United Nations NGO Fourth World
Conference on Women
Beijing, China

PEACE TENT

Vision of the Peace Tent
To create a sacred space of security and peace

Those who enter the Peace Tent will be asked to:
  Respect one another
  Actively Listen to One Another
  To communicate through dialogue

SUGGESTED TOPICS

I. Women and Militarism
   A. Reconceptualization of Security
      1. Moving from personal to national to international security
      2. Economic Conversion
      3. Where is the Division of Peace and National Security
      4. Linking Individual and Collective Security
   B. Nuclear Weapon Free World
      1. Plutonium Free Future
   C. Global Reduction of Military Spending
   D. Armsproduction - Armmstrade - Conversion - Disarmament
   E. War and it's Affects on Women and Children of Today's
   F. Sustainable Peace through reduction in armament and military spending

II. Women and Conflict Resolution:
    Personal-Local-Regional National- International
   A. Women in Conflict Areas and under occupation
      1. Oppression of Women as a Threat to Peace
      2. Racism: A Threat To Peace
      3. Dialogue Roundtables
         Women will have an opportunity to share
         information, personal experiences, and success stories of regions
         in conflict and work together in the development of bi-lateral and
         multi-lateral projects (Maryland University and Center for
         International Dialogue and the Institute for Peace and Conflict
         Resolution Studies have offered to organized and train moderators
         for each of these focus roundtable groups


4. Dialogues between Conference Delegates and NGO's
5. Scheduled meetings with five regional groups (one each day) to discuss war and armed conflicts. Each Region would have a portion of one day to present their cultural problems, conflict resolution and prevention, success stories. It was suggested that the ethnic foods from their regions be served outside the tent...their T-shirts and other emblems or souvenirs of peace would be available.

6. Establishing Zones of Peace

B. Conflict Analysis-Prevention and Resolution Training
   I. Domestic, National and International Crises Intervention
   2. Diffusing Conflicts Peacefully and Non-Violently
   3. Presentations of a comprehensive variety of conflict resolution training modules
      a. Maryland University
      b. Center for International Dialogue: Institute for Peace & Conflict Resolution
      c. Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy
      d. Other International Organizations

C. U.N. Mechanisms to Solve Conflicts
   I. Non-Violent NGO models to replace the use of military force, including Peace-Keeping Voice of Women
   2. Democratization of the Security Council
   3. Enforcing all UN Conventions and Decrees about the position of civil population on war and armed conflict
   4. Ending International Peacekeeping forces sexual abuse against children

III. Peace Education
   A. Educational Curriculums
      1. Integrating Conflict Resolution Training into Educational Curriculums for children and adults
      2. Integrating Non-Violence Training into schools world-wide
   B. Inter-Cultural Communications
      1. How we can begin to influence cultures of civilization
      2. How to Educate Men
   C. Creating Sustainable Peace through Education
      1. Continuing education in Conflict Resolution Training
      2. Peace Team Building for women to work in areas of regional and global concern
      3. Removing the obstacles of peace and freedom through prejudice reduction of Racism that leads to conflict & wars
      4. Creating peace stability and a climate for elections
      5. Education and actions for ending Child Abuse

IV. Refugee: Displaced and Uprooted Women

V. Media and Peace Building
   A. Media's role in creating or preventing war
   B. Media, Literacy and Values
   C. Using Media to obtain Peace Objectives
VI. Continuing Communications: Networking and Grassroots Action for Peace

A. Electronic Linkups for Continuing Communications
   1. Computer Technology and Inter-Net Training
   2. Creating a Post-Beijing Central Clearinghouse of Electronic Communication
   3. Develop Electronic News Bulletin to instantly report positive as well as negative news of regional situations
   4. Create Funding Opportunities and budget for faxes and computers for women organizational representatives in under-funded countries

B. Ongoing Conferences and Regional Meetings
   1. Connect the U.S. Diaspora to one another and to women in their Countries in Conflict
   2. Create Educational Brochures and opportunities to help build bridges of dialogue of women from differing cultures and religions
   3. Building Solidarity to impact militarism and disarmament

VII. Video Presentations (2 showings each day @ same time)

A. Film from Bosnia: Ecco Homa: Behold the Man
B. Film of Iraq
C. Female Circumcision Film
D. Women in Leadership (a film of interviews of women Presidents & Prime Ministers
E. Children of War - Laser Disk

VIII. Exhibitions

A. Children's Art: "The Reality of War and A Dream of Peace"
   1. Photographs from the region showing the human pathos and realities of war. 2 or 3 sentence caption under the pictures. (If photos standard size might be made into a book which would be an anthology of regional wars.
   2. Children's Art reflecting their Vision of Peace
   3. Photographs/drawings/paintings of Children living in regional/Urban war zones
   4. Expression through Art as a way of helping to heal the wounds of war.

B. Military Expenditure Maps and Budgets showing comparisons to Social Services UNDP
C. Map of World with Conflict Areas Highlighted
D. International Ribbon Project
E. Clothesline Project
F. Peace Walls
G. Peace Fountains
IX. Cultural Events: Music and Dance: The Art that Transcends Cultural Barriers (same time each day)
dances and songs from a variety of cultures (invite women to join in the dances and songs at the end of each presentation so it is experiential) “Dance through their pain - Dance through the joy” Folk Songs for Peace: Women’s group, Khartoum, Sudan (Presentations from groups of the five geographical regions.

X. Opening and Closing Ceremonies
A. Interfaith Peace Prayers (daily)
   1. Bahai International
   2. Episcopal Women
   3. Women organizing Spiritual Tent
   4. World Peace Prayer Society
B. Meditations for Peace (approximately 15 or 20 minutes)
   (daily Morning and late afternoon meditations before dinner)
C. Unbinding Ceremony: (Ceremony for recognizing obstacles to Security) Journey to Peace and Freedom through Ceremony
   (Break up into small groups according to language. Moderator would give instructions from stage and translators in each group would translate.)
D. Ceremony of Women, Peace and the Earth
   Council of All Beings
   Environmental Groups

The following are some of the PEACE TENT organizing groups:

Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom
Bahai International
Center for International Dialogue
Episcopal Church Center
Maryland University
National Women’s Conference Committee
Peace Links
Peace Caucus Represents 60 organizations in North America Europe, Africa, Carribbean, Latin America, Asia and the Pacific, Middle East
Refugees in Development
Women’s World Summit Foundation
World Federation of Methodist Women