the 18th February. From many corners of the world, we will carry a solidarity action out, supporting the independence referendum recommended by the United Nations.

For more information visit the UNMS blog, or contact Chaba Seini (email: chaba.seini@yahoo.es).

AFRICA

II African Regional Meeting

More than 30 delegates from 21 African countries met for the Second African Regional Meeting in Johannesburg. Together we reflected on the context of the region, strengths and weaknesses of the women's

movement in the continent and the opportunities that 4th International Action offers for the the consolidation and expansion of the WMW. Together in plenary and by work groups, African partners planned joint strategies for coordination and mobilization in 2015.



Painting our baners

Gathered in plenary

Gathered in plenary



Natural resources African map



Participants of the African Meeting





Participants of the Taking notes African Meeting



Delegate from La Vía Campesina



Delegate from Friends of the Earth International



Delegate from CADTM

Delegates from some allied organizations like Friends of the Earth International, La Via Campesina and CADTM also participated in the meeting in order to promote convergences and to strengthen our partnerships in Africa.

International Committee members visit the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg

As part of our feminist political training process, the International Committee during their workdays in Johannesburg visited the Apartheid Museum in Johannesburg. This was definitely an intense

Awa Ouedraogo, IC member: "After this visit we have to ask to ourselves about the keys to have a strong impact in our struggles, as well as the resistances that we will find in our way. I think perseverance in struggle, is one of the keys to impact on the lives of women".

experience that helped us to reflect on the linkages between the various processes of oppression that exist in different parts of the world and inspire our struggle through the figure of Nelson Mandela.

Clara Carbunar, substitute member of the IC: "Racism and colonialism still permeate the relations between countries and between people. Together, as a movement, we have to face the consequences of these scourges".

AMERICAS

National Congress of Rural and Indigenous Women in Chile.

The Association of Rural and Indigenous Women of Chile (ANAMURI) held last November its second national congress under the motto: "We struggle against capitalism, patriarchy and for our rights. We have the word!". Over five hundred rural and indigenous women in Chile, and other countries in the region, during three days shared their experiences of struggle for equality and agroecology and collectively built a plan of action for the coming years. They raised their voices together to exclaim that: No socialism without feminism!

EUROPE

Europe keeps getting ready for the 4th International Action! The feminist caravan is almost here...





ALLIANCES AND MOBILIZATIONS

The World March of Women participates strongly in the People's Summit on Climate Change

Between the 8th and the 11th December, in Lima, took place the People's Summit on Climate Change parallel to the COP20. During these days, delegates from around the world, were organized in various workshops and activities in order to reflect jointly and to strengthen the network of organizations and movements against the capitalist system.

The summit was an excellent opportunity for the March to continue the reaffirmation of our position, developed in 2012 at Rio+20, against the commodification of life and in defense of the common goods, fighting for the implementation of our feminist alternatives.

To read more about this topic: http://www.marchemondiale.org/index_html/en





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