



Alliance for the Last Woman First

United Nations Participation Module

Global Widowhood Summit | Feb 11, 2021

There are 3 main ways in which members of the Alliance are able to engage with the United Nations. We have outlined them below.

I. UNWomen: Commission on the Status of Women or “CSW”

The CSW is the world’s largest annual global women’s summit, hosted at the United Nations headquarters in New York. Each year, nearly 10,000 women attend the summit, as do world leaders from every country. The summit is always hosted during the middle two weeks of March. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the 65th session of the CSW, CSW65, will be held virtually from March 15-26, 2021. You can become involved taking these 2 steps:

1. Register with NGO CSW Forum as an “Advocate” to attend CSW Parallel Events

- a. Click on <https://ngocsw.org/events/> and register as an “Advocate” (This is free!)
- b. Choose the parallel events that you wish to attend - **Seven events are on widows!!**
- c. You must register for each event that you attend
- d. Login information will be sent to you after you register for each event.
- e. You will be able to ask questions and learn about each other’s work at the sessions

2. Register with UNWomen to attend UN CSW Side Events – Deadline is February 22, 2021

- a. Click on <https://indico.un.org/event/35605/registration/>
- b. Click on the Register Now button in the lower right hand corner
- c. Register yourself for the event
- d. Select “Global Fund for Widows” from the drop down menu as your sponsor

Your registration will allow you to see and select Side Events held by Member States including ministers, ambassadors, members of parliament, and civil society. Side Events are usually, but not always, held inside the UNHQ and require a grounds pass. A full list of Side Events will be published on the [UNWomen CSW65 website](#) by February 19, 2021.

II. UN Department of Global Communications (DGC)

The [UN Department of Global Communications](#) is the UN’s communications branch. This department’s mission is to ensure that civil society is not just heard within the UN ecosystem, but that civil society is likewise communicating messages from the UN to its’ own ecosystem. It is important to register your organization. With your accreditation, you will receive 6 UN headquarters ground passes, which will enable you to physically attend meetings at the UN. Accredited CSOs will also be able to lead briefings and organize sessions.

To apply:

1. Find the DGC application form at <https://www.un.org/en/civil-society/page/application>
2. Complete all requirements for the application and submit with required documentation



III. Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

The UN Economic and Social Council is the center of the UN development system, coordinating the work of 14 UN agencies, 15 commissions, and 9 UN Funds. ECOSOC's programming is usually High Level. Civil society may apply to receive Consultative Status, meaning that the UN recognizes the NGO as a partner. The application process is intensive, and requires NGOs to have existed for a minimum of 2 years, and be able to furnish critical documents including registrations, by-laws and audited financial reports. It is important that more widows' based organization apply for Consultative Status in order to create critical mass and credibility for the movement in the UN. Consultative Status also allows NGOs to have grounds passes, attend High Level sessions, submit written statements, and offer oral statements.

To apply:

1. Watch the video on how to apply for consultative status:
<http://csonet.org/?page=view&nr=399&type=230&menu=14>
2. Complete application on the csonet.org website: <http://csonet.org/?menu=34>