LEAD, SHARE AND ENGAGE

Women Creating a Safe World

ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2009 – MARCH 2010
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Any women and girls today continue to live in a world of violence, HIV, abuse, exclusion and disempowerment. This could be in their homes, their schools and places of worship, with their neighbours, in their cities, communities or countries. They live a life without dignity, and where their voice is silent, their leadership is invisible and their potential untapped. The notion of “being safe” speaks to the enjoyment of universal human rights and being free from stigma and discrimination. It is about enabling women, especially young women, to make decisions about their lives, including sexual and reproductive choices such as marriage and the number and spacing of children. It is also about women and girls defining the quality of the environment in which they want to live their lives.

Safe spaces for women to lead, to share, to serve, to influence and to engage is increasingly important in the work of the YWCA movement and beyond. In more than 22,000 communities around the world, YWCAs provide safe and empowering spaces for women, young women and girls, ranging from childcare, vocational training, shelters, hostels, and wellness centres. It is also in this manner that YWCAs are welcoming, supportive and inclusive. They also actively initiate and support programmes that promote safety and security for women and girls, including freedom from violence and discrimination. The YWCA movement believes that safe spaces are those in which women in all their diversity can achieve their full potential.

During the reporting period (April 2009 – March 2010), the World YWCA continued to create empowering opportunities through dialogues, workshops, trainings and intergenerational sharing of knowledge, experiences and skills at regional, national, and global platforms.
YWCA Regional Training Institutes and Young Women’s Leadership Dialogues were organised and sought to build the leadership capacity of women and young women on the issues of violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV and AIDS. At the UN Commission on the Status of Women, for example, intergenerational dialogues were set up and offered women of different ages a safe space to exchange and share their experiences and knowledge. In Melbourne, 40 young women took part in skills building sessions and in leadership dialogues. This year also saw the inauguration of the Power to Change grants to Member Associations, which support women and girls around the world to change their lives and communities through innovative leadership programmes.

The work that we have done during this reporting period touches upon and carries the theme of the World Council and the International Women’s Summit, which will be held in Zurich, Switzerland, from July 10-16, 2011. The theme “Women Creating a Safe World” will include a special focus on violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and AIDS and peace with justice.

The achievements described in this report were made possible through the personal commitment and hard work of our many volunteers, Board members, partners, donors, staff and members all around the world. We thank all those who supported and continue to support the World YWCA and its Member Associations.

At the YWCA we believe in shared, intergenerational and transformative leadership. We believe in leadership which creates a new world and that changes communities. We are deeply grateful to World YWCA partners for being part of the belief and action that makes a different future possible.
The World Young Women’s Christian Association (World YWCA) is a global network of women leading social and economic change in 125 countries worldwide. It has been at the forefront of raising the status of women since it was founded in 1894.

Developing the leadership of women and girls to find local solutions to the global inequalities women face is the YWCA’s core business. Each year, the World YWCA reaches more than 25 million women and girls through work in 22,000 communities. Inspired by Christian principles and a commitment to women’s full and equal participation in society, the World YWCA is a volunteer membership movement inclusive of women from many faiths, backgrounds and cultures. The World YWCA affirms that women’s human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

A human rights framework and the Millennium Development Goals guide the YWCA advocacy and services, which seek to empower women and girls and bring practical experience from the community level to national, regional and international policy makers. The movement is also guided in its work by the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action (1995), the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820; the Declaration of Commitment on HIV and AIDS, as well as the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

The World YWCA works in collaboration with many partner organisations and networks to advance its advocacy and programme work, including women’s networks, ecumenical, youth and international organisations, and UN agencies operating with women and young women.

The YWCA strives to ensure organisational accountability, efficiency and effectiveness in all aspects of its work. The adoption of common standards of governance is a shared commitment to be accountable to stakeholders and communities. The World YWCA is a founding signatory to the International NGO Accountability Charter and NGO Code of Good Practice on HIV and AIDS programmes.

**STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2008-2012**

The vision of the World YWCA is a fully inclusive world where justice, peace, health, human dignity, freedom and care for the environment are promoted and sustained through women’s leadership. To attain this vision, the World YWCA has developed a strategic framework adopted by the World YWCA Council in
2007 that guides its work from 2008-2012. The framework embraces a rights-based approach and is implemented with Member Associations, partners and policy makers. The 2009-2010 reporting period runs from April 2009 to March 2010 and is the second year of implementation for this strategic framework.

The framework identifies three goals:

1. **Leadership Development**
To build the leadership of women and girls to develop the most effective solutions to the issues affecting their lives and communities.

2. **Advocacy and Services**
To promote the social, economic, cultural, religious and political rights of women and girls through advocacy and related programmes and services, particularly in the following priority areas:

   - Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV and AIDS
   - Violence Against Women, women's human rights
   - Peace with justice
   - Economic empowerment and environmental sustainability

3. **Good Governance and Accountability**
To ensure YWCAs function at the highest level of organisational accountability, effectiveness and efficiency.
Highlights: April 2009 – March 2010

Young Women Taking the Lead

Each year, young women leaders from the YWCA movement have the possibility to participate in the Internship Programme either through a one-year internship or short-term advocacy internship. The internship places a strong emphasis on communications, young women’s leadership and advocacy.

The one-year internship provides a special opportunity for two young women to work as part of the World YWCA staff in Geneva, Switzerland. During their time at the World Office, the interns develop skills in advocacy, especially in the area of violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and AIDS and peace with justice. The internship also represents an excellent occasion for young women interested in the communications field as they are exposed to a wide range of practical training opportunities.

In 2009, the World YWCA welcomed Andrea Núñez Argote from the YWCA of Mexico and Moo Moo Hsoe from the YWCA of Myanmar. During the year, Moo Moo worked in communications, while Andrea contributed to the World YWCA programme and advocacy efforts. Of her internship experience, Andrea says that she has gained much more than expected through the programme. “I have had many wonderful moments including the ecumenical internship retreat, the Witness Visit to Palestine and the World YWCA Board Meeting. All gave me knowledge and experience, and highlighted that the women involved in these events are working tirelessly to change the situation in their communities. It gives me courage and conviction to continue working and sharing information with other women and girls in order to improve our communities.”

Moo Moo described her internship as an eye-opening experience, which “changed me into a professional young woman. I gained confidence to work with people from around the world in terms of negotiating, sharing and networking.”

Chelsey Butchereit from the YWCA USA was selected for a short-term/advocacy internship. Chelsey participated in the 2010 UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in New York, and her...
Moo Moo Hsoe from the YWCA of Myanmar and Andrea Núñez Argote from the YWCA of Mexico
Main responsibilities were to coordinate the communication within the delegation through the preparation of a daily bulletin and to assist in the Young Women’s Caucus by contributing to the World YWCA Women Leading Change blog. Chelsey said that her experience at CSW was “a wonderful opportunity to learn, connect, act, grow and be inspired.”

“The World YWCA Young Women’s Internship Programme is intended to increase the number of globally experienced and trained leaders who will return to their associations to share their experiences and learning, as well as to provide leadership for an increased and improved understanding of what the world movement is all about,” says World YWCA General Secretary Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda. Following this exposure and training, Andrea was appointed President of the YWCA of Naucalpan in Mexico upon her return home and is overseeing the programme of the YWCA. Moo Moo became the Youth Coordinator at her YWCA in Myanmar and she is currently running a young women’s programme.

**THE INTERGENERATIONAL APPROACH OF THE WORLD YWCA**

Throughout the reporting period, women and young women from all corners of the globe participated in a series of intergenerational conversations on sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and AIDS, and violence against women organised by the World YWCA. Intergenerational dialogues took place at the YWCAs Regional Training Institutes for the Caribbean, Africa and Asia and the Pacific, and during the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in March where a high-level panel of intergenerational women leaders reflected on important issues facing women today.

The intergenerational approach of the World YWCA encourages dialogue between women of different ages and recognises that each generation is different from the other and each can bring its experience, understanding and contribution. Therefore, establishing intergenerational dialogues at country and local levels can help diminish the gap that exists and is the beginning of building a bridge to common understanding. It is also a basis toward revitalising the movement, building succession planning, and strengthening programmes to respond to the needs of all women.

These intergenerational discussions provide a platform and a safe space for women of all ages to be heard, and they provide young women with the opportunity to share their visions. “As young women, we want to be part of it, to participate and not just be there. We need our voices to be heard. Our voices matter at the policy and decision making levels,” said one participant at CSW.

For older women, the intergenerational approach offered by the World YWCA provides a space where they can share their experiences and their knowledge with younger women, and also where they can learn about the realities facing young women of today.
The intergenerational approach of the World YWCA has the potential, therefore, of unleashing leadership at all levels by including young women and not excluding older women. The dialogues help women to see their differences and their similarities and to find a common language to express them.

LENTEN STUDIES: CHALLENGING THE SILENCE AROUND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The World YWCA joined efforts with the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF) to advocate, learn, reflect and take action on violence through a web-based Lenten study on violence against women. “Cries of Anguish, Stories of Hope” was the name of the resource designed to help Christians to reflect on the ways in which healing may come from honestly dealing with the sin and human rights violation of violence against women, and to give compassion and support towards victims and perpetrators of violence. The six-part study was developed for the six weeks of Lent 2010, leading up to Holy Week. Interactive resources included films showcasing the work people are doing around the world to eliminate violence against women. Films featured places as diverse as Colombia, India, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Aotearoa/New Zealand. The films illustrated the different types of violence women experience, including by intimate partners, through trafficking, sexual exploitation and sexual violence in conflict settings. Each week, selected texts that deal with violence against women helped church congregations, community groups or individuals to deepen the discussion around stories heard. The campaign was also interactive, as online discussions took place where individuals were invited to give their reflections and ideas on the issue and on their own spirituality.

An informal evaluation found that the study materials were positively received. Using a mix of media, including video and liturgy, was a fresh way to engage on a very sensitive issue.

Power to Change Fund Success Story

INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Power to Change funding is improving the capacity for organisational development within the YWCA of Papua New Guinea’s national and local associations. The YWCA of Papua New Guinea also seeks to strengthen existing partnerships and establish relationships with HIV-positive women’s advocacy networks and engage in policy dialogue with the government. Institutional strengthening will improve the organisation’s ability to effectively deliver programmes for women’s leadership, empowerment and rights. The YWCA of Papua New Guinea is using the World YWCA ‘Standards of Good Management and Accountability’ as a tool to build its capacity.
On January 12, 2010, a powerful earthquake struck the Caribbean nation of Haiti. Through a call to action, the World YWCA urged its Member Associations, civil society, partners and donors to support the YWCA of Haiti in its emergency assistance efforts on the ground.

The call to action was made to advocate and support the long-term reconstruction efforts that take into account the dignity of the Haitian people and the role of Haitian women and young women in the formulation and implementation of policies. The regional desk at the World Office provided technical advice for the YWCA of Haiti’s immediate response, fundraising efforts, partnerships on the ground, and the elaboration of advocacy messages, signing of statements and reporting.

As a result of the solidarity from the movement and partners, the YWCA of Haiti was able to open a Youth Centre in Petion-Ville four months after the earthquake. The Centre provides a safe space that caters for young people affected by the earthquake and who are unable to return to school or to access educational or social activities. A total of sixty-one children and young women are benefiting from leadership development training, psychosocial support and creative art activities.

The World YWCA also paid a solidarity visit to the YWCA of Haiti from February 24 to March 1, 2010. Marie-Claude Julsaint, World YWCA Programme Director for the Americas and the Caribbean and Donnalie Edwards-Cabey, President of the YWCA of the Virgin Islands, visited the country to show support to their sisters from the YWCA of Haiti on behalf of the movement.

During the visit, the solidarity team listened to each YWCA woman’s personal story, and the trauma and pain of losing loved ones and experiencing devastation on such a large scale. This experience only reinforced further the need to have safe spaces for sharing and support, as well as the importance of psychological support for YWCA members, for women and girls and for Haitians in general.

The Power to Change Fund project in Chile focuses on education, health and civil society issues. The project provides facilitator training on HIV and AIDS prevention for 15 people and a workshop on the comprehensive prevention of HIV and AIDS for teenage girls at the prison centre in Lihuen Centre in Limache.

12 teenage girls participated in the workshop and discussions were centred on sexuality and adolescence, teenage pregnancy and the prevention of sexually transmitted infections. The workshop used art therapy as a means of addressing the different themes and provided the participants with the possibility of expressing themselves on the realities of their daily lives.

At the end of the workshop, an HIV and AIDS prevention booklet for teenage girls was produced, which contained the reflections and experience of the participants.

Teenage Girls in Chile Get Help for Health

THE MOVEMENT IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE YWCA OF HAITI

power to change fund
success story
Members of the YWCA of Haiti and Marie-Claude Julsaint, World YWCA Programme Director for the Americas and the Caribbean (Front Row – Far Right) – Solidarity Visit February 2010
**Goal 1: Leadership Development**

Women play a key role in families and communities, thus their leadership is essential in finding sustainable solutions to global problems and injustices. Through the World YWCA leadership development programme, women and young women are able to discover this potential, become leaders and use their power to change. Young women also find a safe place in the World YWCA where they can learn, grow and have real opportunities to lead change.

**Building Leadership through Regional Training Institutes**

Within its leadership development and capacity building programme, the World YWCA supported Regional Training Institutes (RTIs) in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and the Pacific under the common theme “Women Creating Safe and Secure Communities”. The main goal of the RTIs is to contribute to the movement’s strategic framework through the development of regional strategies on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV and AIDS and violence against women (VAW) for programme delivery, including advocacy.

The participants develop and share their skills in advocacy and fundraising and are trained and nurtured to become leaders. The RTIs also build the organisational capacity of YWCAs and strengthen and forge new strategic alliances, networks and partnerships. The RTIs are adapted to take into account the regional context and the on-going responses of YWCAs to meet the needs of women and girls.

Each RTI has produced a regional strategy and clear regional advocacy messages on VAW, SRHR and HIV and AIDS. At the conclusion of the RTIs, strong linkages on how VAW and HIV intersect were identified, as were national and regional partners on these issues. The RTIs also served to identify the capacity needs of the YWCAs and to make key recommendations for the World YWCA movement.

The RTI programme offers a unique opportunity to understand the regional realities of women and young women. It seeks to empower them and to create much-needed safe spaces for dialogue and support. As World YWCA General Secretary, Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda said, “RTIs are one of the long standing means within which the YWCA leaders and volunteers come together at the regional level to develop their leadership, share experiences, keep track of trends relating to women in their region, and define collective strategies and actions. RTIs continue to offer the space for collective reflection, shared knowledge on best practices and a much-needed opportunity to affirm young women in the movement.” RTIs for the Middle East and Europe will be held in May and October 2010.
HIV and AIDS are on the rise in Jamaica and results show that the health and wellbeing of people living with HIV is being compromised due to poor nutrition. The YWCA of Jamaica has launched a project to assist HIV-positive people to improve their health through good nutrition and to build an overall awareness of HIV and AIDS and the linkages with a good and balanced diet.

50 young women living with or affected by HIV and AIDS are receiving training in food production, preparation and consumption. The project was launched with great promise and women eagerly registered, and are benefiting from training in small business planning, HIV prevention, literacy and basic financial needs, nutritional support and also behaviour change and management.

The YWCA of Jamaica works with the Spanish Town AIDS Committee, the local Red Cross, the Health Department and various religious ministers and community social workers.

The Young Women’s Leadership Dialogue (YWLD) is a key feature of YWCAs Regional Training Institutes (RTIs). The one-day meetings seek to build the leadership capacity of young women on the issues of violence against women (VAW), sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and HIV and AIDS.

From shared experiences to heated debate, the YWLD aims to provide young women with a better understanding on the issues of SRHR, HIV and VAW that are important to them and that affect their daily lives. The YWLD also serves to create friendships and networks and provides a platform for women to discuss the leadership of young women within the YWCA movement and to agree upon a strategy to build an ongoing intergenerational movement. At the end of each YWLD, the participants shared their recommendations and key messages with other RTI participants and these incorporated in the regional strategy.

At the Asia and the Pacific RTI, for example, participants called for more safe and secure spaces for young women who have experienced violence. The African YWLD provided a platform for increased networking and strengthened advocacy and action on HIV, SRHR and VAW. At the Caribbean YWLD, young women shared a safe space and talked about the realities of being a young woman in the Caribbean. Sexual violence against young women and girls in the Caribbean is pervasive. Participants discussed VAW from a young women’s perspective and agreed that low self esteem and a lack of economic independence often place women in violent situations.

“The YWLD is an exciting and important part of the RTIs throughout the YWCA movement,” reflected Sarah Davies who was one of the young women leaders who organised and planned this event. “This is a unique opportunity to understand the regional reality of young women in the YWCA. Young women’s leadership is at the heart of everything we do in the YWCA and the Young Women’s Leadership Dialogue will guide the World YWCA in our global work and vision for years to come.”
Young women leaders of the Asia and Pacific YWCAs gathered to discuss SRHR, HIV and VAW
Nearly 40 young women from 18 Member Associations from the Asia and Pacific region met in Melbourne, Australia, for the “Our Bodies, Our Rights: Young Women Leading Change in Asia Pacific” Conference in December 2009. The two-day training was supported and hosted by the World YWCA in partnership with UNFPA Asia and Pacific Regional Office and AusAID. Participants took part in skills sessions and a panel engaged them in dialogue with women working with sex workers, injecting drug users and young women living with HIV.

The aims and outcomes of the seminar were met beyond expectations. The capacity and knowledge of young women to provide leadership on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV and violence against women (VAW) and in their local, national, regional and international communities was evident from the project proposals they submitted at the end of the skills session. At the conclusion of the dialogue, young women made recommendations to the World YWCA and their MemberAssociations for future work on SRHR, HIV and VAW.

At the Breakthrough Alliance Summit in Melbourne, a three-year strategic framework for young women’s leadership training, programming and advocacy on SRHR and HIV in the Asia Pacific region was developed and announced. The Breakthrough Alliance Summit brought together women’s groups, faith communities, development agencies, businesses and philanthropists in the region to collaborate on local and regional action to reach the targets for the Millennium Development Goals Three and Five on women’s equality and maternal health. The World YWCA successfully presented the voices of young women throughout the Summit by actively leading and participating in plenaries and workshop streams.

“When young women come together in the YWCA, change happens. Young women grow, they learn, their words count, their actions matter. We witness confidence soar, dreams crystallise and lives transform. In creating safe spaces for young women’s leadership to flourish, the World YWCA trains a generation of leaders with hope, skills, conviction and possibility on their side,” said Susan Brennan, World YWCA President.

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- Susan Brennan, World YWCA President
In September 2009, a YWCA delegation from Europe kept the voice of young women high on the agenda by attending the “Sharing Treasures – European Partnerships in Action” seminar. This event, held in Litomysl, Czech Republic, was a joint endeavour of the World YWCA, the International Award, the World Alliance of YMCAs, the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and the World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM). The seminar offered a space for each of these organisations to present themselves, to network and to build skills on advocacy issues affecting young people.

The YWCA delegation of young women was composed of Mariam Mkhatvari from the YWCA of Georgia, Iryna Rodygina from the YWCA of Ukraine, Greet Simons from the YWCA of Belgium, Agnieszka Skierska from the YWCA of Poland and Paola Salwan, World YWCA Programme Assistant for Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

The YWCA conducted advocacy training on the criminalisation of HIV and travel restrictions for people living with HIV, and encouraged participants to develop their advocacy skills around the issue. The seminar was also an opportunity to deepen the areas of collaboration and to build partnerships and explore new means of cooperation between organisations at the European level.

The Power to Change Fund project of the YWCA of Lebanon aims to foster a culture of non-violence and sustain peace building by actively involving women and young people in society and by enhancing the role and engagement of women as peacemakers and initiators of dialogue.

Interfaith workshops were conducted on a national scale at different YWCA centres involving Christian and Muslim women. The workshops targeted YWCA members, women’s organisations, grass roots women and women from the community at large. They exchanged knowledge, experience, problems and resources.

From the workshops a core group of women were selected and trained to train others and to work on interfaith dialogue within their respective communities. A leadership training seminar with a focus on gender issues was organised and eight conflict resolution workshops targeting Muslim and Christian youths were conducted in schools at YWCA centres.
CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH THE POWER TO CHANGE FUND

Within the goal of leadership development and capacity building, one of the roles of the World YWCA is to actively promote women’s leadership in community development by providing technical and financial support for the advancement of the goals of Member Associations. This is done through support to the Member Associations for capacity building, advocacy work at national, regional and global levels, facilitating bilateral partnerships, and providing seed money and technical support for small scale YWCA projects. In 2009-2010 the new Power to Change Fund for Member Associations came into operation and a total of 49 exciting and empowering projects were successfully implemented by YWCAs around the globe.

Projects are funded initially for a one-year period, for a maximum of USD 25,000. This “seed funding” enables associations to demonstrate their skills and to develop projects for submission to other donors or to achieve self-reliance of their projects. Each year, USD 125,000 of income from the World YWCA Leadership Permanent Fund is allocated for Power to Change country specific projects, and this amount leverages additional contributions from many partners.

An additional USD 125,000 is used for global leadership development and advocacy initiatives coordinated through the World YWCA Office. These initiatives contribute to global advocacy, leadership training of individual women and girls and policy development. This has resulted in advancing young women’s leadership on the global agenda around sexual and reproductive health and rights, HIV and violence against women. It has also sustained investment in women and girls in the global HIV and AIDS response and strengthened leadership capacity around these issues.

“The Power to Change Fund is all about investing in women’s power to change and we can start to see the impact women’s leadership can have in making our world a better place for everyone,” says World YWCA General Secretary, Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda.

In 2009-2010 the new Power to Change Fund for Member Associations came into operation and a total of 49 exciting and empowering projects were successfully implemented by YWCAs around the globe.
Members of the YWCA delegation at the 54th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women
REFRAMING THE WORK ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

In February 2009, the World YWCA reviewed its Global Strategy on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV and AIDS, including Condom Programming. The revised strategy offers four goals for the YWCA movement to focus its action. These goals are to create a safe and inclusive space for women and girls; to provide comprehensive prevention including comprehensive condom programming; to develop leadership and strengthen capacity, especially with young women as champions and leaders on SRHR, HIV and an end to VAW; and to ensure documentation and quality monitoring and evaluation of YWCA programmes.

During the reporting period, the World YWCA has successfully integrated into its work the Global Strategy on SRHR and HIV and this has been further reinforced through the YWCAs Regional Training Institutes (RTIs). The RTIs united the movement and developed three regional strategies on SRHR, HIV and VAW to guide the work of the YWCAs in their regions. The RTIs also empowered women and disseminated partner information on SRHR and HIV. Women and young women were trained in communication and media techniques, thus strengthening their advocacy skills.

In addition, other regional meetings, regional AIDS conferences such as the 9th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific (ICAAP) and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), provided training opportunities on SRHR and HIV within the movement. It is in these safe spaces that YWCAs gather and where the World YWCA as a movement is able to reflect on all the challenges, successes and areas needed for growth.

The World YWCA also continued to expand partnerships with organisations working on SRHR and HIV and AIDS, including ecumenical partners and foundations such as the David and Lucille Packard Foundation and the Ford Foundation. This further positioned the World YWCA as a credible partner and facilitated the development of new relationships with UN agencies and

Goal 2: Advocacy and Services

One of the principal aims of the World YWCA is to bring the perspectives of local women into the global and decision-making arena. YWCA women have participated and received training at various international forums. The World YWCA also seeks to forge partnerships with other organisations in order to achieve greater impact and to further strengthen its advocacy agenda.
**YWCAs Around the World**

**LEGEND**
- **Member Associations**
- **Developing Interest**
- **Other**

**NORTH AMERICA:**
- 2 Member Associations

**CARIBBEAN:**
- 12 Member Associations,
  5 developing interest

**LATIN AMERICA:**
- 10 Member Associations,
  1 developing interest

World YWCA
women leading change
EUROPE: 26 Member Associations, 4 developing interest

ASIA: 16 Member Associations, 2 developing interest

MIDDLE EAST: 4 Member Associations

PACIFIC: 8 Member Associations

AFRICA: 28 Member Associations, 7 developing interest
EMPOWERMENT SCHEMES AND A CONDOM KIOSK AT UNIVERSITIES IN ADDIS ABABA

Female students in higher learning institutes in Ethiopia face many difficulties that pose a challenge to the successful completion of their studies. Typical obstacles include economic problems, especially for rural female students, sexual and verbal harassment and a lack of sufficient knowledge on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and HIV and AIDS.

In partnership with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the YWCA of Ethiopia initiated the ‘Enhancement of Women and Girls Reproductive Rights in Ethiopia’ project that currently runs in two Addis Ababa university campuses. To address the economic challenges that sometimes lead female students to engage in paid sex with older men, an empowerment scheme was developed that offers 100 underprivileged students a monthly stipend of Birr 100 (approximately USD 9). With Birr 100, a student is able to afford photocopying, as most of the books in the library are not sufficient, but also to cover basic needs such as shampoo and sanitary pads.

In addition to receiving financial support, the women in the programme also participate in mentoring and training sessions. The programme delivers training on reproductive health, leadership and human rights.

Through its contacts in the Government Ministries and at the University, the YWCA of Ethiopia set up a condom kiosk at the Addis Ababa University. The kiosk was opened next to the female dormitory to provide young women with sexual and reproductive health services. The YWCA hopes the location of the kiosk will encourage female students to use the service without shame. It will facilitate access to contraceptives such as condoms, the contraceptive pill and sanitary pads for female students.

One of the major obstacles of implementing the project was soliciting support from stakeholders working on campus, both governmental and non-governmental organisations. The challenge was overcome by engaging in advocacy work with the NGOs and government representatives to convince them of the importance of encouraging sexual and reproductive health among university students.

International Non-Governmental Organisations.

The World YWCA is a key stakeholder in the AIDS response and has played an integral role in the process of developing the “Operational Plan for the UNAIDS Action Framework: Addressing Women, Girls, Gender Equality and HIV.” The World YWCA has been following this process for three years and has played a pivotal role in moving this work forward.

The World YWCA once again represented women, young people and people of faith on the Conference Coordinating Committee (CCC) of the XVIII International AIDS Conference which takes place in Vienna in July 2010. As part of setting a precedent of fair and transparent representation, the World YWCA worked with a reference group to assist in meeting the objective of keeping women, especially young and HIV positive women, on the global AIDS agenda. In this last year, the World YWCA has continued to work with the CCC to ensure, as much as possible, an agenda that adequately addresses women and young women at the conference. The World YWCA has been a key partner for the CCC and has built credibility and respect amongst the other civil society partners.
The World YWCA successfully engaged in advocacy activities to change the age of young people attending the International AIDS Conference and negotiated the age from 18 – 24 to 16 – 26. This advocacy endeavour was endorsed by 14 organisations and as a result, more young people have access to the scholarship programme. The World YWCA also effectively lobbied for the CCC to ensure that 20% of scholarships be earmarked for young people and it pushed for a plenary session on VAW and Care Giving and Support.

Eight YWCAs from Africa - Angola, Benin, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Tanzania - received support through the Power to Change Fund to mobilise young women's leadership on sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV. These YWCAs gathered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for a consultation before the 4th Africa Conference on Sexual Health and Rights in February 2010. During the consultation, a statement was developed to strategise the effective implementation of programmes on SRHR and HIV in Africa. The consultation, organised and facilitated by the World YWCA, was an opportunity to strengthen the African response to these issues, especially those affecting young women on the continent. The YWCA delegation of women and young women leaders participated in the conference and delivered their strong statement – “The Power to Make Informed Choices,” urging African leaders to display more political will to address women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights.

The Conference is part of a long-term process of building and fostering regional dialogue on sexual health and rights that leads to concrete action to influence policy. The aim of the Conference was to examine the interrelationship between sexuality and HIV and in particular to open up discourse on sexuality in Africa and how this might lead to new insights in reducing the spread of HIV.

The statement strongly recommended to governments, stakeholders and other partners to: domesticate, implement and resource international, regional and national instruments relating to SRHR and HIV and AIDS that promote prevention and treatment for women and girls; to address stigma and discrimination against people living with HIV; to promote access to information, services and safe spaces that develop the leadership and empowerment of women and girls to make informed decisions about their SRHR; and that all people have access to gender responsive Voluntary Counselling and Testing and to comprehensive information, services and treatment.
The World YWCA has participated in the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) since its establishment in 1946. The fifty-fourth session, held on March 1 – 12, 2010, focused on reviewing and appraising the Beijing Platform for Action. As the leading annual global platform for setting the agenda and monitoring progress on the empowerment of women and women’s human rights, CSW is a key strategic annual event for the World YWCA. The 2010 CSW was a key platform for the World YWCA to assert its messages, build networks and share YWCA experience on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), HIV and violence against women (VAW). This was done in different ways, including through lobbying efforts, statements, participation and leadership in various caucuses. The World YWCA called upon the UN Commission on the Status of Women to: Ensure the safety and security of women and girls and create safe spaces to guarantee the physical, sexual and psychological safety of women and girls in all aspects of their lives.

The World YWCA hosted an intergenerational conversation on SRHR, HIV and AIDS, universal access and VAW. This was done in collaboration with UNFPA, UNDP, Global Coalition on Women and AIDS and UNAIDS. Through these discussions the issues facing young women were presented and linked to key women leaders of the UN system. Panellists included UNFPA Executive Director and Under-Secretary General of the United Nations, Thoraya Obaid; Realising Rights President and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mary Robinson; Executive Director of UNIFEM, Ines Alberdi; Liza Barries, UNICEF Chief of Partnerships; Icilda Humes, Belize Ministry of Women’s Affairs and World YWCA Board Member; Dr. Nafis Sadik, Special Advisor to the UN Secretary General and Special Envoy on HIV and AIDS in Asia; and Facia Harris, a young female broadcaster at the UN “Girl Power” radio in Liberia, among others.

During the discussion, Mary Robinson affirmed the work and vision of the YWCA movement. “I admire the way the YWCA includes young women in everything. We have tokenism in the women’s movement and we need to get over it,” she said. Mary Robinson also shared her dreams for young women in the future. “I want by 2015 that we are not in the position of girls having a lack of voice, a lack of choices and a lack of power.”

A Young Women’s Caucus was also co-facilitated by the YWCA, and the World YWCA Resolutions Committee proposed and influenced the CSW wording of the resolutions on young women’s concerns. The Young Women’s Caucus was organised and moderated by the World YWCA and the World Association Girls Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) to ensure young women have a space to discuss issues being raised at CSW 2010, economic justice, SRHR and the role of the media were just some of the issues young women listed as areas of concern.

The YWCA of Canada hosted a workshop entitled “Beyond Shelter” where women shared stories on their experiences and journeys and they also discussed whether the policies and programmes that exist ensure that women leaving a shelter have safe options rather than facing a choice between poverty and a return to abuse. The YWCAs of Liberia, Canada, Sierra Leone,
Finland and Guyana, all participated on panels and presented the work of their country and Member Association. The YWCA was also an active member of the Ecumenical Women, who met almost daily to review advocacy strategies and hosted an introduction to CSW for first time participants. The YWCA was visible everywhere with a delegation of 49 women from 19 YWCAs. As one YWCA member put it: “the YWCA was highly visible, credible and diverse in all our presentations.”

WITNESS VISIT CALLS FOR PEACE WITH JUSTICE

In line with the long-standing work on the situation of the Palestinian people, a delegation of 45 women, men and young people, representing 12 YWCAs and YMCA from four continents, participated in a joint YWCA and YMCA Witness Visit to Palestine from September 25 – October 1, 2009. The purpose of the visit was to raise awareness both inside and outside the movement on the plight of the Palestinian people.

Hosted by the YWCA of Palestine and the YMCA of East Jerusalem, the participants witnessed the realities of people living in the area. The programme included briefings with international organisations responding to the humanitarian situations in the occupied Palestinian territories. Participants listened to statistics depicting the harsh conditions many Palestinians live in. With nearly 600 checkpoints in the West Bank alone, movement is restricted making daily life difficult for many people. A visit to families living in refugee camps left participants moved and committed to raising awareness on the conditions the Israeli-Palestinian conflict has created. The participants found hope in the programmes that the YWCA and YMCA offer, including vocational centres, kindergartens and centres for women and young people.

At the end of the visit, the participants made some key recommendations which include: engaging with high-level leaders and decision-makers to advocate for peace with justice and an end to occupation; supporting UN Resolutions on Palestine and human rights and coordinating advocacy work at the UN Human Rights Council and relevant special sessions, as well as other UN agencies, e.g. CEDAW and Treaty bodies.

In Angola extreme poverty often obliges young girls from 11-17 to prostitute themselves rather than to go to school. These girls are prone to contracting sexually transmitted infections (STIs) but have little or no understanding of the risks involved. A YWCA programme in Luanda has provided 60 young girls with a better understanding on HIV and AIDS and other STIs and how to prevent infection.

Two women pastors, a nurse, a policewoman, a school principal, a psychologist and a gynaecologist shared their experiences, and addressed these issues with the young girls in two forums. The programme has also helped build the girls’ self-confidence and it has made them aware of the importance of education.
On the occasion of the International Women’s Day 2010 on March 8, the World YWCA issued a statement calling for a special focus to empower communities to end poverty and violence against women by 2015. While the World YWCA makes its own contributions through programmes on violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV, development, literacy and gender equality, the movement continues to call for accountability and commitment towards actions that invest in women and girls.

Empowering communities to end poverty and violence against women by 2015 requires a global mobilisation like no other, and it calls upon all sectors to partner with governments to achieve these targets. Everybody has a duty to promote the economic empowerment of women that break the cycle of poverty and violence in communities and countries.

Globally it is estimated that 6 out of 10 women experience physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime. A 2005 World Health Organisation study of 24,000 women in 10 countries found that the prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence by a partner varied from 15% in urban Japan to 71% in rural Ethiopia, with most areas being in the 30-60% range. Violence against women is a global health crisis of epidemic proportions. Too frequently it is a cause and consequence of HIV and the link between the two is clear. Violence and the threat of violence dramatically increase the vulnerability of women and girls to infection by making it difficult for women to abstain from sex or to demand that their partners be faithful or use condoms. Violence is also a barrier for women accessing HIV prevention, care and treatment services.

The World YWCA is working actively in communities around the world to support women that have experienced and survived violence and abuse. On March 8, the statement made by the World YWCA declares that “we can no longer live in a world where women and girls remain in violent relationships to avoid a life of poverty. We will continue to empower women and young women to end poverty and violence, thus creating a safe world for all.”

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**Young Roma Women Take the Lead in Albania**

This programme aims to inform and raise awareness about Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV in the Roma communities of Shkodra and Fier, with a particular focus on young women. The YWCA of Albania has built a peer-educators network composed of young Roma women that will increase the capacity of the health staff and the local government. Activities include training sessions with Roma women and young women and men, and also with health personnel, nurses, midwives and the local government. The trainings are on the topic of STIs, HIV and AIDS and gender, and they also provide information on the male and female condom. At the end of each training course, 20 young women are selected to be peer educators.

The awareness campaign is expected to reach 950 people in the first 6 months.
Globally it is estimated that 6 out of 10 women experience physical and/or sexual violence in their lifetime. A 2005 World Health Organisation study of 24,000 women in 10 countries found that the prevalence of physical and/or sexual violence by a partner varied from 15% in urban Japan to 71% in rural Ethiopia, with most areas being in the 30-60% range.
CLIMATE CHANGE, TAKE ACTION NOW!

Climate change is one of the most urgent issues of our time. While the impacts of hurricanes, droughts, floods, and heat waves are already widespread, women are particularly vulnerable to its impacts. At the same time, women are taking leadership in curbing the impacts of climate change.

Natural disasters and environmental changes magnify existing inequalities, and gender inequality is among the most pervasive forms of discrimination. Women’s historic disadvantages – their restricted access to resources and information and their limited power in decision-making – make them more susceptible to the risks of extreme weather events. Climate change also reinforces traditional gender roles when times of crisis force women to go the extra mile to locate and provide life-sustaining natural resources.

In 2009 the World YWCA partnered with the Alliance of Youth CEOs¹ and UNICEF to produce a climate change manual by and for young people. The manual is intended to empower young people to take action on climate change by providing in-depth case studies and examples to inspire and motivate youth-led initiatives. Critical in this manual are the positive actions highlighted that girls and young women can take on climate change mitigation and adaptation².

This guide emanates from a participatory, consultative process in which representatives (both young and older) from all organisations came together and shared experiences and practical approaches for engaging children and young people in the climate change agenda through local actions. It presents a wealth of case studies based on the experience of these organisations, which illustrate best practices from a diverse range of countries and situations. What is common to all of them is the promotion of the civil engagement of children and young people in local action projects.

1 The Alliance of Youth CEOs includes: The International Award Association; International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); World Alliance of YMCA's (YMCA); World Young Women's Christian Association (World YWCA); World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS); World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM).


BUILDING ENGAGEMENT AROUND UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325

The World YWCA’s work on peace and justice, together with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325), features within the broader context of violence against women. The World YWCA has been building its engagement around UNSCR 1325 and convened a workshop on “Strengthening Community Capacities for Peace Building” at the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). On March 5, 2010, YWCA leaders from Palestine, Sudan and Sri Lanka briefed CSW participants on the status of conflict situations in their countries, underlining the role of YWCAs in strengthening their communities’ capacities for peacemaking.

The discussion was lively. Mira Rizek, President of the YWCA of Palestine, described how Palestinians have endured 62 years of conflict, dispossession and occupation, and how this has affected the lives of women. Modi Mbaraza, General Secretary of the YWCA of Sudan, gave an update and overview of the situation in her country. “Women have no control
of their own lives,” she said, noting a high prevalence of HIV and AIDS, which she said was due to “ignorance and bad cultural practices.”

Himali Mudalige, General Secretary of the YWCA of Sri Lanka, said that after three decades of war and the 2004 tsunami, those who were in most need of assistance were women and girls. The YWCAs are working on “rehabilitation, reconstruction and resettlement.” Sharon Bhagwan Rolls, a longstanding YWCA leader in Fiji concluded the session and urged participants to develop partnerships with global women’s media and to generate stories of women’s successes as peacemakers so that women are not only perceived as “victims of crisis and war.” She called the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 that promotes women’s participation in peace negotiations “our benchmark.”

In closing the panel, panellists and participants, lit candles decorated with the YWCA of Palestine’s slogan, “Keeping Hope Alive,” to symbolise women’s resilience and the light women carry into the world as peacemakers.

The World YWCA AT THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The World YWCA Office in Geneva provides strategic opportunities to engage with the different global human rights bodies of the UN system, including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and the UN Committee for the Convention of the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

One of the achievements of 2009-2010 was co-organising a session on the 15-year mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women during the 11th session of the UN Human Rights Council in June 2009. This was done together with the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT) and the Asia-Pacific Women in Law and Development (APWLD).

The World YWCA participated in a side event on violence against women, which took place at the UN Human Rights Council. The World YWCA led the panel on peace and migration together with the Worldwide Organisation for Women (WOW), WUNRN (Women’s UN Report Network) and Zimbabwe Girl Child Network. In this session the World YWCA presented its response to the 2008 Zimbabwe election crisis, and linked it to the post-election violence in Kenya where the organisation was also present in relief and assistance efforts.

As a result of the World YWCA’s participation at the Human Rights Council, the World YWCA was invited by the Government of Canada to provide input on VAW resolution in 2009 and again in 2010. This has provided the World YWCA with a good opportunity to ensure that our key messages are included in the resolution and it has also lifted the profile of the World YWCA among the Government Missions in Geneva working on women’s rights.
Goal 3: Good Governance and Accountability

As the World YWCA continues to build a strong movement for change, the organisation continues to build upon the importance of good governance and accountability of YWCAs around the world.

STRENGTHENING THE ORGANISATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

One of the core functions of the World YWCA Office is to provide technical support to Member Associations through advice, visits, review of constitutional documents, building partnerships and facilitating events in countries or regions.

During the reporting period, the World Office undertook a range of activities to support, build capacity or share information with individual Member Associations. This was achieved most notably through visits made to YWCAs around the world. During 2009-2010, 30 associations were visited, providing the World YWCA with the opportunity to learn about some of the innovations and cutting edge work relating to violence against women, sexual and reproductive health and rights and HIV and AIDS and fundraising experiences.

During these visits, the World YWCA invested quality time in accompanying Member Associations that are going through the internal review of their constitutions to comply with the revised World YWCA Constitution (2007).

In 2007, the World YWCA reconfirmed the Standards of Good Management and Accountability (SGMA) - a set of standards that represent a level of management and practice that exhibit quality, responsibility and accountability. During the reporting period, the World YWCA began to systemically work with the movement to use and apply the SGMA.

At the Caribbean and Asia and Pacific Regional Training Institutes, the Standards of Good Management and Accountability Self-Assessment Checklist was introduced and a review exercise was facilitated with 22 Member Associations. The principle of the activity was to work with the Member Associations to identify areas that need to be improved. Board members and YWCA staff facilitated these meetings. Individual Member Associations are working with the SGMA to achieve best practice approaches and many have translated them into their languages and adapted them to the local cultural context.

The World YWCA worked intensively with the Board in reviewing the constitutions, and in establishing an on-going dialogue with the YWCA developing groups that are working towards affiliation. This work continued with the follow-up visit for the YWCA US Virgin Islands that has been recommended by the Board for affiliation. The World Office continued to support Haiti, Burkina Faso, Mali, Mongolia, Timor Leste, Armenia, Malta, Costa Rica and Cote d’Ivoire, all of whom are also working towards affiliation, but who have not yet been recommended by the Board.
YWCA of Belarus - Story of an Inspiring YWCA

The World YWCA Programme Director for Europe, Kristen Roaldseth Moyer, had the opportunity to visit the YWCA of Belarus when she was invited to attend the Europe and Central Asia Faith-Based Organisations Forum on Population and Development on August 31 - September 2, 2009, in Minsk. The YWCA of Belarus has a strong focus on trafficking of women and young women and was one of the first non-governmental organisations to address the issue in the country.

Belarus has ratified the Protocol on Trafficking in Persons to the 2000 UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (Palermo Protocol). The YWCA of Belarus gave their advice for this protocol, and some of their recommendations have been taken into account, such as referral mechanisms, legal procedures, national action plans and social assistance. They have developed good cooperation with the national government bodies on this issue.

The YWCA of Belarus also provides prevention support. They operate a hotline that averages 15,000 calls a year. They are also addressing the issue of violence against women in the country. Police and various social organisations in Belarus contact the YWCA when they come across Belarusian girls abroad. The YWCA meets the women at the airport, and provides needed services. Women’s health is also a priority of the association and it has lobbied the Ministry of Health to provide free mammographies to women. The YWCA of Belarus is also working in partnership with The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and have organised a club for women refugees.

“The visit to the YWCA of Belarus was very inspiring and motivating,” reflected Roaldseth Moyer. “They are a very strong YWCA and they are truly addressing the needs of women and young women in Belarus.”

The World YWCA transmits the values and work of the movement through various publications and multimedia in order to ensure that the priority areas of the organisation are advanced and that its work and the activities of the Member Associations are visible and easily accessible. The World YWCA supports Member Associations by sharing resources, news of its work and advocacy efforts, and by disseminating information on YWCA programmes around the world.

The World YWCA developed a communications strategy for each of the YWCAs Regional Trainings Institutes (RTIs), which include various results such as coverage through the website and stories in electronic newsletters. With these products, the World YWCA has provided the voice, visibility and analysis on the issues and has showcased YWCA projects and good practices. During the RTIs, press conferences and media encounters
were organised. This was strategic in terms of building relationships with the local media and reaching out to the audience in the country or region, as well as giving visibility to the YWCA in the host country.

In addition, the RTI programmes honed the communications skills of YWCA women leaders with, for example, an open training on “how to communicate your message,” and another on social media, thus creating a space for participants to keep in touch after the RTIs.

The World YWCA continued to publish its printed magazine, Common Concern, as a vehicle for informing Member Associations and partners of critical issues affecting women and girls and to share experiences and programme models across the movement.

During the year, the World YWCA completed an extensive website redesign. The new website aims to meet the needs of its readers and the new look reflects the richness and vibrancy of the YWCA movement. The website information has been restructured by popular topics and themes and the homepage contains quick links to the most popular topics. In order to keep readers informed on new website content, the Communications Department introduced a weekly newsletter, Women’s Voice. During its first year of existence, the Women’s Voice was sent to over 900 subscribers, thus keeping Member Associations, partners and friends of the World YWCA up to date with the latest information on the movement. During the reporting period, the average open rate was 29% and a click rate average of 20%, demonstrating the success of the Women’s Voice. 1

A short film on how to write an abstract in order to attend the International AIDS Conference was produced during the reporting period. This resource was shared with YWCAs around the world, as well as HIV and AIDS activists. An online portal of resources was also provided and it includes tutorials, technical support, conference scholarship training and guidelines and resources on HIV and women. The video includes a step-by-step demonstration on how to create a conference profile for the International AIDS Conference, including how to submit abstracts online, apply for a scholarship or get involved in the Global Village. As Sophie Dilmatis, World YWCA SRHR and HIV Coordinator said, “It is incredibly important for YWCAs to share the great work they are doing on HIV and AIDS at the international level.”

This year the work of young women also continued to be showcased. The work and voice of interns, for example, was profiled in various materials. Facebook and other social media tools and technology, including the “Women Leading Change” Blog were used throughout the year to promote the voices and roles of women and young women in the YWCA. During the week of the Commission on the Status of Women in March 2010 for example, the Blog was viewed 871 times. For the various regional and international activities, the World YWCA reached out to the inclusion and participation of young women.

1 Average rate standards for non-profit organisations: 22.4%
Supporting the Governance of the Organisation

The World YWCA has a two-tier system of governance comprised of the World YWCA Council and the World YWCA Board. The World Office supported the World Board’s work during the reporting period. This included the organisation of the annual Board Meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland, and support to the Committees of the Board.

The Board and the Committees focused on the following agenda priorities and issues during the reporting period:

- **The Constitution and Governance Committee** led the work around the suggested constitutional amendments proposed for World Council 2011, reviewed and evaluated Board effectiveness, and gave advice on possible constitutional amendments related to the regionalisation policy discussions that are on-going within the organisation.

- **The Membership Support Committee** reviewed the Standards of Good Management and Accountability tool, supported the work of developing groups working towards affiliation and supported a reflection on the general health of the movement.

- **The Programme and Advocacy Committee** was actively involved in providing support and advised on the International Women’s Summit and the Mary Robinson Award for Young Women’s Leadership in Human Rights.

- **The Finance Committee** continued with oversight on organisational budget and expenditure and tracking of fundraising against the budget. The Finance Committee also provided consistent and critical advice to the General Secretary during the reporting period, recognising the external financial crisis and its impact on the organisation.

- **The Fund Development Committee** guided the World Office in preparation for the organisational resource mobilisation strategy for the programme, as well as for the World YWCA Council.

Creating Safe Spaces for Young Women’s Development in Malaysia

The YWCA of Malaysia has launched a 4-year campaign to attract and increase the participation of younger women in the association. The campaign was designed with assistance from Bozell Worldwide, a leading marketing agency. The Programme, ‘Creating Safe Spaces for Young Women’s Development’, kick-starts the initiative to build a critical mass of young women that are well equipped to mentor, nurture and integrate new members.

The Power to Change Fund will support approaches to enable the YWCA to be a safe space for young women, where they have a sense of belonging, leadership and creativity, thus enhancing their self-esteem and contribution to their community.
# Financial Overview

## BALANCE SHEET (SWISS FRANCS)

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<th>March 31, 2010</th>
<th>March 31, 2009</th>
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<td><strong>FUND BALANCES AND RESERVES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Unrestricted funds</strong></td>
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<td>International Building Fund</td>
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<td><strong>Total fund balances and reserves</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LIABILITIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Non Current Liabilities</strong></td>
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<td>Amounts held on behalf of member associations- long term portion</td>
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<td>Donations received in advance - Long term portion</td>
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<td>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</td>
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<td>Amounts held on behalf of member associations</td>
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<td>Donations received in advance - Short term portion</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities, Funds Balances and Reserves</strong></td>
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<td>16,407,361</td>
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The full audited accounts are available on request.
Distribution of Power to Change Fund Projects 2009 - 2010

Priority Issues 2009-2010

- Peace with justice and economic empowerment: 24%
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV and AIDS: 58%
- Violence Against Women and Human Rights: 18%

Over 25% of project participants were young women aged 30 or under
## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES

### UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Core Programme</th>
<th>Other Reserves</th>
<th>Endowment Fund</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORT AND REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Contributions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecumenical Support</td>
<td>672,153</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>62,404</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations for New Headquarters</td>
<td>12,477</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacies</td>
<td>6,076</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>753,110</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Affiliation Fees</td>
<td>587,700</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>27,683</td>
<td>9,992</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total support and revenue</strong></td>
<td>1,368,493</td>
<td>9,992</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENDITURES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs</td>
<td>(126,744)</td>
<td>(3,228)</td>
<td>(1,923,310)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other administration costs</td>
<td>(401,039)</td>
<td>(11,319)</td>
<td>(1,730)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Programme expenditure</strong></td>
<td>(785,882)</td>
<td>(785,882)</td>
<td>(687,653)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funds Distributed to Member Associations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditures</strong></td>
<td>(527,783)</td>
<td>(14,547)</td>
<td>(1,730)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET FINANCE COSTS</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest and dividend income</td>
<td>101,111</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on disposal of available-for-sale</td>
<td>52,398</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gain on foreign currency exchange</td>
<td>171,080</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on disposal of available-for-sale</td>
<td>(11,458)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss on foreign currency exchange</td>
<td>(79,462)</td>
<td>(368,588)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impairment loss on available-for-sale</td>
<td>(368,007)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total net finance costs</strong></td>
<td>233,669</td>
<td>(736,595)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SURPLUS (DEFICIT) before undernoted items</strong></td>
<td>1,074,379</td>
<td>(741,150)</td>
<td>(1,730)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fund balances - start of year</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(690,866)</td>
<td>4,697,993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjustment for Available-for-sale Securities Reserves</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,924,080</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inter-Fund transfers</td>
<td>(1,222,635)</td>
<td>91,143</td>
<td>12,477</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inter-Fund transfer to Core / from Endowment Fund</td>
<td>148,256</td>
<td>(148,256)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FUND BALANCES END OF YEAR</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>583,207</td>
<td>4,560,484</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There were no discontinued operations and no other comprehensive income during the year.
## STATEMENT OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009 AND 2010 (SWISS FRANCS)

### RESTRICTED USE FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leadership Permanent Funds</th>
<th>Specific Programmes</th>
<th>International Building Fund</th>
<th>J &amp; U Porter Funds</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>53,914</td>
<td>273,257</td>
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<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>615,290</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,450,862</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53,914</td>
<td>2,339,409</td>
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</table>

### TOTAL ALL FUNDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Membership Contributions</td>
<td>327,171</td>
<td>316,108</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ecumenical Support</td>
<td>672,153</td>
<td>-</td>
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<td>9,992</td>
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<td>2,391,510</td>
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<td>187,456</td>
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<td>120,377</td>
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<td>288,897</td>
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</table>

The full audited accounts are available on request.
Leadership

Organisational Structure

World YWCA Board Members

Officers

Susan Brennan, President, Australia
Comfort Ani, Vice President, Nigeria
Anna-Kaisa Ikonen, Vice President, Finland
Ping Lee, Vice President, Taiwan
Reem Najjar, Vice President, Jordan
Jessica Notwell, Vice President, Canada
Deborah Thomas, Vice President, Trinidad and Tobago
Maureen Bell, Treasurer, Canada

World Board Members

Arda Aghazarian, Palestine
Valeria Arriaga Mejia, Honduras
Silvanna Ayaipoma de Mattos, Peru
Carolyn Flowers, USA
Maria Morena Galvelo, Philippines
Icilda Humes, Belize
Kirsty Kelly, Great Britain
Juliate Keya Malakar, Bangladesh
Alice Mirimo Kabetsi, Democratic Republic of Congo
Constance Shumba, Zimbabwe
Sepora Tagaloa, American Samoa
Geeske Zanen, The Netherlands
# WORLD YWCA STAFF

## GENERAL SECRETARIAT
Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, General Secretary, Zimbabwe  
Ana Villanueva, Assistant to the General Secretary, Argentina

## PROGRAMMES
Natalie Fisher-Spalton, Deputy General Secretary, Canada  
Kristin Roaldseth-Moyer, Programme Director for Europe, Norway  
Sophie Dilmitis, SRHR and HIV Coordinator, Zimbabwe  
Juli Dugdale, Programme Director Asia and Pacific, Australia  
Marie-Claude Julsaint, Programme Director Americas and Caribbean, Haiti  
Caterina Lemp, Programme Assistant for Americas and Caribbean, Asia and Pacific, Chile  
Dr. Hélène Yinda, Programme Director for Africa and the Middle East (Until December 2009)  
Hendrica Okondo, Programme Director Africa and Middle East, Kenya (From March 2010)  
Paola Salwan, Programme Assistant for Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Lebanon

## CAMPAIGNS AND COMMUNICATIONS
Kaburo Kobia, Communications Director, Kenya (Until December 2009)  
Sylvie Jacquat, Communications Assistant, Switzerland (Communications Director from April 1, 2010)  
Sarah Davies, Communications Assistant, Aotearoa/New Zealand

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
Jane Bennett, Director for Finance and Administration, Ireland  
Mandy Nogarede, Finance Assistant, Great Britain  
Marie-Antoinette Santschi, Personnel Assistant, Switzerland  
Lynn Sorrentino, Fundraising Coordinator, USA  
Aika-Ruwa Temu, Accountant, Tanzania  
Fiona Wilkie, Systems Coordinator (until December 2009; World Council 2011 Coordinator from January 2010), Great Britain

## INTERNS
### Long Terms Interns
Andrea Núñez Argote, YWCA of Mexico (Jan-Dec 2009)  
Moo Moo Hsoe, YWCA of Myanmar (Jan-Dec 2009)  
Kuena Diaho, Lesotho (Jan-Dec 2010)  
Ravicka Phillip, Grenada (Jan-Dec 2010)

### Short term interns:
Chelsey Butchereit, YWCA USA

## INVESTMENT ADVISORY GROUP
Carol Baldi  
Dominique de St Pierre  
Murielle Joye (Chairperson)  
Sylvie Pralong  
William Rilliet  
Philip Treyvaud

## VOLUNTEERS AND CONSULTANTS
The World YWCA expresses its heartfelt gratitude to the many volunteers and consultants who contributed time, energy and skills to the movement over 2009-2010, supporting headquarter operations, fundraising, capacity building and advocacy work.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tiara Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veronica Francescutti</td>
<td>Emery</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Marisa Ribordy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liz Nash</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Page Perron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Anandi Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Balderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Barnett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Higelin-Beg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Bihute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elaine Carlson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonnie Fatio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joyce Feinberg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jill Gay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marc Nogarede</td>
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<tr>
<td>Claire Rigolé</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hendrik</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stroosma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brigitte Vought</td>
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<tr>
<td>Céline Boisson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Béatrice Peyron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emilie Duffour</td>
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<tr>
<td>María Fernanda Diaz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inés Hidalgo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lourdes Saad Olivera</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maritza Vitela</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Iloenyosi</td>
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</tr>
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</table>
The World YWCA gratefully acknowledges and recognizes the following partners for their contributions and support over the past year:

African Women's Development Fund, Ghana
EED – Church Development Service, Germany
AUSAID, Australia
Christian Aid, Great Britain
Evangelical Lutheran Church, USA
Ford Foundation, USA
Horyzon, YWCA/YMCA Switzerland
ICCO en KerkinActie, Netherlands
International Aids Society, Global
Management Sciences for Health (from USAID), USA
Member YWCAs
Norwegian Church Aid, Norway
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, USA
UNFPA, Global
UNDP, Global
UNIFEM, Global
Y Global, Norway
World Day of Prayer, Germany

And many other contributions from organisations, individual YWCA members, and friends, including those made by and through Member Associations.
To make a donation via bank transfer:
Bank: UBS SA
Rue des Noirettes 35
CP 2600
CH-1211 Geneva
Swift Code: UBSWCHZH12A

Account numbers:
279-C0797187.0 (CHF)
279-C0797187.1 (USD)
279-C0797187.2 (Euro)

IBAN Numbers:
CH45 0027 9279 C0797187.0 (CHF)
CH18 0027 9279 C0797187.1 (USD)
CH88 0027 9279 C0797187.2 (EUR)

In the name of:
World YWCA
16 Ancienne Route,
CH-1218 Grand Saconnex

For more information contact:
Jane E. Bennett
Director of Finance and Administration, World YWCA
Email: jane.bennett@worldywca.org
Tel: +41 22 929 60 47
Fax: +41 22 929 60 44

To make a donation online:
Online donations to the World YWCA available:
www.worldywca.org/donate
World YWCA

WorldYWCA
16 Ancienne Route
1218 Grand Saconnex
Geneva, Switzerland
tel: +4122 9296040
fax: +4122 9296044
e-mail: worldoffice@worldywca.org

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www.worldywca.org

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