

# **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK (IASSW)**

## **Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development**

**Board meeting: 13 July 2020**

### **Introduction**

Although the work on the Global Agenda had to be adapted to accommodate the disruption of the Covid-19 pandemic, it is on track in terms of wrapping up the first decade (2010-2020) and preparing for the second one (2020-2030).

The evaluation process of the Global Agenda 2010-2020 and the consultation process for developing themes for the Global Agenda 2020-2030, are overseen by the Global Agenda Task Force in collaboration with the Presidents of IASSW, IFSW and ICSD. The final Global Agenda report on theme four, *Strengthening recognition of the importance of human relationships*, and how the themes overall contributed to delivering on the commitments of the Global Agenda, are in process of finalisation. The proposal for the next two years and the rest of the second decade have been finalised and approved by the Tripartite Group (IASSW, IFSW, ICSD) for consultation.

This report will give an overview on these two processes, the upcoming IFSW conference and the suggested IASSW consultation platforms and processes.

### **Global Agenda 2010-2020**

The evaluation process of the Global Agenda 2010-2020 is overseen by the Global Task Force<sup>1</sup>. The Global Agenda Report is in process of finalisation. The coordinator, Dr David Jones, has confirmed that the five regional reports have been submitted, that they are interesting and are contributing to the analysis and reflection on the fourth and final Global Report. As in the case of previous reports, the chapters are very different in focus and length.

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<sup>1</sup> Abye Tassé and David Jones (Coordinators); IASSW – Antoinette Lombard, Angelina Yuen; ICSW – P.K. Shajahan, Tapio Salonen; IFSW – Rose Henderson, Rory Truell

The evaluation of the first decade of the Global Agenda will be informed by the responses received from the three global bodies (Tripartite Group) and the discussions of the Global Task Force. The evaluation includes an analysis of how the three bodies delivered on the 2012 commitments.

It is not yet clear whether it will be possible to produce the final Global Agenda report before the IFSW conference (15-19 July 2020) as there are some questions about the production timetable. However, there will be headlines and key messages in time for the conference. The three global bodies have agreed to produce a short leaflet with the findings and future plans.

### **Global Agenda 2020-2030**

The Global Task Force has worked on several drafts of a proposal for the Global Agenda 2020-2030. A final draft was submitted to the Tripartite Group's Presidents on 28 April 2020. They approved a revised draft on 12th June 2020. The approval includes a decision to consolidate the first theme in September 2020 and the remaining themes in 2022. This includes a two-stage consultation based around 'solidarity' for the first two years and further consultation on what themes should follow.

Please find attached the final version of the proposed consultation paper titled: *Strengthening the Global Agenda 2020-2030 during the global pandemic crisis and beyond. Revised Global Consultation.*

The consultation on the proposed pillar for 2020-2022 ends on 30 August 2020. A unique Global Agenda email address has been created for feedback to the Global Task Force, namely: [globalagendaswd@gmail.com](mailto:globalagendaswd@gmail.com) The Global Task Force will analyse and evaluate the feedback from the consultation and make a proposal to the Tripartite Group in September 2020.

### **IFSW Conference**

The IFSW virtual conference from 15-19 July 2020 will focus on the Global Agenda and ideas for possible themes. Educators and students are encouraged to register

and actively participate in the conference. The link to the conference is: <https://www.ifsw.org/2020-conference/>

The IASSW President recorded a short video message of support of the IFSW conference which will be played during the opening session.

The moderators of panels and sessions will provide a summary at the end of each session. The Global Agenda coordinators, Dr David Jones and Dr Abye Tassé, will work with the IFSW Committee that will review all the feedback generated during the conference.

### **IASSW Consultations**

The proposed consultation platforms and processes for IASSW consultations include the following:

- The call to participate in the consultation and the proposed document for discussion are uploaded on the IASSW website. See the direct link: <https://www.iassw-aiets.org/reflections-on-the-next-global-agenda/>

- The call will be posted on IASSW's social media.

- Kindly circulate the IFSW conference information to social work educators, researchers and students to register and participate in the conference <https://www.ifsw.org/2020-conference/>

The President recorded a short video message of support for the IFSW conference which will be played during the opening session.

- The President will make an announcement on the consultation call to the Board on 2 July 2020 and request the regional Presidents and representatives to publicise the call for consultation by (1) referring them to the IASSW website and (2) disseminate the attached consultation document to all their members and networks in the regions.
- To ensure and enable IASSW to report on its global consultation strategy, the regions are kindly requested to discuss and prepare their strategies to engage

members and national and regional bodies and networks in the consultation process. These include, among other initiatives that regions want to take, the following:

- **Actions prior to the IFSW conference of 15-19 July 2020.** Mobilising attendance and participation of social work educators, researchers and students in the IFSW conference and internal consolidation of discussions and conclusions on the proposed first theme on solidarity and the other themes for the rest of the decade.
  - Please submit feedback on this activity by **13 July 2020** to [antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za](mailto:antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za) and [angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk](mailto:angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk) to get an indication on how the regions will be represented at the conference.
- **Post the IFSW conference (20 July to 16 August 2020).** Kindly indicate dates and plans such as webinars or other regional and country specific activities to further consult on the proposed first theme on solidarity and the other themes for the rest of the decade.
  - Kindly submit these dates and plans ongoing to [antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za](mailto:antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za) and [angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk](mailto:angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk) to enable us to keep track of the IASSW consultation processes.
- **Consolidation of consultation, 17 August to 24 August 2020.** Regional and global consolidation of consultations and representation on a global webinar to obtain an overall perspective of IASSW's standing on the proposals for theme one on solidarity in the next two years and possible themes for the rest of the decade.
  - Kindly submit the name of a representative from the region / global structure represented on the Board to [antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za](mailto:antoINETTE.lombard@up.ac.za) and [angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk](mailto:angie.yuen@connect.polu.hk) by 25 August who will be included in a IASSW panel discussion on the Global Agenda on 26, 27 or 28 August 2020.

- **IASSW's unique focus.** Inherent to the planning, activities and discussions, IASSW will focus on their unique contribution with regard to individual

(educators; students; transdisciplinary teams), country specific or across countries' contributions with regard to:

- Areas of **research** attached to theme one on solidarity and possible other themes which could be incorporated in the Global Agenda for the rest of the decade.
  - **Teaching and learning** content that we should incorporate into the social work curriculum and field practicum from 2021 to engage students in the Global Agenda and prepare graduates to implement the Global Agenda.
  - **Reading material** (publications) on theme one on solidarity that we can share globally for research and teaching purposes.
- While the above planning and activities are ongoing, it remains an open invitation for any individual, group or organisation to submit ideas on the required areas indicated in the consultation document to submit comments directly to the email address for responses: [globalagendaswsd@gmail.com](mailto:globalagendaswsd@gmail.com)
- Translations of the first theme on solidarity and a summary of the rest of the consultation document are invited.
- The decision on the IASSW/ICSW conference in Rimini, 8-11 November 2020 and ongoing platforms of consultation in 2021 is to be announced by the President.

Respectfully submitted,

Antoinette Lombard

Chair: Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development

1 July 2020