

WOMEN 4th World Conference Beijing China Sept. '95

Beijing and beyond

We call on national governments, the UN system and NGOs contributing to the 4th World Conference on Women to advocate for breastfeeding. Internationally women's health and consumer organisations have been fighting to protect, promote and support breastfeeding. They have protested against commercial interests that put profit over the well-being of mothers and infants. As a result, there are already a number of international instruments that can be useful lobbying tools.

- International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions, No. 3 (1919) and No. 103 (1952)
- WHO/UNICEF International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes, 1981
- Innocenti Declaration on the Protection, Promotion and Support of Breastfeeding, 1990
- World Declaration on Nutrition, Plan of Action for Nutrition, 1992
- Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), 1994

*Has your government supported these initiatives?
Have they been implemented in your country?*

WABA AND THE 180 DAYS CAMPAIGN

The 180 Days Campaign beginning from the World Summit on Social Development, Copenhagen, 8 March '95, seeks to use the 180 days leading to the September '95 Conference on Women to make governments, the UN system and the world more responsive to the critical needs and agenda of the female half of our planet.

**1st Aug.
1995**

WABA calls on women and breastfeeding groups to jointly lobby governments to improve the status of working pregnant and breastfeeding women by providing:

- four months paid maternity leave;
- child-care and breastfeeding facilities at the workplace, including at schools and hospitals;
- breastfeeding breaks of at least an hour a day; and
- a supportive, clean and safe working environment.

*Workers' right to motherhood.
Mothers' right to work.*

Acknowledgements

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Useful addresses

ASIA

■ WABA Secretariat
PO Box 1200
10850 Penang, Malaysia
Fax: 60-4-6572655

■ Breastfeeding Promotion
Network of India (BPNI)
PO Box 10551, BP-33,
Pitampura,
Delhi 110 034, India
Fax: 91-11-713 4787

AFRICA

■ IBFAN Africa
PO Box 781
Mbabane
Swaziland
Fax: 268-44246

■ IBFAN Afrique Francophone
c/o APAIB
01 B.P. 6287, Ouagadougou,
Burkina Faso 3
Fax: 226-303888

■ MAPBIN/ICP
PO Box 1134
Port Louis, Mauritius
Fax: 230-242 4436

LATIN AMERICA

■ CONAPLAM
Casa del Nino #4
23 Calle 26 - 60, Zona 5
Guatemala City
Guatemala
Fax: 502-2-353 711

■ CEFEMINA
Apartado 5355
1000 San Jose, Costa Rica
Fax: 508-571758

■ PRAIL/LAC
c/o CLAP/PAHO
Casilla de Correo 827
Montevideo, Uruguay
Fax: 598-2-472 593

■ IBFAN Latin America
Amamanta
Av. Los Jardines, Qta, Natacha
Urb. Prados del Este
Caracas 1080, Venezuela
Fax: 582-977 0478

■ ORIGEM/WABA Brazil
Av. Beira Mar, 3661-LJ 19
Casa Caiada
Olinda PE 53130-540, Brazil
Fax: 55-81-432 1913
(Portuguese version)

EUROPE

■ BMAC
23 St Andrew's Street, 2nd Fl
Cambridge CB2 3AX, UK
Fax: 44-1223-464417

■ GIFA
1211 Geneva 19
Switzerland
Fax: 41-22-798 4443

NORTH AMERICA

■ ACTION
129 Church Street
New Haven
Connecticut 06510, USA
Fax: 1-203-787 3908

■ LLLI
PO Box 4079
Schaumburg, IL 60168
USA
Fax: 1-708-519 0035

PACIFIC

■ Nursing Mothers Association
of Australia
PO Box 231, Nunawading
VIC 3131, Australia
Fax: 61-3-894 3270

■ Secretary PINDA
c/o Continuing Education
USP (University of South Pacific)
PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji
Fax: (679) 300 482

Your local contact:

Resources

- Van Esterik, Penny: *Breastfeeding: A Feminist Issue*, WABA Activity Sheet 4.
- Batliwala, Srilatha: *Empowerment of Women in South Asia*, 1993.
- WABA: *Breastfeeding: A Woman's Right*, 1995.
- E Dawson, R Gauld and J Ridler: *Empowering Mothers*, 1993.
- IBFAN/WABA: *Breastfeeding: Empowerment of Women*, 1994.
- Shelton, Kathy: "Empowering Women to Breastfeed Successfully", *Breastfeeding Review* 2(10), 455-458, 1994.
- Wellstart: *Breastfeeding is a feminist issue: Women have a right to choose breastfeeding*, 1995.
- Institute for Reproductive Health: "Breastfeeding as a women's issue: A dialogue on health, family planning, work and feminism", *International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics*, Vol 47, December 1994.
- IRH/WABA/Wellstart/APHA statement: *Breastfeeding is a women's issue*, 1995.
- La Leche League International: *Breastfeeding and Empowerment*, 1995.