

## **FAWCO Resolutions & Recommendations 2013 – 2015**

FAWCO Resolutions & Recommendations are adopted at Biennial Conferences to serve as guidelines for FAWCO and Member Club action for the next two-year term. They reflect FAWCO's commitment to women's rights, concerns of overseas Americans, and a better and more peaceful world.

### **1. Resolved: To improve the lives of women and girls worldwide, especially in the areas of human rights, health, education and environment.**

Recommended:

1.1 Promote the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, particularly those that address women's issues.

1.2 Increase FAWCO's engagement as an accredited UN NGO by working on global women's issues with UN Women and the UN NGO Committee on the Status of Women, and encouraging club events to celebrate International Women's Day each year.

1.3 Focus Global Task Force efforts on ending violence against women and girls, improving women's health, promoting equal access to education for women and girls, encouraging active aging, and protecting the environment.

1.4 Establish criteria to ensure that the next cycle of the Target Program explicitly improves the lives of women.

1.5 Campaign for ratification by the US Congress of the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and advocate for the inclusion of American women living overseas in the Violence Against Women Act.

### **2. Resolved: To advocate for the rights of American citizens living and working overseas.**

Recommended:

2.1 Serve as a recognized voice in Washington, DC for overseas Americans; work with the Americans Abroad Caucus in the US Congress, the Departments

of State, Treasury and Defense, and partner organizations to shape US legislation and regulations that address the special needs of Americans living abroad, including voting rights, citizenship rights, taxation and banking.

2.2 Provide tools and information to empower overseas Americans to more effectively manage the tax, banking and legal complexities of their overseas lives.

2.3 Disseminate overseas voter registration information, promote and facilitate voting from overseas, and encourage active citizenship.

2.4 Keep FAWCO members informed about issues arising in the US that can have an impact on Americans living and working overseas.

2.5 Advocate for more effective representation in Washington for US citizens overseas.

2.6 Contribute to efforts to obtain reliable statistics on Americans overseas.

**3. Resolved: To support member club success by strengthening the FAWCO network and expanding access to ideas, information and club development resources.**

Recommended:

3.1 Provide opportunities for member club presidents and FAWCO representatives to exchange ideas, information and resources, share best practices, and learn from one another's experiences in order to develop and sustain more successful clubs.

3.2 Improve the user-friendliness of FAWCO's website, making it more attractive, informative and useful to members of FAWCO clubs as well as other women living internationally.

3.3 Stay abreast of the latest available technologies to facilitate communication and promote FAWCO programs.

3.4 Encourage more active participation of member clubs in conferences, regional meetings and FAWCO committees.

3.5 Strengthen the FAWCO network by attracting new member clubs, both

American and international.

**4. Resolved: To contribute to a better and more peaceful world by encouraging all members of FAWCO clubs to practice good global citizenship.**

Recommended:

4.1 Promote opportunities for member clubs to get involved in FAWCO's work on global issues and philanthropy.

4.2 Champion the role of the UN in promoting world peace and improving lives; raise awareness of the work of the UN and encourage member clubs to observe UN Day each year.

4.3 Promote cross-cultural understanding and respect for international perspectives through FAWCO's Sharing Cultures Global Task Force, and at conferences and meetings; encourage member clubs to participate actively in their communities and collaborate with other international organizations.

4.4 Work to meet the educational needs of bi-cultural children and those who learn differently living overseas.

4.5 Encourage international members to stay informed about legislation in their home countries that affects their rights and responsibilities as overseas citizens.

4.6 Serve as models of environmental stewardship by taking steps to reduce the impact of climate change: recycle, reduce energy and water consumption, offset the impact of air travel, and adopt green measures in our daily lives.

**Appendix : UN Millennium Development Goals**

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger.

Achieve universal primary education.

Promote gender equality and empower women.

Reduce child mortality.

Improve maternal health.

Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

Ensure environmental sustainability.

Develop a global partnership for development.