

LEGISLATIVE AWARENESS & ADVOCACY/UNITED NATIONS

UNITE TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

CAMPAIGN

UMIFEM Executive Director Ines Alberdi launched *Say NO—Unite to End Violence against Women*. This advocacy initiative is now live at www.saynotoviolence.org. At the site you can view the video of the launch program in Kenya. While in Kenya, Ms. Alberdi visited a hospital that offers treatment and counseling of survivors of sexual violence. They also help to educate girls

about such violence and ways to address it.

UNIFEM is asking all of us to join with women around the world. You can visit the site and add your name to the growing list of those who are taking some action to stop violence against women.

International figures show that seventy per cent of women suffer some sort of violence in their lifetime. In

the United States it is one in three.

The Say No—Unite to End Violence against Women website records what individuals, organizations and governments worldwide are doing to end violence against women.

Your voice matters. Tell your government officials how you feel.

STOP
Violence Against Women

Zonta of Northern Valley Can Help

To join the campaign, each of our members can do several small things. Each of us can register on the Say NO website. Each of us can help raise awareness about violence against women. The statistics are clear and undeniable.

The goal of the campaign is to gather 100,000 “actions” by March and one million actions by November 2010.

Whether you volunteer to help SOS, donate or advocate for better policies, every action counts.

More than 5 million people had already signed on to the original Say NO campaign. We can all add our names to this “powerful” call to take one action now.

You can also sign up to stay informed of the progress of the campaign.



Written

&

Edited

By

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Visit us at:

www.zontanvnj.org



NEW UN AGENCY

On September 14th, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/63/311 which unanimously supported the creation of a new gender equality entity to be headed by an under-secretary general. This new entity will unite four UN gender-specific entities, UNIFEM, OSAGI (Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues), the Division for the Advancement of Women and INSTRAW (United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) into a new agency.

UNIFEM's statement is, "UNIFEM welcomes the unanimous strong support for the consolidation of the UN gender specific bodies, underscored by the General Assembly Resolution endorsed today. This is an important step towards addressing the gaps and challenges in the existing UN gender architecture. Effecting the consolidation will strengthen the effectiveness of the UN System, including UNIFEM, in advancing gender equality and women empowerment."

Over the past three years, the US National Committee for UNIFEM, along with other national committees and women's organizations, joined forces with women around the globe to advocate for a better, stronger agency. Hopefully the new organization will be created in 2010, the 15th anniversary year of the UN Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing.



YOU, TOO, CAN BECOME A MEMBER OF UNIFEM

Many are not aware that UNIFEM has chapters all over the United States. They are UNIFEM-USA chapters and welcome members who believe in the work of UNIFEM and are willing to help expand support for UNIFEM and raise needed funds.

The 2010 UNIFEM Annual Conference will take place in New York in June 2010. The New York Metro chapter will be "hosting" the two day conference. If anyone is interested in joining the NY Metro chapter., contact Mary Ann Tarantula at marymac43@verizon.net.

Abigail Disney, granddaughter of Walt Disney, has produced a documentary, "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," which she has made available for viewing in order to raise funds for UNIFEM. The LAA/UN Committee will be looking into having several showings. This will be a two fold opportunity. It will bring needed funds to UNIFEM and it will enhance the image of Zonta and, perhaps, bring in new members.

We will be attempting to interest various libraries and movie houses to partner with us in this endeavor. We will look to do several of these showings in the spring. It is another way in which we can further increase awareness of women's issues.