

# WGNRR

## FACTSHEET



### What do we want?

For sexual and reproductive rights to be respected as universal and indivisible human rights;

For all peoples to have the social, political and economic power and resources to make autonomous decisions about our gender, sexuality and when, whether and how many children we have;

For everyone to be able to enjoy a safe and pleasurable sex life with their partner of choice, free from violence and coercion;

For comprehensive sexuality education to be fully available via formal and informal education programmes in all of our communities, and not subjected to obstruction or stigmatisation by other institutions or influential persons;

For all peoples to have access to universal, non-discriminatory sexual and reproductive health information and services;

For the right to safe, legal abortion services and post-abortion care to be provided with full, sustained government support so that services are accessible, affordable and available in all our communities, regardless of age or marital status;

For there to be an end to the stigmatisation and criminalisation of those of us who choose to access safe abortion services, who offer safe abortion services, and/or who advocate for safe, legal abortion.

*“We advocate and campaign for the realization of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all people.”*

### Who is WGNRR?

We understand SRHR to include a set of interrelated universal, indivisible and inalienable human rights accompanied by the necessary socio-economic conditions for them to be realised. Full SRHR, including access to safe, legal, and voluntary abortion, enable all peoples to have safe, and fulfilling sexual lives; to express their gender identity and sexual orientation; to access comprehensive information and services; and to freely decide if, when, how often and with whom to have children, free from coercion and violence.

### Our History

WGNRR was established over 30 years ago in the Netherlands. At that time the organisation had a local Dutch board and mainly unpaid volunteers. In 2005 it was decided to move from the global north to the global south and create an International Board. The decision follows the strategic aim of the network to bring issues and experiences of local SRHR groups, particularly in the global south, into global policy debates. This was aimed at ensuring that the content of global civil society SRHR advocacy was informed by local and national SRHR concerns.

In 2008 the organisation was registered in the Philippines as a branch of a Dutch NGO, and Manila became the coordinating Office where the finance and operations team, the Asia Programme Officer and the Executive Director are based. In 2011 we appointed our African Programme Officer in Tanzania and in 2015 WGNRR- Africa became formally registered as a local NGO. In 2013 we established a small staff team in Mexico, where our advocacy and campaigns staff are currently located.

### Our Mission

We are a southern-based global network that builds and strengthens movements for sexual and reproductive health, rights (SRHR) and justice. Our work is grounded in the realities of those who most lack economic, social and political power. Through critical analysis and strategic actions, we connect members and allies, build knowledge, organise campaigns and share resources. WGNRR works to realise the full sexual and reproductive health and rights of all people, with a particular focus on the most marginalised. We believe that achieving this goal requires transformative social change.

### Our Values

WGNRR works within rights, justice and feminist frameworks. Our guiding principles are non-discrimination, respect, equality, transparency, accountability and inclusivity. We are committed to equality for all genders and value diversity. We are member-focused, self-reflective and independent from political, governmental and religious institutions.

### Our Vision

WGNRR envisages a world where all people can fulfill their sexual and reproductive rights.

### Our Membership

WGNRR currently has approximately 1000 members located in 83 countries around the world. We provide members with regular information on SRHR developments and advocacy and campaigning opportunities around the globe and facilitate cross national and cross regional networking. We achieve this via our online database, our regular online information bulletins and social media channels as well as our face to face member meetings.

We believe the collective knowledge, skills and experiences of network members are our greatest strength. We are able both to gather realities from within local communities and influence policy and practice from the grassroots upwards to regional and national governments.





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### Our Programmes and Strategies

WGNRR currently has four programme areas Sexual Rights, Abortion, Access to Contraceptives and Youth SRHR.

**We employ 5 strategies within our Programme Areas:**

#### 1. CAMPAIGNING

We provide leadership in articulating and seeking strategic ways to address critical global SRHR issues, with a particular focus on our programme areas. We actively coordinate and promote activities surrounding September 28: Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion; as well as around other key events such as International Women’s Day and Human Rights Day. We also support campaigns and actions of our members and allies.



#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

We provide a range of communication mediums including web site, social media, SMS and face to face activities, for information and resource sharing, advocacy and campaigning, and networking and alliance building, in order to support and inform WGNRR work in the thematic areas.

#### 2. ADVOCACY

Together with our members and allies, we seek to enhance implementation of obligations and commitments in Human Rights treaties and international agreements, such as the ICPD Programme of Action, the Beijing Platform for Action, and the Maputo Protocol, among others. We do this through policy analysis, information dissemination and direct advocacy with international bodies such as the UN, governments, and policy makers and with community leaders. We are also working to influence the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, and to facilitate participation in monitoring and reporting by members. We work to ensure that policy making is informed by the realities of grassroots communities and that the voices of those who lack political, economic and social power are able to influence the decisions that affect them.

#### 3. NETWORKING AND MOVEMENT BUILDING

We identify and connect with grassroots organisations actively working in our programme areas and build strategic alliances to advance organizational objectives. We enhance partnerships and alliances between WGNRR and SRHR/HR organisations in order to better coordinate activities and actions. We also increase connectivity between members, allies and partners with the active participation of grassroots organisations.



#### 5. CAPACITY-BUILDING

We engage in strategic skills sharing and capacity-strengthening of our members to enable them to: undertake rights based advocacy on SRHR, at all levels; to participate in HR monitoring and case reporting; and adopt and adapt HR defense mechanisms within their respective contexts.