

2019 International Women's Day Mobilization



Theme (Proposed)

- Power to the Women — Stop Gender-Based Violence and Demand Strong ILO Convention
- Stop the “Macho Culture” in the Work Place and in Communities

Facts and figures

- One in 3 women world-wide over the age of 15 have experienced sexual or physical violence in their homes, communities, or in the work place.
- 200 million women and girls in 30 countries have undergone female genital mutilation.
- Women and girls account for 71% of all human trafficking victims globally. Nearly three out of four women are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

Although the #Me Too movement which was initiated in October 2017 in the United States increased the public awareness of sexual harassment and violence against women, the movement to end gender-based violence has been a long-standing campaign of women's groups, international organizations, and global trade unions including BWI.

Since the adoption of the BWI 2018-2021 Strategic Plan, BWI affiliates led by women trade union leaders throughout the world are organizing, mobilizing, and campaigning to stop all forms of gender-based violence. The campaign to end gender-based violence is intrinsically linked to the campaign for gender equality. Only when women's work and contributions politically, economically, and socially are equally valued and respected can gender-based violence be fully eliminated.

In the BWI male-dominated sectors, men have a strong role in supporting the fight to end sexual harassment, discrimination and violence against women. They can stop the “macho culture” and build an equal work environment and community.

This year, the BWI led by the political leadership of the International Women's Committee will actively campaign for the adoption of an ILO convention accompanied by a Recommendation, on “**Violence and Harassment against Women and Men in the World of Work**”, with a strong focus on the gender dimension of violence.

For 2019 International Women's Day, the BWI is calling its affiliates to continue the campaign to stop gender-based violence by organizing actions and activities showing in their work places and communities to show the power of women to end gender-based violence. It also calls on men to stop the “macho culture” to end gender-based violence.

Join the campaign by doing the following:

1. Organize an event at the work place, community, and union to increase awareness about sexual harassment and sexual violence against women; the campaign to end gender-based violence; and how to stop the “macho culture” in the work place.
2. Highlight **#HerStories** of women who have experienced sexual harassment and violence and how they fought back. Send these **#HerStories** to BWI to post on BWI websites and social media for International Women's Day. These **#HerStories** can be written with a photo or short videos.
3. Take a photo with the attached poster and post via social media including the BW@Work Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/BWI.work> with **#MyStory #MyCampaign #EndGenderBasedViolence**.
4. Use the BWI campaign facebook frame **#MyStory #MyCampaign** to end gender-based violence for the month of March to highlight International Women's Day.
5. Meet with your government representatives to support a strong ILO convention accompanied by a Recommendation, on “**Violence and Harassment against Women and Men in the World of Work**”.

