September 28 2013
Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion
REPORT
Why is September 28 Global Day of Action important?

September 28 Day of Action is a point of departure for our petition to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Health.

DAWN
Caribbean, Jamaica

FOCUS
Norway

In light of the conservative trends in the Norwegian Parliament September 28 is an opportunity to advocate towards the new government for a continuation of a clear Norwegian SRHR profile, internationally as well as nationally.

September 28 provides an opportunity to create a space for correction of abortion misconceptions and stigmatization.

National Coalition for Safe Abortion
Advocacy
Nigeria

The Day of Action will help to provoke a national debate and talk about abortion hence women and girls search for information in the quest to get answers. It will help break the silence around Abortion.

Central America Women’s Network (CAWN)
United Kingdom

For our organisation, September 28 is also important as it raises awareness about the draconian context in which many women have to deal with unwanted or non-viable pregnancies, and the criminalisation they suffer for having abortions.

Fortress of Hope
Kenya

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It is a global movement. It adds the power of change and the will to change. This has influence on both policy makers and women themselves. This event alone has marked a milestone in safe abortion movement as we never had an open public space for the issue. Much is going on after the event in terms of advocacy and community work.

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Introduction

It is our pleasure to present you with the report on the observation of September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion in 2013.

As you will read more in detail in the Background section the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion is a relatively new day of activism. However, despite of its novelty due to its relevance in practically every corner of the world the Day of Action found global recognition almost instantly amounting to activists from 50 countries marking the day in 2012, and expanding to 60 countries or more counting on-line participation in 2013. Truly, mobilisation for abortion rights on such a scale is unprecedented and we remain hopeful that campaigning around September 28 will only grow in numbers of committed organisations and individuals in the years to come up until the moment when women’s rights to choose whether to continue pregnancy or not will be respected and protected all over the world.

This report mainly focuses on the results of the globalization of September 28 campaign beyond its original geographical scope which is Latin America and the Caribbean, while the detailed account of the regional September 28 mobilisation is produced by the coordinators of Campaña 28 de Septiembre por la Despenalización del Aborto en América Latina y el Caribe www.28deseptiembre.org.

This report covers the work undertaken by Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR) in globalization of September 28 Day of Action, the social media engagement on the Day of Action, the account of September 28 events that took place globally as well as the media coverage of the global mobilisation.

It is never enough to emphasise the importance of collaboration and working in alliances. The success of September 28 Global Day of Action would have not been possible to achieve if not for the coordinated action and a constant flow of communication between several global and regional networks, international organisations and the national leaders. WGNRR works in partnership with International Campaign for Women’s Right to Safe Abortion. ASTRACentral and Eastern European Network for Women’s Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP), international organisation Ipas and in close consultation with the coordinators of the regional Latin American and Caribbean September 28 campaign towards promotion of the September 28 Day of Action globally.

September 28 is a Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion wherein activists all over the world speak out in defense of the right to safe and legal abortion free of stigma and discrimination. The Day of Action is being promoted regionally and globally independently by several global and regional partner networks and international organisations.

September 28 Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion has its origin in Latin America and the Caribbean where women’s groups have been mobilizing around September 28 the last two decades to demand their governments to decriminalise abortion, to provide access to safe and affordable abortion services and to end stigma and discrimination towards women who choose to have an abortion. The original name of the campaign in Latin America and the Caribbean is Campaña 28 de Septiembre por la Despenalización del Aborto, which continues up to this day growing in force and commitment on the part of women’s rights activists in the region. The date – September 28 – was chosen in commemoration of the abolition of slavery in Brazil which is now remembered as the day of the “free womb” demanding for safe and legal abortion for all women.

WGNRR has been promoting the 28th of September for nearly twenty years, firstly to encourage support and solidarity for the Latin American Day of Action amongst WGNRR members and allies, and then in 2010-2011 led the call to globalize the actions and establish the 28th September as a focus for worldwide solidarity and campaigning on access to safe and legal abortion.

The movement for abortion rights was accelerated in 2012 by the launch of the International Campaign for Women’s Right to Safe Abortion created in an effort to build an international movement to improve laws and services, challenge efforts to turn back the clock, and ensure abortion is included in maternal mortality reduction and initiatives to meet the need for contraception. The campaign enjoyed immediate support and participation by major regional and global SRHR networks, numerous national partners and grassroots activists. WGNRR is one of the original members of the advisory committee.

In 2012, September 28- the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion- received global recognition. It was taken forward collectively by the WGNRR, Latin American Campaign for Decriminalisation of Abortion September 28 and International Campaign for Women’s Right to Safe Abortion. The collective mobilisation efforts translated into seventy five events marking September 28 Global Day of Action in fifty one countries, nearly thirty of which are outside of Latin America and the Caribbean.

WGNRR maintains the website www.september28.org, develops campaign materials and work with its partners to customize the campaign materials to the local contexts and languages, generates support for urgent solidarity calls in support of access to safe and legal abortion, calls attention to specific issues related to access to safe abortion through its Call for Action. WGNRR regional programme officers work alongside regional networks to generate support in the regions and at national level. They work closely with advocates to jointly develop and adapt messaging and campaign materials and build long term solidarity.
WGNRR CAMPAIGN WORK

Virtual Mural

The Virtual Mural project became a hit with women’s rights activists around the globe delivering 200 contributions from 50 countries including Myanmar, Syria, United Arab Emirates, and Israel/Palestine. Campaign participants were asked to complete the line “Abortion should be safe and legal in my country BECAUSE …” and subsequently send the line with the picture or by itself to september28.org website. A selection of pictures and lines was creatively assembled in a Virtual Mural, while the rest of the contributions was displayed in a virtual gallery. The contributions to the virtual gallery were pouring on the Day of Action itself as some organisations made picture taking for the virtual mural an integral part of their life events. Besides, several organisations replicated the Mural initiative locally mobilising their communities to speak out for abortion rights.
Manifesto

The Manifesto “OUR BODIES, OUR FUTURES” which demands governments to recognize and enshrine the rights to safe and legal abortion in the New Development Agenda (NDA) received 376 signatures, out of which 200 signatures are organizational. The Manifesto has been sent to the UN agencies leading on the NDA processes and campaign participants were encouraged to send the Manifesto with the signatures to their government representatives.

The Manifesto “Our Bodies, Our Futures” is a collaborative project among WGNRR, ASTRA network, Latin American and Caribbean September 28 Campaign and ASAP.

The full text of Manifesto can be found in Annex I.

Videos

In 2013 WGNRR adopted the September 28 promotional video into Spanish and French versions, which were widely shared within the WGNRR network and beyond.

Following September 28 actions WGNRR produced a short video featuring the highlights and capturing the impact of this year campaign activities.
Collaborative Regional Statements

Following a collaborative approach to the regional engagement WGNRR participated in developing regionally focused statements. Calls for Action for September 28 aimed at highlighting the specific realities around access to safe abortion pertaining to each region and at formulating regionally focused demands and suggested actions.

September 28 Call for Action – Asia Pacific and Middle East “Women’s organisations in the Asia Pacific and the Middle East speak out on women and young women’s right to safe and legal abortion” jointly drafted by Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP) and WGNRR.

“Every year over 28 million women have unwanted pregnancies in Asia and seek abortions. Safe abortion however remains an unmet need across the region. Because of restrictive laws, stigmatisation of abortion and the non-availability of affordable abortion services 9.6 million women are forced to risk their lives by having unsafe abortions.”

See full text of the Asia Pacific Call for Action in Annex III

September 28 Call for Action – Africa “Break the silence and end stigma: Recognise abortion, own it and discuss it now!” jointly drafted by Ipsa Africa Office and WGNRR.

“Every African woman has the right to life, bodily integrity, the highest level of reproductive health, privacy, self-determination, dignity, personal liberty, and the right to live free of violence and discrimination. But in Africa abortion is a taboo topic and in the silence surrounding it, misinformation and stigma thrive.”

See full text of the Africa Call for Action in Annex IV

Other regionally focused statements were developed independently by Central and Eastern European Network for Reproductive Rights ASTRA and by Latin American and Caribbean September 28 campaign.

The International Campaign for Women’s Right to Safe Abortion issued a report and Call for Action “ABORTION IN THE CRIMINAL LAW: EXPOSING THE ROLE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, THE POLICE, THE COURTS AND IMPRISIONMENT INTERNATIONALLY”. The report exposes the role that criminal law, police, courts, prisons and health care providers have on both women’s ability to access safe abortion services and health professionals’ ability to provide such services globally. For more information, please visit: http://www.september28.org/partners-call-to-action/
WGNRR CAMPAIGN WORK

The www.september28.org website enjoyed busy traffic during the month of September picking up toward September 28 Global Day of Action reaching 6036 visits out of which 4326 are unique visitors. September 28 website displays updated information on actions around the world, solidarity requests and petition campaigns as well as a pool of campaigning resources (graphic, video, toolkits).

After the Global Day of Action the website continues its function as a campaigning resource building up towards the next year campaign.
WGNRR CAMPAIGN WORK

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

On occasion of September 28 WGNRR Advocacy and Programme Manager, Vanessa Coria visited Dominican Republic to assist and actively participate in a number of events co-hosted by WGNRR, September 28 Campaign in LAC, Colectiva Mujer y Salud, among other organisations.

The activities included the following:

- Visit to the Embassies of Honduras, Haiti, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Suriname, countries where abortion is totally criminalised (September 30)
- Media and Social Networks Campaign during September 28 using #Sept28 #28SAbortoLegal and #safeabortionnow
- Workshop for young lawyers on “SRHR and the Inter-American System for Human Rights” with a special focus on abortion advocacy strategies facilitated by WGNRR. This workshop was co-hosted by Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women’s Rights- CLADEM, Colectiva Mujer y Salud and Campaña 28 de Septiembre (October 4th)
- Participation in a TV program on September 28 Campaign at Canal 6/ Canal del Sol of Dominican Republic (October 8-9)
- Seminar on strategies for the decriminalization of Abortion in LAC. WGNRR presented the legal strategies. (October 14th)
- Participation in the Sept 28 LAC Campaign Assembly (October 14th). During the assembly Colectiva Mujer y Salud (Campaign coordinator) presented a full report on the activities performed by the campaign under their coordination. WGNRR participated in the internal meeting and facilitated the election of the new coordinator. WGNRR will be part of the advisory committee on the LAC Campaign to provide assistance and coordinate actions with the newly elected coordinator - la Colectiva Feminista para el Desarrollo Local in El Salvador, which is member of the Agrupación Ciudadana para la Despenalización del Aborto en El Salvador.

PHILIPPINES – Womanhealth Philippines, a long standing member of WGNRR together with the WGNRR Coordination Office held a Roundtable Discussion that provided a space to explore the issue of abortion and post abortion care in the Philippines. Abortion in the Philippines is highly illegal and strictly taboo, the roundtable discussion also tried to confront the stigma and misinformation on abortion. The roundtable discussion was attended by representatives of the leading civil society groups working locally on women’s sexual and reproductive rights as well as community women who shared their firsthand accounts of abortion experience in their communities. The outcomes of experience sharing and the following reflection were thoroughly documented to serve as a basis for the future actions in the direction towards improving access to safe abortion in the Philippines.

Additionally, the participants suggested the following action points:

- Educational discussion at the community level especially at the urban poor communities in Manila.
- Launch speak outs, more public discourses on abortion, more round table discussions on safe abortion.
- Start acknowledging publicly that abortion is a reality and is part of women’s realities.
- Support the RH Law through the Supreme Court decision which we hope will be positive.
- Be part of a women’s health network and work with other women’s health advocates.
- Start a campaign to push for the decriminalization of abortion.
- Support women with the right to information and the right and safe contacts when they come to us for help with their problems, including abortion.
- Trust women.
- Ensure that post abortion care is implemented at the natural and local levels.
- Engage DOH officials/ health professionals.
- To increase capacities to do PAC.
- Change views of medical providers and social workers on abortion.
- Trust incomplete abortion as a clinical rather than a medico-legal.
- Free health care for women with abortion issues.

In my mind, this is going to be a long and hard battle. I am a woman and I went through adolescence and even had my own share of skeletons in the closet. But knowing how this country is being run, how religion plays an important part in the thoughts of Filipinos is one big obstacle in the issue of abortion. How can the majority of nameless, faceless women who have come face to face with the decision to terminate a pregnancy tell their story if the country criminalizes abortion?

–Local SRHR Advocate
While some activists were taking on the streets in rallies, marches and flashmobs in their thousands, the netizens joined the September 28 tweethaton in millions. WGNRR spearheaded the #sept28 tweetathon, the main goal of which was to raise awareness on the Global Day of Action and on the abortion issue.

The call for volunteers released by WGNRR received interests from a number of organisations and individuals to participate such as Samsara, ASTRA, and ASAP among others. Academics and students also volunteered for the tweetathon. Facts about abortion, solidarity messages, updates on various mobilisations around the world were shared on twitter and Facebook. We’ve been retweeted not only by members of the media such as Rappler, but also by global organisations and research institutes on reproductive justice.

Apart from the WGNRR tweetathon, a number of organisations also launched their own tweet campaign using the hash tags #safeabortion and #sept28 which significantly increased the reach of the online campaign. According to twitter analytics applications such as Keyhole, the hash tags reached more than a million audience through Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter from September 24 to October 1, while the Spanish hash tags #28SAbortoLegal and #abortolegal reached 2.6 million. The initial target was to tweet from different parts of the globe on September 28, from 9 am to 9pm. However, the tweets continued even days after the September 28.
GLOBAL MOBILISATION

In 2013 September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion was observed in 40 countries outside Latin American and the Caribbean. Counting the continent where the campaign originated the total number of countries will exceed 60. In total around 100 organisations organised and participated in more than 200 events worldwide with the outreach estimated in tens of thousands people, while the social media engagement propelled by dozens of participating organisations counted with the outreach of three and a half million people.

In comparison with the first ever global observation of September 28 in 2012 the number of countries participating in the campaign increased by 10 new countries among which are Tunisia, Mozambique, Jamaica, France, Moldova, Ghana, Thailand, Azerbaijan, Norway and Sweden.

September 28 commemorative activities included: flashmobs (Tunisia, Indonesia, Nepal), community outreach programmes (Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Pakistan), round table discussions with policy makers (Pakistan, Norway, Mozambique), radio programmes (Nepal, Ghana, Mozambique, Russia, USA), street art and theatre performances (Thailand, Nepal), press-conferences (Poland, Turkey, Macedonia), street rallies and marches (Ireland, Spain, Chile, USA), informal gatherings (New Zealand), publication launches (Russia), social media campaigns (in all 60 countries).

*For a total list of events reported to WGNRR through September 28 website, WGNRR network and social media, see ANNEX IV.

AFRICA

Ghana

Sustainable Aid through Voluntary Establishment – Ghana (SAVE-GHANA) held a radio discussion on a local radio station that covers five (5) administrative districts and reaches about 85,000 listeners in English language and in the local language on abortion as a right.

The program brought together a medical professional, a female abortion activist and a resource person from the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) as discussants on the radio program. The discussions centered on abortion as a reproductive and human right, the implications of continuously criminalizing abortion, the circumstances under which criminalizing abortion constitutes a violation of the rights of the woman, where and how to access comprehensive abortion care and the need to de-stigmatize abortion among others. Part of the airtime was devoted to phone-ins during which the phone lines of the radio station were opened to general public for all categories of listeners to call in and ask questions or make contributions or suggestions.

Kenya

KMET participated on 28th September on day of action and conducted community forum in rural parts of Siaya County in Kenya. The forum was attended by 300 people and comprised men, women, youths and community leaders.

Much discussion was focused on the legal provision of safe abortion care services. The community was still uncertain whether safe abortion care services are legally to be provided in Kenya. Health officials had to clarify by quoting the constitution of Kenya article 26(4) which states that: “Abortion is not permitted unless, in the opinion of a trained health professional, there is need for emergency treatment, or the life or health of the mother is in danger, or if permitted by any other written law”.

Another point of interest revolved around the cost of the procedure. Safe abortion cost was an emerging issue which affected most vulnerable group’s especially young people and women in the rural setting who were not able to afford cost of safe abortion. They pointed out that delivery was much cheaper as compared to safe abortion care.

The discussions also touched upon abortion stigma to women who access abortion care services and providers who offered services was certainly affecting access to safe abortion care hence this pushed women and young people to resort to unsafe abortion methods.

The meeting resulted in drafting strategies aimed at facilitating access to safe abortion care services and this included:

1. Conduct community advocacy meetings and conducting values clarification and attitude transformation sessions to community members with support from community health providers to have open discussions on abortion hence increase knowledge to women, men and young people.
2. Capacity building to health professionals especially by conducting values clarification and attitude transformation to reduce stigma at facility level.
3. Conduct community mobilization to sensitize community members to increase access to safe abortion care services

My daughter is alive today only because of the quick referral service I has access to as a health worker.
Community health workers should be educated to be able to refer women who require timely post-abortion care.

- Community Health Worker, Kenya
Mozambique

Rede de Defesa dos Direitos Sexuais e Reprodutivos participated in radio and TV shows around September 28 to talk about the abortion situation and the need to decriminalize abortion in Mozambique.

The most important event for September 28 campaign was the advocacy meeting that took place on Monday, 30 September, to which various stakeholders such as MPs, Government officials and representative of NGOs were invited. The event was well attended by CSOs and among other dignitaries - the Head of the Parliament Committee on Gender, Social Affairs and Environment, Dr. Pascoal Mocumbi, a former Prime-Minister of Mozambique and also a former Minister of Health and who was responsible for passing a Gentlemen’s agreement allowing safe abortion services to be provided in public hospital. The meeting was also attended by senior personnel of the women and youth league of the ruling party FRELIMO and the main opposition party RENAMO.

During the event presentations were made about the magnitude and consequences of unsafe abortion, about the campaign and about the work of our coalition. Other things that happened during the event was the collection of the first signatures for petition that was written to the President of the Parliament requesting the urgent approval of the penal Code Review Bill that will decriminalize abortion in certain circumstances.

Finally the organisers produced a ribbon for the occasion of the campaign that everyone was wearing in the day of the meeting.

Nigeria

National Coalition for Safe and Legal Abortion (NACSAA) held an event titled “Strengthening Women and Young People on Access to Safe and Legal Abortion” on September 27-28, 2013. The first day was focused on adapting a One Million Rising Dance to announce the activities for the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion.

On the second day NACSAA held a forum to discuss on abortion situation in Nigeria and its implication to women’s lives. The new law allowing abortion in a number of circumstances in Imo state was thoroughly discussed.

The event provided a platform for both young people and adults to interact and talk about safe and legal abortion; it provided a safe space to have a clarifying discussion on the provisions of the Abortion Bill in Imo State and gave participants an opportunity to voice out and take their stand. The group became aware that Nigerian women are not alone in the struggle for Access to safe and Legal Abortion and other Reproductive Rights’ issues and that they are supported by international organisations.

This is my first time of seeing someone talking about legalization of abortion in public, I am interested, I want to be educated more on safe and legal Abortion.

– Participant, Nigeria
ASIA PACIFIC

Nepal

Bhaktapur Youth Information Center and Youth Champions of ASAP surprised the public at the Kathmandu city squares with the dynamic dance flashmob “My Body, My Rights: young women in Nepal has right to informed choice and access to safe and legal abortion.”

Aside of the public appearance the young activists participated in the talk show Also on the local radio in Bhaktapur. Bhaktapur FM 105.4 Mhz. The invited guests were FPAN branch manager Mr. Sharad Kumar Aryal and one of the youth from Bhaktapur Youth Information Forum.

GLOBAL MOBILISATION

New Zealand

Various pro-choice groups (Auckland Pro-Choice People, Pro-Choice Highways, ARLANZ and more) gathered in Wellington and Auckland for informal, laid back and yet assertively pro-choice events such as a Pro-Choice Stitch Up and a Pro-Choice picnic. The main focus of the Pro-Choice Stitch Up event was to begin creating embroidered fabric hexagons to contribute to a patchwork quilt which celebrates NZ’s pro-choice movement. At the Pro-Choice Picnic was marked by a stall with baked goods for sale, the Pro-Choice Highway stall making an appearance, and general fun times with quite a few awesome people. The discussions focused on the current status of abortion in New Zealand law and strategies for reform.

Pakistan

On the 28th of September 2013, which is The Global Day of Action for Safe Abortion; Shirkat Gah organized an event, which included a panel discussion moderated by journalist Imran Shirvanee where key panelist along with the participants discussed exercising safe and legal abortion in Pakistan. The panel discussion was held with the support of the Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNNHR), and was attended by several organizations namely: YELL, Peace Foundation, Aarky, National Committee of Maternal and Neonatal Health (NCMNH), community partners from Sindh and Balochistan, along with the members of the National Media Alliance and members of the Pakistan Reproductive Health Network from Karachi and Lahore.

The discussion was rich in content and insights. Among the topics discussed were the realities of rural women and their obstacles of accessing safe abortion services; negligence of the state at providing adequate midwifery training as well as take necessary steps in implementing post-abortion care protocols; access to Misoprostol as a life-saving drug among others. The panel received an overwhelming response from the participants; the media representatives, community partners/individuals and the various organizations present at the event. Each had significant recommendations and suggestions, which included insights on the sex selective abortions and the ways to deal with the mostly negative attitude of the service providers towards women who resorted to abortion.

The outcomes of the event include: solidarity pledge from grassroots organizations to continue work to prevent unsafe abortion; engagement with like-minded journalists for the first time at a large scale to upscale advocacy efforts; taking the message to the urban and rural youth.
Thailand

Women on Web Thai Helpdesk together with independent women’s rights activists chose a strategic location to draw public attention to the issue of unsafe abortion in the country. Bangkok Art and Cultural Center (BACC) is situated right in the middle of commute at Siam Square Intersection and across MBK shopping center while being a semi-governmental center which hosts modern art and cultural events. September 28 activities such as movies screenings and discussions and interpretative dance were held both indoors and outdoors of the BACC.

The event received close attention by the media and was highlighted in prime time by two major TV channels.

Women on Web Thai Helpdesk activists carried a powerful message to the public: “I have had abortion. My daughter has had abortion. My sister has had abortion. My friend has had abortion.” … (and so on) “Abortion: There are many sides of the women’s stories”

The intended meaning of the messages is to create awareness that there are a large number of women who had been through abortion at least once in their lives (1 out of 10). This simple but powerful message aims to empower women by dissolving the sense of alienation and encourage family and friends to support each other.

Organisers of the event share the following highlights:

• Community leaders/mobilizers approached us after the event saying that they were highly motivated and would start up community forum and outreach on this topic right away.
• One participant came out as woman who had abortion in the evaluation form. She said the event empowered her and released her from the guilt and shame society imposed on her.
• A group of young activists from the North of Thailand started up a plan to work on access to safe abortion in their communities on the following day.
• One comment from evaluation: “I never looked at abortion from women’s point of view. I’ve learned something new today.”
• News reporter from ‘Women to Women’ TV program asked to interview women who had abortion right away. The news was broadcast without negative tone against the women. It showed the other side of the story from the women. This shows that this piece of information is still lacking and it is in the interest of society, just waiting for us to speak up.

Turkey

Women on Web Turkey brought together participants in a seminar on abortion which included introduction to the medical abortion and debate on the recent political statements regarding women’s bodies. The seminar was followed by the press conference. The meeting aimed at gathering different women groups working in different spheres – civil society and medical profession. For the next year the organisers plan to bring the campaigns from indoors to the outdoors to create more public awareness.

“I was suprised and happy to see that many women didn’t know much about abortion process but they were curious to learn about it.”

– Hazal, Turkey
EUROPE

Belgium

Centre d’Action Laïque printed the campaign materials and brought September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion to the attention of participants of the medical seminar held on September 26 World Contraception Day at Erasmus - Université Libre de Brussels. As part of the campaign activities Centre d’Action Laïque sent a letter to the Belgian politicians with the Center’s Memo- randum for Belgium and Europe with a special mentioning of September 28 Global Day of Action. On September 28 the Center distributed campaign information on the streets of Brussels as a way to reach out to the public on the issue of access to safe and legal abortion.

GLOBAL MOBILISATION

Ireland

The art exhibition “Choosing Choice: Packing Up Stigma” featured photographic works from ‘Against the Tide’ by Rose Comiskey (Ireland), ‘When They Hold Their Hands Out Like Scales’ by Emma Campbell (Northern Ireland) and digitised print works from ‘Good Women Have Abortions’ by Heather Ault (USA) with curatorial support by Jennette Donnelly. The public was invited to contribute to the ‘Choosing Choice: Packing Up Stigma’ Exhibition in a drop-in mixed media workshop. ‘Case Studies’ was a community installation that the public is invited to add to. An anonymised collection of cases packed with their stories, artefacts and representations confronted the stigma and silence associated with abortion experiences, particularly for those who have had to travel abroad due to the restrictions placed on access to abortion services on the island of Ireland.

Ireland’s second annual March for Choice (#March4choice) took place in Dublin on September 28th.

“The march is a place for activists, as rabble rousers, as change makers – to enjoy each other’s company, to remind the world that Ireland is Pro-Choice and to remind the country that we will be here to work, speak and share until Ireland has free, safe, and legal abortion! Abortion Rights Campaign, Ireland.”

Doctors for Choice held a public event titled “Being a Pro-Choice Doctor in Ireland” at the National Women’s Council in Ireland attended by the medical professionals and civil society representatives.
Macedonia

In the light of the recently passed law restricting access to abortion in Macedonia and the government sponsored campaign to further stigmatize women resorting to voluntary interruption of pregnancy HERA organised a roundtable discussion to discuss possible effects of the legislative restrictions to abortion and the next legal actions to challenge the law at the Constitutional Court.

As of June 2013 the Parliament of Republic of Macedonia has approved a new Abortion Bill which severely restrict access of women to freely decide to terminate pregnancy compared to very-liberal legislation framework from the previous law. The new law introduces irrelevant and non-scientific administrative provisions for women seeking for abortion such us written request for abortion, mandatory pre-abortion counselling, 3-day waiting period as well as austere fines for the medical personnel. In the last two years HERA is involved to fight abortion stigma mainly using social media channels and working with women in rural areas.

Norway

FOCUS convened participants from media, women’s organizations, academia, Norad and other NGOs during breakfast meeting for September 28 Global Day of Action.

The screening of the campaign video was followed by a panel discussion with contributions by Eleonora Zieleńska, Professor of Law in the Department of Law and Administration of the University of Warsaw, Bent Austveg, Norwegian Physician and Chair of the Board of Trustees of Reproductive Health Matters, presently on a consultancy contract with Norad on SRH, and Charles Ngwena, Professor of Law at the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria.

One of the objectives of the meeting was to urge the newly elected (conservative) Norwegian government to take a clear stand on the issue of access to safe and legal abortion domestically as well as intentionally.

Spain

Spanish platform for Sexual and Reproductive Rights NOSOTRAS DECIMOS (We Decide) coordinated pretest marches in every province of Spain. The protest marches were comprised of various activities including text reading of the bill for sexual and reproductive rights, Spanish law of reproductive rights and other texts. As part of September 28 mobilisations the Platform Nosotras Decidimos produced a powerful advocacy video titled “9 seconds for sexual and reproductive rights”

Poland

In the heat of the debates on the anti-choice civil bill aimed to ban all abortions in case of fetal malformation subject to the first reading on September 25, 2013 Federation for Women and Family Planning which also serves as Astra network secretariat organised a press-conference on September 24 2013 during which the September 28 Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion and the International Campaign were brought into spotlight. Federation also sent open letters to Polish Parliamentarians and participated in a short training for left-wing parties in order to provide those MPs with pro-choice arguments.

The press conference formed part of the larger mobilisation by the feminist and pro-choice movement and allies to develop strategies in regards to the bill reading which included a public gathering and demonstration in front of the Polish Sejm on the day of the reading. Additionally, activists reached out to politicians directly, presenting arguments for maintaining the present legislation.
Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU) conducted a small scale campaign primarily focused on the Swedish Abortion Lay and the major importance of protecting the right to abortion as a human right. The campaign is organised as a counter-movement to the growing anti-choice opposition with the objective to bring out positive arguments for the right to abortion and kill some myths for awareness raising.

RFSU developed a flyer with the background and arguments for the right to abortion and myths about abortion; delivered the flyers to Swedish Parliamentarians to raise awareness of the Global Day of Action and the importance of taking action, nationally as well as globally; promoted the campaign on the social media, inviting women’s rights activists and spokespersons for reproductive rights among others to share the arguments and myths in their internet-based social forums, and involved RFSU’s local branches to share the flyers and spread the word about the day.

Central America Women’s Network (CAWN) brought together women’s rights activists in a documentary screening and panel discussion event focused on the grave violation of women’s reproductive freedom in El Salvador.

The documentary screened was ‘El Salvador: Life at any price’, produced just before the case of Beatriz had global repercussion. It examines the injustice and lack of humanity that El Salvador’s legislation on abortion shows towards women. El Salvador bans abortion in all circumstances, including rape, foetal abnormality, and even when a mother’s life is at risk.

In the discussion panel, both Vicky Knox and Esther Major talked about the violation of human rights and the violence and neglect that Salvadoran women face both from the authorities and from society as a result of the stigmatization of and ban on abortion; Anne Quesney showed the parallels with this situation in Northern Ireland and Ireland. This fuelled an interesting discussion between the audience and the panel on not only the violation of fundamental rights that women suffer for these laws, but the lack of reproductive education, access to family planning services, the issue of abortion in Ireland and how even in countries where abortion is available there are constant threats to this services and to change abortion laws.
Global Mobilisation

Featured Events

**NORTH AMERICA**

**USA**

National Network for Abortion Funds (NNAF) went beyond just one day of action for access to safe and legal abortion and dedicated the entire month of September for the activism.

Throughout September NNAF was posting stories and actions from the network of abortion funds and allies, sharing ways for people to get involved, to help spark conversations, and to amplify the voices of the people most affected by bans on abortion funding and other abortion restrictions.

The Abortion Access March was kicked off with some real talk from NNAF board members Eesha Pandit and Verónica Bayetti Flores: “Mind the Gap: September is Abortion Access Month.”

The last weekend of September culminated with the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion on September 28th and, on September 30th, reflections on the anniversary of the Hyde Amendment which as of 27 years last September has banned all coverage of abortion in the federal Medicaid program.

The Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity held the Tenth Annual Reproductive Equity Award ceremony on September 25, 2013 in Austin, Texas. The Lilith Fund continues to operate in the environment of reproductive inequity by helping more Texans in need of abortion access. Last year, the Lilith Fund gave away more than $87,000 to 1,214 hotline callers.

This year’s event honored Reps. Dawnna Dukes, Jessica Farrar, and Mary González, organizer Brittany Yelverton of Planned Parenthood Greater Texas, social media star Jessica Luther, and reproductive rights journalist Andrea Grimes and other courageous Texans who stood for reproductive rights this legislative session.

\[\text{“It seems like every year we see more and more attacks on Texans’ reproductive rights and our ability to plan our own families. The laws passed this year will go down as some of the most restrictive and unjust in Texas history.”} \]

– The Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity

**LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

September 28 events in Latin America and the Caribbean are coordinated by the regional campaign September 28 Day of Action for Decriminalisation of Abortion. The national focal points of the regional campaign have been reporting their activities directly to the campaign coordinator Collectiva Mujer y Salud, based in Dominican Republic. Collectiva Mujer y Salud has been the regional campaign coordinator from 2010 till 2013 during which the September 28 campaign found a global recognition. In 2013 the campaign coordinator’s role was passed to la Colectiva Feminista para el Desarrollo Local, which forms part of the Agrupación Ciudadana para la Despenalización delAbortón en El Salvador.

Some highlights of the September 28 campaign in Latin American and the Caribbean

On the occasion of September 28 Global Day of Action the LAC activists spurred the international mobilisation campaign to free Teresa, a young woman from El Salvador, mother of one child of 8 years old, who experienced a spontaneous abortion (miscarriage) in 2011. She was, however, accused of aggravated homicide and sentenced to 40 years in prison.

Countless mobilisations took place in practically every country in Latin America and the Caribbean, the continent with most of the restrictive laws on abortion. Women’s rights activists demanded immediate decriminalisation of abortion and respect of women’s human rights. The mobilisations took numerous forms – marches, rallies, street actions, press conferences, workshops, on-line videos and many others.
The following events featured in this report have been reported directly to WGNRR through www.september28.org website. For more information on all activities that took place in Latin America and the Caribbean, please visit www.28deseptiembre.org

Chile

Movimiento por el Aborto Libre (Movement for Free Abortion) together with the School of Public Health at the University of Chile, co-organised a one day seminar on access to safe, legal and free abortion services which brought together feminist organisations and the School of Public Health, University of Chile, to discuss strategies to promote access to safe abortion and decriminalization of abortion in Chile. Presenters include Dr. Anibal Fuandes from Brasil and Dr. Cristina Grela from Uruguay, as well as activists from Chile, Argentina and Uruguay. The participating organisations included Feministas por el Aborto Seguro, Red Multiversus, Marcha Mundial de Mujeres-Chile, la Articulación Feminista por la Libertad de Decidir, Núcleo de Género Julieta Kirkwood, Línea Aborto Chile, CUDS.

La Articulación Feminista por la Libertad de Decidir (AFLD), the focal point for the regional September 28 campaign participated in the Seminar on Free, Safe and Legal Abortion; convened an international workshop to redefine the action strategies to free, safe and legal abortion in Chile and published a booklet “Historical evolution of abortion in Chile”, written by T. Montreal- the first woman who researched abortion in Chile in the last century.

Jamaica

Together Caribbean DAWN and Quality of Citizenship Jamaica organised an action stand in the Emancipation Park in support of Jamaican women’s reproductive health and rights that are currently denied under the Jamaican laws. Under Jamaican law, section 72 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1864, a woman in a hospital bed recovering from a self-induced abortion can potentially be handcuffed to her bed as a suspected felon for procuring an abortion. Upon conviction she may be subjected to a life sentence with hard labour. By now enshrining fetal rights in the Jamaican constitution, women’s lives, and health are now subordinated to the protection of the FETUS.

The protest stand in the Emancipation Park received support from the public and enjoyed media coverage.

Peru: activists in red demanding immediate implementation of the comprehensive protocol for therapeutic abortion

Puerto Rico: Video-production by Taller Salud “Men speaking in defense of abortion right”

Bolivia: Red Carpet performance at the gates of the cathedral of San Francisco. 80 women activists laid down to weave the red carpet with their bodies.
One of the ways to measure campaign’s success is by looking at the amount of media reactions the campaign activities managed to generate. It is reassuring to see that journalists around the world took interest in the global mobilisation for abortion rights, which resulted in twenty publications in the on-line newspapers and magazine. Furthermore, the blogosphere counted fourteen mentions of September 28, while the fellow activist organisations published on the Global Day of Action on thirty different websites.

The references to September 28 reflect a mixture of mentions from the academic field, media, on-line feminist communities, individuals and mostly come from civil society organisations which reflect the diverse set of contexts surrounding access to safe and legal abortion. USA activists call to repeal the Hyde amendment. Australian pro-choice emphasizes the demand to take abortion out of the criminal law. Pro-Choice marchers in Ireland call for a Referendum. In the Philippines the mere fact that abortion is discussed on the leading social news network is an unprecedented step forward. A journalist in South Africa looks deeply into the situation where abortion is legal on paper while in fact not accessible to women resulting in the proliferation of quack doctors and lamp post advertising.

The full list of on-line publications and references to September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion can be found in ANNEX V.

“We don’t want people to become complacent,” says Sarah Malone of the ARC. “This is very restrictive legislation and only provides abortion to a woman who will literally die if she does not receive one. […] The only way that laws can be liberalised even further is if people decide that’s what they would like. So what they’re afraid of is the democratic process in Ireland.”

“…this month is Abortion Access Month. September 30th is the 37th anniversary of the Hyde Amendment, and September 28th is the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion. During this month, we encourage you to be motivated to end the deep disparity created by politicians withholding federal funds, and to remember that we are the experts on our own lives.”

“Every year, on 28th September, women’s groups mobilise for the Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion. […] However, 24 years on, and Latin America is still well behind other regions of the world in terms of the legalisation of, and access to, abortion. The region is home to five of only seven countries worldwide in which abortion is absolutely prohibited by law, while only five countries have decriminalised abortion entirely. This has resulted in avoidable maternal deaths, the criminalisation of women trying to procure an abortion, and accentuated emotional torment for women and girls across the region.”

“Here in the Philippines alone, women who have had to undergo back alley and unsafe abortions face criminalization. And yet, a number of Filipina women are still resorting to unsafe methods to terminate their pregnancies. That women refuse to talk about. I know of many friends who have undergone these procedures and are silenced by the stigma surrounding this topic. Abortion is not something we can talk about openly, because of the fear of other people’s judgment and scrutiny.”

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MANIFESTO

September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion

Our Bodies, Our Future!

Governments must recognise the right to safe and legal abortion to ensure the reproductive rights and autonomy of all women. The right to safe abortion is an essential component of women's human rights.

In 1994, the Conference on Population and Development in Beijing adopted Resolution 59/110, which affirmed that Governments have a responsibility to ensure that women have access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, including safe and legal abortion. However, since then, governments have not sufficiently fulfilled their obligations.

The right to access safe and legal abortion is a fundamental human right. It is essential for women's health, safety, and autonomy. The right to safe abortion is a key component of women's reproductive rights and autonomy.

Annex I

The Movement for Abortion Rights in the Philippines (MANIFESTO)

We call on all legal and political leaders in the Philippines to support the movement for women's rights and to fully implement the right to safe and legal abortion.

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Women’s organisations in the Asia Pacific and the Middle East speak out on women and young women’s right to safe and legal abortion

On the occasion of September 28 Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion, Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights and the Asia Safe Abortion Partnership demands to end the stigmatization of abortion, the oppression of women’s autonomy and the aggression aimed at advocates of safe abortion.

Every year over 20 million women have unwanted pregnancies in Asia and seek abortions. Safe abortion however remains an unmet need across the region. Because of restrictive laws, stigmatization of abortion and the non-availability of affordable abortion services, 6.7 million women are forced to risk their lives by having unsafe abortions.

Unsafe abortion remains one of the three main leading causes for maternal death and, leads to complications that affect millions of women adversely. Recent demographic trends show that the burden of unsafe abortion is borne by a disproportionately large number of adolescents and young adults across Asia.

Working to promote access to safe abortion is therefore a need of the hour, and this access has to be improved by tackling legal and social barriers simultaneously. Stigma against abortion, and myths about safe abortion have worked against the welfare of women, by preventing them from accessing available safe abortion services, and in some places justifying restrictive laws that seek to control women’s bodies and fertility. These patriarchal laws and norms have to be rejected, and along with it gender stereotypes that allow women to gain any power in their society only through their roles as mothers.

This is in line with the recommendation made by the Committee on Discrimination against Women (CDDAW) to Pakistan and the Philippines when said that “The Committee recommends that the State party review the laws relative to abortion with a view to removing pastille provisions imposed on women who undergo abortion, providing them with access to quality services for the management of complications arising from unsafe abortion and reducing maternal mortality rates, in accordance with the Committee’s general recommendation 24 on women and health and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action."

Across Asia, many networks, civil society organizations, feminists and advocates work to promote safe abortion as a human right. Unfortunately, these people are often targets of harassment both by fundamentalist groups and by the state. It is time to end such aggression and harassment and to create a peaceful environment that will foster conversations on sexual and reproductive rights.

It is also time to take a stance against patriarchal notions that prevent women from making decisions about their bodies and lives, to acknowledge women’s right to choose if and when they want to become mothers, and to empower them to reclaim their sexual, reproductive and bodily rights, one of which includes the right to safe abortion.

Our demands:

- Repeal all laws criminalising, penalising and/or restricting women’s access to abortion services. Specifically repeal laws restricting young women’s access to safe abortion services or grounds of requiring parental or special consent.
- Work towards removing socio-cultural barriers that reinforce gender stereotypes about motherhood and stigmatise girls, adolescents and women, preventing them from making free and informed decisions about their sexuality and their own bodies, and empowering women to act as agents of change by ensuring a comprehensive sexuality education to all girls and women.
- Ensure access to contraception, including emergency contraception, of high quality and free, user-friendly and appropriate to the needs of girls, adolescents and women, while ensuring their confidentiality.
- End the harassment, criminalisation and aggression aimed at networks, civil society organizations, feminists and advocates of sexual and reproductive rights. Ensure security and integrity for the women’s rights defenders threatened by repressive measures of the state or by civil groups which carry hatred and fundamentalism.

Slogans:

- Diverse Actions, Different Places, One Demand
- Safe Abortion Now!
ANNEX II

Africa Call for Action

Africa Call for Action

Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion

28 September

About September 28

2023 marks the 28th anniversary of the Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion. The Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion is an international event that takes place on September 28th each year to raise awareness about the importance of safe and legal abortion, to celebrate the achievements made in this area, and to advocate for the decriminalization of abortion in all countries.

In Africa, the right to safe and legal abortion is not widely recognized or protected by law. Many women in Africa face significant barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion services, including restrictive laws and lack of access to information and services.

Impact of Stigmatization of Abortion in Africa

The stigmatization of abortion in Africa is profound and multifaceted. It is often associated with shame, guilt, and fear, and can lead to a range of negative consequences for women and girls.

- Poverty: Women and girls who face stigma and discrimination may struggle to access education, health care, and other basic services.
- Violence: Stigmatization can contribute to gender-based violence and abuse.
- Discrimination: Women and girls may be subjected to discrimination in the workplace, housing, and other areas.

The Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion provides an opportunity to raise awareness about these issues and to advocate for change.

Regional Women's Movement

The Women's Global Strike is a powerful statement of solidarity and resistance. Women all over the world are taking to the streets to demand an end to violence against women, to demand equality, and to demand a world where women's rights are respected and protected.

Women who are involved in this movement share a common message: the right to safe and legal abortion is a fundamental human right.

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List of activities reported to WGNRR and partners

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adele Reproductive Health Foundation</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>An awareness raising activity, social media campaign, and meetings in clinic setting survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAVE-Ghana</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>End Abortion Stigma Now, Respect the Dignity of a Woman - Awareness raising activity: Radio Discussion and Phone-in Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Ghana, Ipas Ghana, Population Council and Ghana Health Service</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Publication in the National Daily Graphic; Radio discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dandilion Kenya and others</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Multiple activities in several cities of Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>KMET</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>Community forum in rural parts of Siaya County in Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Centre for Girls and Interaction - Malawi</td>
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<td>Young Women and Girls Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rede para a Defesa dos Direitos Sexuais e Reprodutivos</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
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<td>Stakeholders meetings; participation in radio and TV shows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Coalition for Safe and Legal Abortion (NACSAA)</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Maternal and Reproductive Health and Rights Action (CMRHRA)</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>Awareness raising activity on the law that will address the issue of unsafe abortion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women Promotion Center/Pathfinder</td>
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<td>Africa</td>
<td>Strategy meeting on access to safe abortion with Pathfinder, Tanzania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slax Youth House Union Debate Club</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>“WeYouth Tunisia**: organizing public debates on the issue of abortion and women’s rights to not be prosecuted or harassed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GROUP TAWHIDA Ben Chalikh</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>FLASH MOB on right and access to abortion on the 28 September 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ugandan coalition of CSOs working on abortion and SRHR</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>A launch of an info-graphic on unsafe abortion in Uganda. A panel/talk show discussion by different persons who are stake holder; candle vigil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Abortion Action Campaign</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Special September Newsletter issue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space Allies</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Discussion of September 28 during the commemorative event of Dr. Sizuko Sasaki, who had fought for women’s reproductive rights and built up a centre for survivors of sexual assault.</td>
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<td>Adams Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP)</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Social Media campaign, Virtual Mural, My Circle flashmob</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRHR Coalition Nepal</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<td>Radio talk show, Flashmob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Champions of ASAP (Ipas Nepal and Family Planning Association)</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>It’s a pro-choice stich up! - Creating embroidered fabric hexagons to contribute to a patchwork quilt which celebrates NZ’s pro-choice movement. Pro-Choice picnic Celebration of being pro-choice and discussion of the current discuss the current status of abortion in New Zealand law and how you can help us reform it.</td>
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<td>Various Prochoice Groups</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peace Foundation</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Awareness raising activities with 40-young peoples on termination of unwanted pregnancy, family planning, medical abortion and STIs and STIs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirkat Gah</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Panel discussion on “Addressing Unsafe Abortion in Pakistan”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pirbhat Women Development Society</td>
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<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Dialogue with younger boys &amp; girls on the safe abortion, family planning issues including reproductive rights on 28th of September in District Qamber-Shahdadkot.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Woman’s Health/ WGNRR</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Speak Out on abortion experiences of Filipina women</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women on Web Thailand, Yemtlang group and independent rights activists</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Interpretative dances on a city square and abortion related movie screenings</td>
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<td>Women on Web Turkey</td>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Bringing different women’s groups together including medical professionals and introduction of the medical abortion; march and manifests at Taksim square</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP)</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
<td>Documentary Screening &amp; Panel Discussion (Free event)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Rights Center</td>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Mini-campaign using WRC official Facebook profile to show support to women seeking safe and legal abortion services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center Women and Modern World</td>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Capacity building selective abortions among Region of Youth through promotion of Safe Abortion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center d’Action Laique</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Street demonstration for the right to safe abortion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Le Planning Familial</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Raising awareness information campaign through the Planning Familial website and social media targeting general public and the media on the situation regarding abortion around the world</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign My Body is Mine</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>International petition for universal legalization of safe and accessible abortion for all women! We demand that the United Nations recognizes the right to abortion as a universal and inalienable right.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s Center</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Building Critical Thinking Among Youth Through Promotion Safe Abortion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors for Choice</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Annual conference “Being a Pro-Choice Doctor in Ireland”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abortion Rights Campaign</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Choosing Choice: Packing Up Stigma: Photographic works from ‘Against the Tide’ by Rose Comiskey (Ireland), ‘When They Hold Their Hands Out Like Scales’ by Emma Campbell (Northern Ireland) and digitised print works from ‘Good Women Have Abortions’ by Heather Ault (USA) with curatorial support by Jennette Donnelly. Ireland’s second annual March for Choice (#March4choice)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Padovadonne</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Awareness raising flashmob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERA – Health Education and Research Association</td>
<td>Macedonia</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>The new abortion law in Macedonia – restrictions and derogations, a roundtable with CSO and health professionals to discuss possible effects of the legislative restrictions to abortion and the next legal actions to challenge the law at the Constitutional Court</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reproductive Health Training Center</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Commemoration of September 28; public outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOKUS - Forum for Women and De-</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Breakfast meeting in Oslo to mark the Global Day of Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Continent</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federation for Women and Family Planning</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Press conference; demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association for Family Planning</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Declaration approaching both the national and global situation on abortion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association for Gender Equality and Liberty (A.L.E.G.)</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Gender Equality Festival “Breaking Prejudices”, screening of the film “Born to Order: Children of the Decree”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Russian Association for Population and Development (RAPD)</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Participation in TV program “The right to vote” on TVC Federal channel; New edition of the Journal Reproductive Health Matters (Russian edition); Radio program on radio station Silver rain on the issue of abortion rights;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNG (Mulheres Nacionalistas Galegas)</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Call for Action in gallego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decidir Nos Hace Libre</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Protest march in every province in Spain; Party at Patio Maravillas for Women’s Rights; Testimonials collection in a book that we will send to the United Nations Organization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campanya pel Dret a l’Avortament</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>18h Manifestació davant la Delegació de Govern a Barcelona</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFSU</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Manifestation and a pro-choice walk through town handing out leaflets of the RFSU campaign with myth busting and common facts around abortion statistics nationally and globally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center for Reproductive Rights &amp; Sexual Rights Initiative</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Side event during the 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council to discuss the realization of women’s human rights, specifically women’s right to access safe and legal abortion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America Women’s Network</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Not even to save a woman’s life - Documentary Screening &amp; Panel Discussion (Free event)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abortion Rights UK</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Two social media campaigns for September 28: 1) quiz on legality 2) “I’m pro-choice because…” campaign</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alliance for Choice, Belfast</td>
<td>UK</td>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>Speak Out event on realities of women choosing abortion in Northern Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movimiento por el Aborto Libre</td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>March commemorating September 28.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feministas por el Aborto Seguro</td>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Seminario por el Aborto Libre, Legal, Seguro y Gratuito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective Mujer y Salud/WGNRR</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Embassy visits, Workshop for young lawyers for the defense of sexual and reproductive rights, and abortion advocacy strategies; Seminar on strategies for the decriminalization of Abortion in LAC; Participation in the Sept 28 LAC Campaign Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean Dawn</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Protest action in Emancipation park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taller Salud</td>
<td>Puerto Rico</td>
<td>LAC</td>
<td>Virtual campaign in which men speak about the right to safe and legal abortion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholics for Choice</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Sharing resources on abortion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ibis Reproductive Health</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Highlighting of recent publications and research on abortion in solidarity with the global day of action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipas</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Presentation at University of North Carolina’s Gillings School of Global Public Health; March for abortion rights and LGBTQ rights in the North Carolina Pride Parade; social media engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPPF Western</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Mobilisation of IPPF members; radio talk on abortion on francophone Africa; social media engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Students for Choice</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>Observing the day; social media engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Network of Abortion Funds</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>September Abortion Access Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lilith Fund for Reproductive Equity</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>North America</td>
<td>10th Annual Reproductive Equity Awards conference; Contribution to the Virtual Mural</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX V

PUBLICITY

NEWS (Google search of "September 28 Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion): 20 news articles


Feministing- http://feministing.com/2013/09/05/mind-the-gap-september-is-abortion-access-month/


Bolivia - Exigen legalizar aborto, sobre todo para las mujeres pobres http://www.la-razon.com/sociedad/Exigen-le

galizar-aborto-mujeres-pobres_0_1915008491.html


legal-abortion#media-2814313

South Africa - Abortion in Africa: A conspiracy of silence- http://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2013-09-30-abortion-
in-south-africa-a-conspiracy-of-silence/#_UmQ0OkzXZMM


New Zealand - Marking Global Day of Action for Abortion Access - http://akranz.wordpress.com/category/democrilise-

abortion-day-sep-28/

University of Auckland Student Magazine - http://craccum.ausa.auckland.ac.nz/?p=9399


Australia/Women’s Health Victoria http://whv.org.au/static/files/assets/2c466aee/MediaRelease-Call-for-action-on-abortion-in-Victoria-and-glob-


Mozambique/Pathfinder International- http://www.pathfinder.org/blog/voices-from-mozambique.html

ARGENTINA- http://www.perfil.com/columnistas/Despenalizar-el-aborto-es-un-compromiso-con-el-derecho-a-la-

vida-20130927-0030.html


BRAZIL- Today Brazil- http://todaybrazil.net/abortion-in-latin-america-a-varying-tale-of-woe/


http://www.scoop.it/t/the-right-not-to-be-born-towards-abolition-of-children-s-property-status

Retweets by Rappler Journalists Ana Santos and G Tongi

BLOG mentions (14, including one negative)

University of Chicago- Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion http://chicagofamilyplanning.word-

press.com/2013/09/27/global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-and-legal-abortion/

ASTRA- Sept. 28, 2013: Giving the global demand for safe abortion a voice http://aasap-asia.org/blog/sept-28-2013-giv-

ing-the-global-demand-for-safe-abortion-a-voice/


com/2013/09/27/september-global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-and-legal-abortion/

The Free Online- http://thefreeonline.wordpress.com/2013/09/19/28th-sept-world-action-day-for-access-to-safe-and-le-

gal-abortion/


A little red hen- http://www.allterredhem.com/a_little_red_hen/2013/09/september-28-2013/global-day-of-access-to-

safe-legal-abortion.html


abortion/


http://raymonduttnier.com/remote-login.php?login=664293e755346389b2e218773

01f497e1d45271www&su=0f71992aa2c6a6e583oa3a2z23328= http://kenyadailyeeweb.jibostudios.com/abortion-in-south-africa-a-conspiracy-of-

silence/

http://newswall.co.za/news/fatset/daily-maverick/abortion-in-south-africa-a-conspiracy-

of-silence/bcn7n.300911
Website posts (30)

One blue stocking- http://onebluestocking.wordpress.com/2013/09/05/september-is-abortion-access-month/


Website posts (30)


Gender Focus http://www.gender-focus.com/2013/10/01/the-round-up-oct-1-2013/


Penny Sharpe- http://pennysharpe.com/speech/19/2013/adjournment_safe_and_legal_abortion


Youth for Choice- http://edforchoice.tumblr.com/

Caribbean DAWN- http://allEvents.in/Kingston/join-us-on-sept-28-global-day-of-action-for-access-to-safe-and-legal-abortion/2012/9/28


Workers Solidarity Movement- http://www.wsm.ie/c/march-choice-2013

Gillings School of Global Public Health- http://www2.sph.unc.edu/events/

WLSA- http://www.wlsa.org/en/?__target__=english


MYSU- http://www.mysu.org.uy/28-de-Setiembre-Dia-Mundial-por-la

SELIES

Texas selfies by Lilith Fund https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.648225778535746.1073741827.13012887034.5442&type=1

Sri Lanka selfies https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.376586642475156.1073741834.147812548685901&type=1

Photos/ Videos of Sept28

Europe
- March For Choice in Ireland http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5R_NQupJD9o
- https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.51556191895614.1073741832.33230315163678&type=1

Africa
- Nigeria/NACSAA- https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.575681222446914.1073741826.4468889920155328&ty pe=1

LAC
- El Salvador demonstration (Agnupación Ciudadana por la Despenalización del Aborto El Salvador) http://www.flickr.com/photos/101491109@N02/sets/721575636016400944/
- Puerto Rico- September 28 video by Taller Salud: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijymsh08hWE
- https://www.facebook.com/AtfimboLaRojaPeru?ref=stream

Asia
- Nepal: Flashmob video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=10511934559832806&feature=youtube.be
- THAILAND (Safe Abortion Campaign in Thailand) http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=524461191050a62311000168&UktxEY2k6Cio
- http://www.mcot.net/site/content?id=524461191050a62311000168&UktxEY2k6Cio
- New Zealand stitch up- https://www.facebook.com/events/557695820960422/

Campaign materials
- https://www.facebook.com/SPANISH (partial)
- http://www.mujeresenred.net/spip.php?article179
- http://www.escribistesaneconomias.cl/28-de-septiembre_-d%C3%ADa-del-aborto.html
- http://www.derechoalaborto.org/
- http://www.nodo50.org/mujeresenred/spip.php?article133
- http://mareapopular.org generar/28-de-septiembre-dia-de-lucha-por-el-aborto-legal-en-nuestra-america/
September 28 is a Global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion wherein activists all over the world speak out in defense of the right to safe and legal abortion free of stigma and discrimination.

www.september28.org