



**MOTIONS Agreed by NWCi MEMBERS
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
6th JUNE 2014**

1. Equality for same sex couples, their families and children

Marriage Equality calls on NWCi to lobby the Government to hold the promised referendum on marriage equality for same sex couples in Ireland as recommended by the Constitutional Convention, and to legislate for equality for children growing up in Ireland with lesbian and gay parents with the proposed Children and Family Relationships Bill as soon as possible.

2. Engaging in the Beijing +20 Process

UCD Women Graduates Association calls on NWCi to raise awareness of the 20th Anniversary of the Beijing World Conference on Women in 2015 and engage with national and international processes surrounding Beijing +20.

3. Abolishment of direct provision system for Asylum Seekers

The direct provision system is impacting on health and wellbeing of women as mothers and carers to their children. AkiDwA work and research clearly show all women living in asylum centres suffer from stress; some of them have been admitted to psychiatric hospitals and their children taken into state care.

4. Quality Public Services

That this meeting calls on the NWCi to campaign and lobby in support of investment in the essential social public services upon which women in our community rely and to oppose the drive to outsource and privatise public services.

5. Women and Smoking

The Irish Cancer Society calls upon the NWCI to raise awareness among its members to demand, support, promote and lobby for smoking cessation services aiding women, particularly in areas where smoking prevalence rates are high. Almost one in three women in Ireland smoke. The burden of smoking related illness is being carried by women in lower socio-economic groups.

6. Decriminalise Abortion

In line with international human rights standards NWCI will support the campaign to decriminalise abortion in Ireland.

7. Promoting more women ethnic organisations' involvement in NWCI and their active participation in its activities

That the NWCI ensure more ethnic minority organisations' membership and participation in its activities is promoted, that a membership drive is geared towards ethnic minority organisations nationally and such organisations are supported and their work recognised in growing an active/vocal membership.

8. Gender Stereotyping

The AGM affirms the work done by the NWCI in combating gender stereotyping, particularly noting the work done by the Y Factor in this regard. The AGM calls on the NWCI to initiate a project to raise awareness of, and examine measures to combat gender stereotyping among young children.

9. Maternity Care

We call on the NWCI to support INMO campaign for improved midwifery staffing levels to ensure optimum care for women and their new born babies.

The international best standards for midwifery staffing levels are 1 midwife per 29.5 deliveries. Ireland has deviated from this international best practice standard, whereby we have some maternity facilities with a ratio of 1 midwife per 55 deliveries.

10. Support for NCCWN Women's Community Development Projects

That the NWCI continue to support and work with the National Collective of Community Based Women's Networks to explore and develop effective ways to ensure that autonomy of the Women's Projects is sustained within the reformed local government structures and that the voices of disadvantaged women are represented in decision making structures locally and nationally.

11. Campaign for ratification and implementation by the Irish Government of the Council of Europe Convention on Violence.

For the NWCI to continue their Campaign for Ireland to ratify and implement the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women (The Istanbul Convention).

12. Women – the Working Poor

That the NWCI will continue to work with the trade union movement and other organisations for the protection of vulnerable women, most especially those in low paid employment

13. Early Identification & Protection of Trafficking Victims.

The NWCI should support the call for the early identification and protection of victims for forced labour.

14. The Development of a National Out-Of-School Care (OSCAR) policy and practice.

One Family propose the NWCI supports the development of a National Out-Of School Care (OSCAR) policy and practice which enables women, parents and in particular those parenting alone to take-up education, skill development and work opportunities and that it is the duty of out of school care services to introduce children and young people to new activity opportunities and experiences- and that choice should not be limited by their experience and understanding. New experiences and opportunities must be introduced in order to expand children's and young people's choice and ultimately their development.

"OSCAR" stands for Out of School Care and Recreation. OSCAR services are before/after school and school holiday programmes for school-aged children. The common features of OSCARS is that they have focus on play and recreation (rather than schooling), operating outside of school hours and in holiday times, and providing care while parents (and particularly lone parents) do other things - work, education, training or taking time for their own activities.

14a Amendment to Motion 14

The primary purpose of out-of-school services should be to support the well-being and holistic development of children and young people. Additionally, the public subsidy and universal accessibility of out-of-school services can support parents to take up education, training and work opportunities. In order to achieve this, NWCI should campaign for out-of-school services to be of high quality, regulated, universally accessible, publicly subsidised and affordable. NWCI should also campaign for professional pay and working conditions - without reliance on employment schemes – for those working in out-of-school services, to ensure the valuing of care work.

Amended motion would read

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15. Integrating Gender and Ethnicity within Maternal Health Policy and Service Development.

Pavee Point calls on the National Women's Council of Ireland to promote, within its work on gender mainstreaming in health, the integration and mainstreaming of ethnicity (including the Traveller community) in maternal health policy and service delivery

16. Repeal the 8th Amendment

That the NWCI supports and campaigns for the repeal of the 8th Amendment to the Constitution.

17. Maternity Leave Facilities and Benefits for Employees and Mothers

The AGM commits to working to undo the inroads made into maternity leave facilities and benefits for employees and mothers.