

Preliminary remark: Unfortunately there are neither minutes nor a résumé from the the 4th meeting of the initiators. That is way the German delegates, after many enquiries, have written this resume and outlook.

Résumé of the 4. meeting of the initiators planning the World Women's Conference in Venezuela 2001, Caracas in November 2009

The forth meeting of the initiators committee planning the World Women's Conference (WWC) took place in Caracas on 23rd and 24th, November 2009. On the 25th of November the project of the WWC was publicized during a event organized by Ana Soto on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women in Caracas. At the initiators' meeting took part: two members of Ana Soto, representing the planning process in Venezuela, one member of Confemec representing the planning process in Ecuador, one women from Argentina, one representative from the Middle East and one delegation from Europe with elected delegates from the Netherlands and Germany representing the continental planning process in Europe. We won over new great women supporting and enriching our planning.

Unfortunately, at the same time no women from the Asian, African and North American continent could take part for different reasons, although it had been aspired and decided. Interferences and problems with visa were one problem. Another one is that the national or continental planning processes were not advanced enough and the financial situation is still extremely problematic.

The following decisions were made for the further planning on the forth meeting of the initiators:

1. The **decisions on the two pillars of the conference** as decided upon on the first three initiators' meetings in 2008 and 2009 and written down in the basic principles, are confirmed

2. With one abstention the **program** was decided. It realizes the interplay between the general assembly and the mass participation which says that there should not be a distinction between delegates and other participating women.

	Friday, 04th March 2011	Saturday, 05th March 2011	Sunday, 06th March 2011	Monday, 07th March 2011	Tuesday 08th March 2011
Morning	9:00am - 01:00pm Arrival, registration •grand opening: •national anthem Venezuela •Welcoming •Presentation of the planning process of the •Greetings •Cultural elements (Venezuela) •Orientation about the Conference's work Lunch	9:00am - 01:00pm Workshops und activities for mass participation Lunch	9:00am - 01:00pm Workshops und activities for mass participation Lunch	9:00am - 01:00pm General assembly 9:00am - 01:00pm Workshops und activities for mass participation Lunch	9:00 am Women's March 8th March and ending of the conference
Afternoon	3pm-6pm Programme for mass	2pm-6pm General	2pm-6pm General	3pm Plenum	

	participation start workshops	assembly <u>3pm-6pm</u> Workshops <u>07:00pm</u> Cultural programme	assembly <u>3pm-6pm</u> Workshops <u>07:00pm</u> Cultural programme	Resolution vote on the results of the general assembly's and workshops' discussions	
	<u>07:00pm</u> Cultural programme				

•Delegates will be enabled to take part in workshops and the general assembly has to be informed about results of the workshops.

The general assembly guaranties to include the results of the discussion forums and workshops. .

•The forth initiators' committee confirms that the forums/ workshops can make decisions and approve resolutions just like the general assembly

Except point 10 of the principles the final plenum (the "plenaria") decides if it takes further resolutions and conclusions into account or includes them in the voting.

3. A list of **topics** for the WWC is presented by Argentina. They suggest:

1. **Special oppression of Women.** Violence against women, prostitution, trafficking of girls and women, religious discrimination and oppression
2. **Sexuality.** The women's right to self-determination concerning their own bodies. pleasures and duties, sex education from primary school onwards, birth control and abortion.
3. **Women's movement and feminism.**
4. **Equal pay for equal work.** Childcare at work, discrimination of women concerning the access to higher positions, discrimination of mothers.
5. **Salary for women's work in rural families.** Agrarian reforms and properties for women in semi-feudal, semi-colonial, countries that are subordinated and dependent on imperialism, protection of our natural environment –earth, air and water.
6. **Hunger and malnutrition** in a world of plenty and overproduction
7. **Indigenous women and women of suppressed nationalities** Women against racism and xenophobia.
8. **Young women:** work, university, sports and entertainment, their involvement in the women's movement and in politics.
9. **Achievements of women in the socialist experiences of the 20th century,** restoration of capitalism and consequences for women.
10. **Wars of aggression and the role of women in the fight for independence** effects of imperialistic politics and globalization

These topics are accepted and amended and the following added:

Imperialism as root of problems; **struggle**, women's **experience of struggle** and **forms of organization** worldwide, → political and economic situation of women; **agricultural reforms** and situation of the **rural women, women's movement and environment policy**, discussion about **socialism** as an alternative system, political activities of **young women and girls**, **wars of aggression**, situation of **migrants**

These changes/ amendments will be integrated by S/Argentina and send to the other women/committees as soon as possible. Upon receipt of these document the other countries and continents will have four weeks time to suggest modifications. Afterwards Susanna and Cecilia will do the final editing and send the topics to the different countries as soon as possible.

4. The ultimate date for the registration of delegates is set upon 30-11-2010.

For all other participants it is left open.. For the planning in Venezuela it is important to inform them as soon as possible about how many will come.

5. The 4th initiators' committee agrees that Ecuador will work out a suggestion for the regulations within four weeks. It is said that it will be finished between the 20th and the 27th December and sent to the other initiators to make further suggestions.

6. Finances:

- An international bank account will be opened in Venezuela;
- A calculation of the WWC will be made
- Tuky/Netherlands writes and letter for donations on the 25th or 26th of November.

7. The two **next meetings** are set:

- One meeting, concerned especially with the **organizational planning**, will take place in Latin America either in Argentina in May 2010 or in Ecuador in July 2010. Exact time and location will be agreed upon in January.
- An **extended initiators' committee** will take place in Germany in the end of September 2010 (28th -30th September) on the verge of the Women's Political Council. The organization/country responsible for meeting, will send an invitation including time and location 2 month in advance; an agenda should be sent early enough

8. The **manifesto for International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women** is approved with some corrections and it is read out on the event of the 25th in Caracas and will be sent to the different countries.

Ausblick

During our stay in Venezuela we could get a closer look at the country as well as the live and struggle of its people. Especially the friendship among the initiators was strengthened und we could learn a lot from each other. For instance, how the Venezuelan women build up the "Frente" for the World Women's conference on basis of the three documents. The European delegation was impressed by the atmosphere in Venezuela, the open-minded and politically aware discussions of women, the enthusiasm for international solidarity and for the World Women's Conference as well as the high interest in the book "*New perspectives for the liberation of women*"

We are looking toward to an eventful year ahead of us!

2010 the 9th International Women's Counsel will take place in Germany from the 1st - 3rd , October. It will be organized as "trial" of the WWC - there will be an international women's assembly along with workshops and forums, too - to practice the interplay between general assembly and mass participation.

At the international women's assembly continental reports about the situation of women in the world economic- and financial crisis will be a first focal point.

Furthermore, the planning of the WWC in connection to life, struggle and visions of women will be a further emphasis. Forums and workshops are supposed to prepare the WWC thematically (see list of topics) but also practically, e.g. sponsoring, travel planning or the planning of the women power-brigades.

Groups from different German cities are inviting women from all over the world to join in this international women's political event! Max. three Delegates of each country are invited to take part in the international women's assembly. The women from the different countries have to decide how their three delegates are put together.

It is important that those people wanting to take part in the 9th International Women's Counsel will inform us as soon as possible, to connect for the continental reports.

Just ahead of the Counsel, on 28th-30th September the fifth extended initiators' meeting will take place - also in Germany. Therefore, it is important for national planning processes to intensify their work and to focus on the continental connection. Each continent is allowed to send two delegates to the initiators' meeting, the Middle East is allowed to send one delegate.

In 2010 each national planning committee has to decide about the ways they will choose their delegates for the WWC. The ultimate date for the registration of delegates is set upon 30-11-2010

An exciting and eventful year lies ahead of us!

Onwards to the World Women's Conference in Venezuela 2011!

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