*FAWCO’s ECOSOC Report*

 *Activities 2009- 2012*

*\**NOTE TO READER- The ECOSOC report is now done online and organizations are required to respond to questions in a strict format and the entire report is limited to 700 words, hence numerous abbreviations have been used.

*Part I*

 *1. INTRODUCTION TO YOUR ORGANIZTION*

*Founded in 1931, The Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) is international network of independent clubs and associations with 75+ member clubs in 40 countries with membership of over 15,000.*

*2. AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZTION*

*FAWCO promotes the rights of American citizens overseas and contributes to the global community through its volunteer activities at the United Nations, its Global Task Forces and The FAWCO Foundation, which provides development grants and education awards.*

*FAWCO’s primary interest is “women” and it concentrates its activities into four main areas of concern- human rights, education, health and the environment.*

*3. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE ORGANIZATION? None*

*Part II*

*4. CONTRIBUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION TO THE WORK OF THE UN*

*FAWCO representatives regularly participate on NGO subcommittees of the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW) at all three of the main United Nations headquarters including the Working Group on Girls and Girl’s Tribunal Taskforce in New York as well as the Working Group on Violence against Women in Geneva. Through the CSW, FAWCO has signed on to various statements with other organizations on women’s issues. Since 2008, FAWCO as sponsored a website devoted to Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human rights at* [*www.erooseveltudhr.org*](http://www.erooseveltudhr.org).

*On September 26,2011, FAWCO sponsored its first High Level Panel at United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland during the 18th session of the Human Rights Council (HRC) on the topic of “Women and the Right to Water.”*

*FAWCO publicizes the work of the United Nations, through its website (www.fawco.org), regular NGO bulletins, monthly electronic newsletters as well as its printed publication, the FORUM (www.fawco.org/index.php? option=com\_docman&Itemid=200426). FAWCO highlights the work of the United Nations at its annual conferences by focusing on specific UN issues and invites speakers such as the Director of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) at its 2010 Vilnius conference, and the UNESCO Chair of Sustainable Water Management in Marrakesh, Morocco in 2011. Last year many FAWCO clubs participated in the “16 Days Campaign Against Violence against Women.”*

*FAWCO has regularly joined with other American organizations in petitioning Congress to ratify the Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) as well as the Convention for the Rights of the Child(CRC) . FAWCO joined other organizations to urge the United States Congress to support the United Nations and pay its full dues on time.*

*5. PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS OF THE UN*

*FAWCO representatives attended the Department of Information (DPI) conference in Melbourne, Australia 30 – 2 September 2010 and the DPI conference in Bonn, Germany 3-5 September 2011.*

*FAWCO representatives regularly attend DPI briefings and communications programs in New York. Unfortunately, attendance at other meetings is limited by budgetary constraints, volunteer time and geographic distance from headquarters.*

*For a list of meetings attended by FAWCO representatives between 2009-2012 go to* [*FAWCO UN MEETINGS 2009-2012*](http://www.fawco.org/fawco-the-un/what-we-do/communications/un-meetings/meeting-reports/2664-un-meetings-attended-by-fawco)

*6. COOPERATION WITH UN BODIES*

*FAWCO is a member of UN Women through the United States National Committee of UN Women. (USNC).*

*7. INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE ORGANIZATION IN SUPPORT OF THE MDGS.*

*In 2009, FAWCO began a four-year ”Target Program” designed to support the MDGs. The project selected was “Wells for Clean Water in Cambodia,” aimed at MDG # 7, to ensure environmental sustainability . FAWCO partnered with Tabitha, to dig wells and provide pumps. To date, over $160,000 has been raised for 267 family wells and 370 field wells, improving the lives of 1541 families. (see*

[*http://www.fawco.org/index.php?option=com\_content&view=category&id=238&Itemid=200538*](http://www.fawco.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=238&Itemid=200538)*)*

 *Each year FAWCO supported MDG –related projects through the FAWCO Foundation Development Grants of $4500 each.*

*(See* [*www.fawcofoundation.org*](http://www.fawcofoundation.org)*)*

 *Past recipients include:*

*Health-related*

*(2009) Kibarani Children- Knebel, Kenya (2010) Fistula Foundation - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Spread the Sunshine- Moscow, Russia; Mothers Averting AIDS – Khayelitsha, South Africa (2011) Little Wings , Middle East; HIV/AIDS Awareness- Katosi , Uganda(2012) Blindness prevention - Ethiopia; Women for Girls- Senegal*

 *Human Rights -related*

*(2009) Pension Villa Maira - Bern, Switzerland (2010) Ae Ran Seumter - Seoul, Korea (2011) Hodi Peace Center- Marsabit, Kenya; Eden Women’s Ministry- Shanghai, China (2012 ) Ruhama- Dublin, Ireland*

*Environment-related (2009) Needy Children - Malindi, Kenya*

*(2010) Wells Oyani, Kenya (2011) Water for Mentawai - Menatwai Indonesia*

*(2012) Feeding Education - Kenya*

*Education-related*

*(2009) Mercy Children’s - Burmala, Kenya; Amani School Kenya; Five Loaves Wicklow, Ireland (2010) School Aid -South Africa; Tsarang School - Kathmandu, Nepal; Teachers Without Borders - South Africa (2011) W Nunkui Bogata, Columbia (2012 ) Associazione Onlus- Sri Lanka; Thanda Children’s Library South Africa*