I. Updates from the Core Group - Shannon Kowalski
   A. Going to send a set of questions that Core Group needs feedback on from AWG
   B. Latest information on Action Coalitions
      1. UN Women released call for leaders of Action Coalitions on Friday of last week
         a) Quite a challenge to get to agreement between the different members of the Core Group
         b) What we put out there for leadership criteria really allows us to push for model of working collectively that’s different from what we’ve done in the past
      2. Leadership structure:
         a) At first, they wanted the 2-2-2 model, but we pushed back on that and were able to change it
         b) Variety of sectors
         c) At Least 2 govts
         d) At Least 2 CS
         e) In addition, we’re pushing very strongly for:
            (1) Youth-led organizations, networks and movements
                (a) At least 2, hopefully more
            (2) Representatives of front-line advocates and human rights defenders
            (3) Those affected the most by the issues addressed in the Action Coalitions themes
      3. Private Sector leadership participation in Action Coalitions
         a) Making sure there’s space for philanthropies
         b) Weren’t able to get everything we were pushing for in the front-line criteria for leaders
         c) However, were able to get some requirements in addition to the Women’s Empowerment Principles (which we feel are not sufficient)
            (1) Need to endorse and abide by Working Principles on Business and Human Rights
                (a) One key principle includes respect for ILO fundamental standards
            d) Were also pushing for a due diligence process
                (1) For various reasons, weren’t able to agree on anything stronger than the UN due diligence principles
(a) Are very aware of the insufficiencies with that
   (i) Ex - Once companies have been signed on by the UN, there doesn’t seem to be a process to remove them
(2) When we’re doing the screening of potential private sector leaders we’ll really be paying close attention to this

4. Applying for Leadership of Action Coalitions:
   a) Submit a one-page Letter of Intent to
      actioncoalitions@unwomen.org
      (1) Should include three things:
         (a) Your organization’s expertise
            (i) How your organization works on the theme in question
            (ii) If you have a track record, include that; but you don’t need a track record - we want to include emerging leaders that may not have that kind of track record
         (b) One concrete commitment your org can make to advance women’s/girls’/gender diverse people’s rights in that area
            (i) Doesn’t have to be a funding commitment
            (ii) Could be: work on a campaign/strategy to change a law/policy; pushing to implement a law/policy; working to support women’s movement building; etc.
         (c) What your organization will do to engage others in the Action Coalition and its work
   b) Deadline: 21 February
   c) Critical that we have some feminist organizations in the leadership of the ACs to make sure that they really lead to change
   d) No organization is too big or too small to apply
   e) The application is organizational, not individual
   f) Role of the Action Coalition Leaders: will shape the blueprints for the Action Coalitions (along with others)
      (1) Will be documents that outline transformative goals for ACs and what it is we’re trying to do
      (2) Set of key actions that actors can take
      (3) Means of tracking progress
      (4) Accountability method
   g) Position = 5 years
      (1) Don’t have to think about long-term commitments, but want to set up a rotational
5. Deadline to apply isn’t confirmed, but will know before the CSW
   a) Probably going to launch ACs in July, so the application will most likely be open-ended with no real cut-off date
6. If you have recommendations of philanthropy groups, businesses, orgs, etc. - encourage them to apply
   a) We’re having a harder time figuring out who we do want to be involved than who we don’t
7. Going to be sending a short letter from CSAG that outlines the Action Coalition leadership and what we can do with them

C. Timeline of MX and France and applications from CS?
   1. Have been taking into account AWG’s CS participation recommendations
      a) Deadline for input = end of this week
   2. Coming soon
   3. Recognize people need time to prepare
   4. Right now, no timeline, but at the end of this week will have more info
      a) mid-February

D. CSW will be a space where we will engage in GEF and ACs
   1. Consultation Day on Sunday, 8 March
      a) The journey, where we’re at, what’s coming during the 2 weeks of CSW
   2. Conversation Circles Space - first 3 days of CSW
      a) ngocsw.org/ngo-csw-forum
      b) 6 sessions for each Thematic Group
         (1) Going to be combined with Action Coalitions

E. Docs coming out of CSW and GEF?
   1. CSW - Political declaration published on first day of CSW
      a) Being negotiated in February - start advocating with your country now
      b) Email us at info@ngocsw.org; beijing25@ngocsw.org so we can help include your voice
   2. GEF - no outcome document; agreement on the six ACs
      a) Doesn’t mean we’re stuck with these 6 AC topics
      b) Try to pick something we can see real difference with in the next 5 years

II. Updates from Feminist & Women’s Movement Action Plan - Soon-Young Yoon
A. fwMAP is part of this group (AWG) and is separate from NGO CSW/NY
   1. Will exclude people from conversations, which NGO CSW/NY doesn't do
B. CSW will be the most important space for us because of the limited numbers at MX and Paris
C. Emphasizing two things:
   1. Breaking silos - importance of horizontal alliances
   2. Bottom-up action - whether it’s coalitions or other things that evolve in this process
a) Grounded in Human Rights
D. Action Coalitions
E. A space where we can try new things
   1. Imagining that what we’re doing goes beyond the 5 years that is mapped by ACs
F. AWG could be more active
   1. Send fwmap2020@gmail.com your suggestions
   2. Imagine what we could do in between CSW & Mexico and Mexico & Paris to keep the momentum
      a) Trying to open GEF up more to engage more and more people
G. How can rural community and grassroots women get more on board
   1. Bottom-up approach opens up approach to local municipalities and villages

III. Regional Updates
A. Lana Finikin in the Caribbean
   1. Faced undemocratic actors in Santiago
   2. Leadership (Lana and Mabel) couldn’t control the process and the doc was taken over by radical feminists
   3. Need to start looking at how collectively we can address the divide and that we work together moving forward
B. Create a Task Force for figuring out what to do with opposition - how to respond to their tactics
   1. Lana, Sandy, Zarin, Marie-Anne and their respective factions
   2. Women’s Rights Caucus has a working group on pushing back against opposition groups at CSW
   3. How to push back and stop the bullying
   4. Let us know if you need to get in touch with each other

NEXT MEETING: 18 February @ 1PM EST