

ANGLICAN/ EPISCOPAL PRESENCE AT UNCSW 66

“Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”

March 14th – 25th, 2022



Fact Sheet

The [66th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women \(CSW66\)](#) will be held from Monday, 3/14 to Friday, 3/25/2022. Since 1946, UNCSW has convened annually to promote women’s rights in political, economic, civil, social and educational fields, and to make recommendations on urgent problems facing women and girls. It reached a turning point in 1995 at the [Fourth World Conference on Women](#) with the adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), a global policy framework for gender equality and the empowerment of women that set out 12 Critical Areas of Concern. UNCSW 66’s priority theme will be “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes”. An additional focus will be the review theme, “Women’s economic empowerment in the changing world of work”, and the continued implementation of [Agenda 2030](#) and the [Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Anglicans and Episcopalians at UNCSW66

Anglican and Episcopal women have participated in UNCSW since at least 2000. In 2021, the traditionally strong Anglican and Episcopal presence continues with participants representing multiple regions and countries across the Anglican Communion:

- The Anglican Communion welcomes 8 delegates from Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia; Brazil; Indian Ocean; The Episcopal Church; Kenya; Philippines; Scotland; Southern Africa. Among the delegates, The Reverend Rachel Taber-Hamilton, Episcopalian, will represent the Anglican Indigenous Network. Information about the Anglican delegation can be found here: https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2022/02/anglicans-set-to-highlight-climate-justice-at-un-commission-on-status-of-women.aspx?fbclid=IwAR1cztXl1iE9l_rKAFKauHMNVfaKXcZn2koAridJ8B-XxJQ_EWZp9ZzHp3l.
- The Episcopal Church welcomes 8 delegates, nominated by Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry. They hail from provinces across The Episcopal Church and the Dioceses of Connecticut, Central Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Northern Indiana, Colorado, Kansas, Los Angeles and the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe. They are guided and accompanied by members of the Presiding Bishop’s staff and other leadership volunteers serving as fellow delegates. Delegates will observe the official UNCSW meetings, represent the Presiding Bishop and the Church’s written statement submitted to UNCSW, network and meet with UN officials and representatives of member states, advocate alongside ecumenical and interfaith partners, attend side and parallel events and reflect during UNCSW on how to take their experiences back

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home to their communities and train up new leaders. Biographies for the Presiding Bishop’s delegation can be found on the Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage.

- The Episcopal Church also has provided accredited access for an Episcopal Relief & Development delegation led by Dr. Chiseche Mibenge, Director of Gender Initiatives.

Besides the accredited delegations, many Episcopalians and Anglicans will participate in UNCSW in groups or individually. They include participants from the International Anglican Women’s Network (IAWN) and other pan-Anglican groups.

Shared program of worship and events

While CSW66 will be primarily virtual, the ongoing program of hospitality and fellowship that has gathered Anglicans and Episcopalians for decades will continue. All welcome, register via the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#):

- 3/2, 3 – 4:30 pm EST: “CSW66 Thematic Dialogue”. Panel event discussing PB’s written statement as focal point, gathering groups of experts and former delegates for joint learning with newly appointed Presiding Bishop’s delegates. All welcome.
- 3/10, 2 – 3:30 pm EST: “Welcome to CSW66: Meet the Presiding Bishop’s Delegation”, a meet and greet, question and answer session for Episcopalians.
- 3/14, 12:10 – 1 pm EDT: UNCSW66 Opening Worship for all participants, hosted by the Presiding Bishop’s delegation.
- 3/15, 8 - 9:30 am EDT: NGO CSW parallel event: "PURPOSE: Examining faith-based responses to SGBV in emergencies" featuring Dr. Chiseche Mibenge, Director of Gender Initiatives, Episcopal Relief & Development. Event sponsored by the World Council of Churches.
- 3/16, 10 – 11:30 am EDT: NGO CSW parallel event: “Women as Storytellers, Educators, and Stakeholders for Faith-based Climate Action” sponsored by Episcopal Relief & Development.
- 3/18, 8 – 9:30 am EDT: NGO CSW parallel event: “Do ecofeminism and ecowomanism change the advancements of gender justice?” sponsored by The Episcopal Church.
- 3/21, 8–9:30 am EDT: NGO CSW parallel event: “Contextual Learning Exchanges: Elevating gender empowerment through online platforms” sponsored by Episcopal Relief & Development.
- 3/25, 12:10 – 1 pm EDT: UNCSW 65 Closing Worship offered by delegates.
- 3/31, 2 – 3:30 pm EDT: “Taking It Back Home: Report Back from the Presiding Bishop’s Delegation”, a question-and-answer session for Episcopalians.

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For more information and registration, see the [NGO CSW Forum schedule of parallel events](#), the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#) and the [Episcopal News Service Events page](#).

Episcopalians also are invited to join the Presiding Bishop’s delegation, other Episcopalians and Anglicans and the wider interfaith community in praying, at noon in their time zone, the Beijing Noonday Prayer co-written by Episcopalians and other people of faith and prayed at noon every day in Beijing in 1995. The prayer can be found on the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#).

Episcopalians and Anglicans also will participate in orientation, ecumenical worship and events hosted by Ecumenical Women, the Faith in Beijing collective, the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (NGO CSW), and by civil society, UN entities and member states.

In addition, many Anglican and Episcopal groups will host virtual parallel events. For more information, see the [NGO CSW Forum schedule of parallel events](#), the [Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage](#) and the [Episcopal News Service Events page](#).

Anglican Communion and Episcopal Church advocacy at UNCSW 66

The Anglican Communion submitted this CSW66 statement on behalf of the Anglican Consultative Council: <https://undocs.org/E/CN.6/2022/NGO/I> and also signed on to joint statements by Ecumenical Women and the Faith in Beijing collective.

The Anglican Communion’s Office at the United Nations will host Twitter campaigns focusing on introducing their delegation and advocacy priorities for CSW66 at both [@AnglicanUN](#) and [@AnglicansEndGBV](#).

Presiding Bishop & Primate Michael Bruce Curry submitted a written statement to UNCSW’s 66th session on behalf of The Episcopal Church, which is based on General Convention resolutions, and can be found here: <https://undocs.org/E/CN.6/2022/NGO/15>. It highlights three priorities to accelerate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls around the priority theme:

- Addressing the climate emergency and implementing gender mainstreaming across climate, environmental, and disaster risk-reduction policies and programs.
- Prioritizing responses and protections for women and girls marginalized by environmental racism.
- Accelerating women’s and girls’ empowerment and gender equality and eradicating violence against women and girls.

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The Episcopal Church also signed on to joint statements with Ecumenical Women and the Faith in Beijing collective.

The Presiding Bishop’s delegation will participate actively in advocacy at the UN based on the Presiding Bishop’s statement, including training, advocacy and communication with member states, and continuing advocacy back home with their local communities. The statement serves as a foundation by which delegates may share their own stories, reflections and concerns.

Communications at UNCSW 66

All UNCSW participants are encouraged to share their experiences with the wider community from their own unique perspectives. Feedback might include stories and information via news reports, blogs, social media and posted pictures. Participants are encouraged to share their stories using the communication tools below.

Key resources

UNCSW 66th session page: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw66-2022>

UN Women: www.unwomen.org

The Episcopal Church: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/>

The Episcopal Church UNCSW webpage: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/global-partnerships/episcopal-church-united-nations/uncsw/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations webpage: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/global-partnerships/episcopal-church-united-nations/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/episcopalun/>

The Episcopal Church and the United Nations Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EpiscopalUN>

Episcopal Relief & Development: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/> #EpiscopalReliefCSW, #EpiscopalRelief

Anglican Communion Representation at the United Nations: <http://www.aco.org/mission/at-the-un.aspx>

Anglican Communion UN Twitter: @AnglicanUN and @AnglicansEndGBV

Hashtags: #CSW66, #GenerationEquality (official UN hashtags), #EpiscopalCSW and #EpiscopalUN (all things Episcopal Church and the UN), #AnglicansatCSW (Anglican Communion at CSW)

For more information:

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Lynaia Main, Episcopal Church Representative to the United Nations, lmain@episcopalchurch.org

Dr. Chiseche Mibenge, Director of Gender Initiatives, Episcopal Relief & Development, cmibenge@episcopalrelief.org

March 11th, 2022