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Following up on the IWY Tribune

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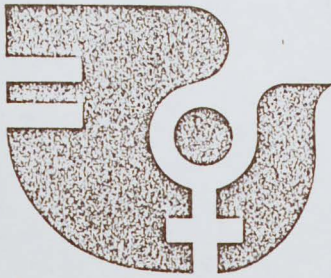


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IWY TRIBUNE 1975 — NON-GOVERNMENTAL FORUM
WORLD CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR

345 EAST 46TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10017
ROOM 815

FOLLOWING UP ON THE
IWY TRIBUNE

TEL.: 212-687-2747
CABLE: MIGRANTO

76

Background:

Six thousand people from 100 countries attended the non-governmental Tribune of International Women's Year. The enthusiasm for the shared experiences in a wide variety of meetings and events in Mexico City is reflected in the spontaneous correspondence still being received by the Tribune Chairman. Among the reports and comments are requests from all areas of the world. The calls for assistance include: information on resource persons, help in establishing links among Tribune participants and consultation on development projects. Correspondents insist that the momentum for increased participation of women in development generated by the Tribune should not be permitted to deteriorate.

UN Secretariat members, NGO representatives, development specialists in private organizations and individuals from developing countries confirm the need for systematic follow-up. Officially, the United Nations has recognized its responsibility to continue the progress initiated by the IWY by declaring a UN Decade for Women. The intergovernmental agencies will be encouraging governments to respond to the interest aroused in the past year. NGOs are also implementing the goals of the Decade and the Conference of NGOs, which sponsored the IWY Tribune, has undertaken a project based on requests from Tribune participants and NGOs which could facilitate and enhance existing programs and proposals. This Tribune follow-up is closely associated with the governmental efforts of the United Nations on behalf of women and has the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency, NGOs and volunteers.

Procedure:

The project is under the chairmanship of Mildred E. Persinger of the IWY Tribune Organizing Committee. She is assisted by Gail Gowanlock, Project Administrator. They are consolidating available material from Tribune and UN files, reports and other communications of organizations and are engaging in a series of consultations in order to determine the most useful emphasis for the project. Discussions are taking place with representatives of NGOs associated with the United Nations, especially those involved in the committees of the Conference of NGOs related to women. Additional talks are being held with officers of research organizations, UN Secretariat members, members of UN missions and individuals involved in development work in their own countries.

Examples of needs emerging from preliminary consultations include regional networks of individuals working in local communities; a roster of persons with special skills; a system for obtaining technical advice and assistance from near-by sources on women's self-help and community development projects; a functional listing of where to obtain needed resources; information on implementation of the World Plan of Action adopted by the World Conference of International Women's Year. Responses from a wider group, including organizations and Tribune participants, are also being solicited.