

Organized by:



**CAPWIP**  
CENTER FOR ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN IN POLITICS

# *The Sixth Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics*

....for local governments (city/municipality) and  
the government bureaucracy  
.....for political parties, and governance institutes  
.....for National Governments, and government  
agencies,  
.....for all NGOs and civil society groups  
dedicated to development work i.e. Environment,  
Population, Globalization and International Trade,  
Human Security, Peace and Disaster Control,  
Poverty, International Communications and  
technology (ICT), Migration, etc

Venue: Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Conference Center,  
Makati City, Philippines

Date: February 10-12, 2006

---

Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP)

4227-4229 Tomas Claudio Street Baclaran, Parañaque City, Metro Manila, Philippines, (632)  
8522112, (632)8516934 Tele Fax:(6322) 8522112 mobile phone 632 0918 940 3711

Email: [asiapacificcongress@gmail.com](mailto:asiapacificcongress@gmail.com); [trainings@capwip.org](mailto:trainings@capwip.org); [capwip\\_trainings@yahoo.com](mailto:capwip_trainings@yahoo.com)

Web: [www.capwip.org](http://www.capwip.org); [www.onlinewomeninpolitics.org](http://www.onlinewomeninpolitics.org)

## 1. Background and Context

In 1995, at the Beijing Fourth World Conference on Women, **one of the twelve areas of concern was women's participation in power and decision making.** This agenda was pursued by women in government and non-government sectors. Yet current observations indicate that "despite women's increased participation in local governments, women are found in very small numbers and have little impact in governance at the national level. Women's representation in government is tokenistic which impedes the real change and progress that women can make even when they are in power." (CAPWIP, Global Congress of Women in Politics, The Purple Book, p. 49)

Along this line, in the last twelve (12) years, the Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) organized congresses every two years to gather women and men interested in promoting women's participation in power and decision making to discuss plans and strategies to promote women's participation in leadership and politics.

## 2. The Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics, February 10-12, 2006, Makati City, Philippines

The Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) is organizing the **Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics** to be held on **February 10-12, 2006** at the **Asian Institute of Management Conference Center, in Makati City, Philippines.** Invited to attend are women and men who are interested in promoting women in leadership and decision making.

The goal of the Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress is to take stock of the women's situation and progress in promoting women's political participation, identify strategic gaps and appropriate courses of action for the next decade.

Specifically, the congress will have the following objectives:

- a. To review and examine the Asia Pacific situation on women in leadership, decision making and politics in the current global context;
- b. To identify gaps and weaknesses in development actions to promote women's participation
- c. To define future courses of action to promote women's participation in leadership and politics

The Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics seeks to address these objectives and define a practical platform of action that will be presented to **Global Congress of Women in Politics** that is also being organized by CAPWIP. This will be held on **March 2, 2006** in **New York City, USA** and to the **Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)**\_annual meeting on Feb 28-March 10, 2006 at the UN.

### **3. Third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Global Congress of Women in Politics in New York City, USA February 25-26, 2006**

The Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics will define a practical platform of action that will be presented to **Global Congress of Women in Politics** that is jointly organized by the Global Network of Women in Politics (GLOBAL WIP) and the Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) on March 2, 2006 in New York City,

The objective of the Global Congress is to a) review and examine the global situation on women in leadership, decision making and politics in the current global context; b) To identify gaps and weaknesses in development actions to promote women's participation; c) To define future courses of action to promote through a platform for action for the next decade.

Those who are interested to attend the Third Global Congress of Women In Politics may contact the Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP), the secretariat of the Global Network of Women in Politics (Global WIP).

### **4. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) annual meeting on Feb 28- March 10, 2006 at the UN.**

As the preparatory body for the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was mandated by the General Assembly to play a central role in monitoring, within the UN system, the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and advise the Economic and Social Council thereon.

From 1996, the main focus of work of the CSW has been the follow-up to the Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) World Conference on Women and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. Following the adoption by the General Assembly, at its twenty-third special session in June 2000, of the Political Declaration, and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (i.e. the "outcome document"), the Commission's work now focuses on the implementation of both.

In 2006, the theme for the CSW annual meeting on Feb 28-March 10, 2006 at the UN is as follows:

- Enhanced participation of women in development: an enabling environment for achieving gender equality and the advancement of women, taking into account, inter alia, the fields of education, health and work.
- Equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes at all levels.

### **5. Papers:**

As in past congresses, the Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP) welcomes relevant papers that prospective participants to the Sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics would like to present or share with the other participants during the congress. Participants are encouraged to prepare status reports on their respective organizations or countries efforts towards the promotion of women in leadership and decision making. Papers should be emailed to CAPWIP ahead of time.

## 6. Program:

Date	Activity
Day 1, February 10	<p>Opening Ceremonies</p> <p><u>Keynote Address</u></p> <p><u>Plenary Session 1: Overview: After Beijing, where do women stand in leadership and politics?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The NGO View</li> <li>- The GO View</li> </ul> <p>The View from the Ground:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pacific</li> <li>- East Asia</li> <li>- South East Asia</li> </ul>
Day 2, February 11	<p><u>Plenary Session 2: Women's Voice in Trade and Development</u></p> <p><u>Plenary Session 3: Women's Participation in Peace efforts, Combating War and Terrorism</u></p> <p><u>Plenary Session 4 : Women's Involvement in Coping with Disaster and Calamity</u></p> <p><u>Plenary Session 5: Women and Environment</u></p>
Day 3, February 12	<p>Break up groups- geographic</p> <p>Where do women stand in terms of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) participation level in politics and governance</li> <li>b) transformation of society and gender relations</li> <li>c) what worked and what did not work</li> <li>d) strategic gaps and weaknesses</li> </ol> <p>How do we move forward and where do we want to go?</p> <p>Integration and Synthesis</p> <p>Defining and drafting the 10 year platform for Action</p> <p>Closing</p>

## 7. Who can join?

Women and men .....

- from all walks of life who are interested to participate in drafting a ten year plan for the promotion of women in leadership and decision making;
- elected to positions in government, parliaments or other relevant offices;
- working for private offices or organizations who are serving in decision making bodies;
- in academic institutions;
- in training centers/institutes for governance, leadership, gender and development;

- working for development;
- in electoral politics (in all levels: national, provincial, city/municipality)
- in the bureaucracy (in all levels: national, provincial, city/municipality)
- in political parties (officials and members)
- in training institutes (government, private sectors and non-government)
- in the development of governance policies, programs and projects
- in working with NGOs, civil society groups interested in gender, governance and leadership
- or women and men who are simply interested in the question of gender, governance and leadership

## 8. Registration:

Fees:

The Sixth (6th) Asia Pacific Congress of Women in Politics will be held on February 10-12, 2006 at the Asian Institute of Management Conference Center, in Makati City, Philippines ([www.aim.edu.ph](http://www.aim.edu.ph)).

The registration fee is US\$500 per participant. This includes:

1. Conference materials and handouts;
2. Hotel twin accommodation at the Asian Institute of Management Training Center (add US \$100 for single room accommodation);
3. Set Breakfast, buffet lunch and two snacks for the three days (February 10-12, 2006). Dinner for the three days is for the individual account of the participants;
4. Airport transfers in and out

Steps:

1. Fill in attached application form and send it to CAPWIP via fax or email
2. Wait for confirmation of the registration from CAPWIP
3. Remit your registration fee of US\$500 to CAPWIP's account, details are as follows:

Account Name:	Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics or CAPWIP
Account Number:	7102-710000-861
Account Type:	Dollar Savings Account
Bank's Name:	Metrobank Paseo de Magallanes Branch
Bank's Address:	Paseo de Magallanes, Magallanes Village, Makati City
Swift Code:	MBTCPHMMXXXX

4. Send CAPWIP via fax or email details of the remittance (bring also copy of the proof of remittance to the congress to be presented upon registration);
4. Send CAPWIP your flight details;
5. Wait for confirmation re: your transfer In, or transport from the airport

## 8. Venue of the congress:

The venue is the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Conference Center. The AIM Conference Center is located in the city center of Makati five minutes walking distance from Greenbelt and Ayala Avenue. It is the only center which offers executive function rooms catered solely for corporate gatherings and meetings. A fifteen minute drive going to Malate and Ortigas (without traffic!) AIM Conference Center is surrounded by embassies, shopping malls and situated right beside a mini park. Benavidez cor. Trasierra Streets, Legaspi Village Makati City 1260 Philippines E-mail Address: [accm@aimonline.org](mailto:accm@aimonline.org) Telephone No.: (632) 750-1010 Fax Nos.: (632) 751-7160 (632) 750-4459

## 9. About the organizer

The **CENTER FOR ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN IN POLITICS (CAPWIP)** is a non-partisan, non-profit and non-governmental regional organization dedicated to promoting equal participation of women in politics, governance and decision-making. CAPWIP was established in 1992 by a group of women from the Asia-Pacific region who have defined their paradigm for change as:

Politics that is both TRANSFORMED and TRANSFORMATIONAL.

TRANSFORMED because...

it uses power to create change, to develop people, and to build communities;

it is non-hierarchical and participatory in its structures and processes; and

it accords priority to the disadvantaged sectors, such as the poor grassroots women in rural and urban areas and indigenous women;

TRANSFORMATIONAL because...

it is development-oriented, issue-based, and gender-responsive;

it seeks economic, social, and political equity between sexes and among sectors; and

it builds a society that is just and humane and a way of life that is sustainable.

The women of Asia-Pacific region will create a system of politics that is holistic, integrated, and life enhancing in its perspective.

CAPWIP operates through a network of national affiliates clustered into five sub-regional groupings: Central Asia, East Asia, Pacific, South Asia and Southeast Asia. These sub-regional coordinating focal points and national affiliates are autonomous organizations actively involved in women's political empowerment in their respective countries.

CAPWIP supports its network through technical assistance in organizational and program planning, training, research and information sharing, advocacy and networking. CAPWIP receives administrative and program support through voluntary contributions from its board members and grants from bilateral and multilateral aid agencies such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Asia-Pacific Gender Equality Network (UNDP-APGEN), Regional Programme on Governance in the Asia-Pacific (UNDP-PARAGON), Southeast Asia Gender Equity Programme of the Canadian International Development Agency (SEAGEP-CIDA), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

CAPWIP's programs on training include developing modules and training programs for women's leadership and responsible citizenship based on the framework of transformative leadership and conducts trainer's training for women's political empowerment, transformative leadership and gender-responsive governance.

The CAPWIP Institute for Gender, Governance and Leadership (CIGGL) aims to provide trainings to women and men involved in:

- Electoral politics (in all levels: national, provincial, city/municipality)
- The bureaucracy (in all levels: national, provincial, city/municipality)
- Political parties (officials and members)
- Training institutes (government, private sectors and non-government)
- The development of governance policies, programs and projects
- Working with NGOs, civil society groups interested in gender, governance and leadership; or
- Women and men who are simply interested in the question of gender, governance and leadership

## 10. Secretariat:

Center for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP)

4227-4229 Tomas Claudio Street, Baclaran,

Paranaque City, 1700 PHILIPPINES

Tel: (63 2) 8516934; Fax: (63 2) 8522112

Email: [asiapacificcongress@gmail.com](mailto:asiapacificcongress@gmail.com); [trainings@capwip.org](mailto:trainings@capwip.org); [capwip@capwip.org](mailto:capwip@capwip.org)

Website: [www.capwip.org](http://www.capwip.org); [www.onlinewomeninpolitics.org](http://www.onlinewomeninpolitics.org)

## 11. Information about the Philippines

### **about the PHILIPPINES**

The Philippines is the third largest English speaking country in the world. It has a rich history combining Asian, European, and American influences. Prior to Spanish colonization in 1521, the Filipinos had a rich culture and were trading with the Chinese and the Japanese. Spain's colonization brought about the construction of Intramuros in 1571, a "Walled City" comprised of European

buildings and churches, replicated in different parts of the archipelago. In 1898, after 350 years and 300 rebellions, the Filipinos, with leaders like Jose Rizal and Emilio Aguinaldo, succeeded in winning their independence.

In 1898, the Philippines became the first and only colony of the United States. Following the Philippine-American War, the United States brought widespread education to the islands. Filipinos fought alongside Americans during World War II, particularly at the famous battle of Bataan and Corregidor which delayed Japanese advance and saved Australia. They then waged a guerilla war against the Japanese from 1941 to 1945. The Philippines regained its independence in 1946.

Filipinos are a freedom-loving people, having waged two peaceful, bloodless revolutions against what were perceived as corrupt regimes. The Philippines is a vibrant democracy, as evidenced by 12 English national newspapers, 7 national television stations, hundreds of cable TV stations, and 2,000 radio stations.

Filipinos are a fun-loving people. Throughout the islands, there are fiestas celebrated everyday and foreign guests are always welcome to their homes.

**Climate:** March to May is hot and dry. June to October is rainy, November to February is cool. Average temperatures: 78°F / 25°C to 90°F / 32°C; humidity is 77%.

**Currency:** The Philippines' monetary unit is the peso, divided into 100 centavos. Foreign currency may be exchanged at any hotels, most large department stores, banks, and authorized money changing shops accredited by the Central Bank of the Philippines. International credit cards such as Visa, Diners Club, Bank of America Card, Master Charge, and American Express are accepted in major establishments.

**Language:** The Philippines is the world's third-largest English-speaking country next to the United States and the United Kingdom. There are over 100 regional dialects. The national language is Filipino.

**Foods:** Any food preference and dietary restrictions should be advised in advance so that adjustments can be made accordingly.

**Visa requirements:** For most foreign visitors, visas are not needed for stays of less than 21 days. Three-month visa can be obtained in advance and cost around US\$35. Multiple-entry (lasting six to 12 months) visas are also available but are expensive and only allow for stays of 59 days at a time. Visa extensions are possible and generally faster to obtain in regional areas.



**How to get to the training site:** Participants will be billeted at the CAPWIP Institute for Gender-Responsive Governance & Leadership, which is also the training's venue. There will be representatives who will assist and bring the participants to the venue upon their arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. CAPWIP will also provide transfer from the venue to the airport.

**Basic tourist info:** Information and tour brochures are available upon request. You can also browse the internet for more information on the Philippines: <http://www.wowphilippines.com.ph>

**Reconfirmation of return flights:** The CAPWIP Secretariat will assist the participants in the reconfirmation of their return flights.

## 12. Information regarding Visa to the Philippines:

The Philippine government allows nationals from certain countries to enter the country without visas for a stay not exceeding 21 days, provided they hold valid ticket for their return journey to port of origin or next port of destination. The Philippine foreign affairs department also requires that passports are valid for a period of not less than six (6) months beyond the contemplated period of stay. But Immigration Officers at ports of entry may exercise their discretion to admit holders of passports valid for at least sixty (60) days beyond the intended period of stay.

Nationals from the following countries, however, must secure entry visas to the Philippines:

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Belarus

Belize

Bosnia-Herzegovina

China, Peoples Republic of (PROC)

Croatia - *Regular passport holders only; diplomatic and official passport holders do not need entry visas.*

Cuba - *Regular passport holders only; diplomatic and official passport holders do not need entry visas.*

East Timor\*

Egypt \*

Estonia  
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM)  
Georgia  
India\*  
Iran\*  
Iraq\*  
Jordan\*  
Kazakhstan  
Kyrgyzstan  
Latvia  
Lebanon\*  
Libya\*  
Lithuania  
Moldova  
Nauru  
Nigeria\*  
North Korea (Democratic People's Republic of Korea)\*  
Pakistan\*  
Palestine\*  
Russian Federation  
Sierra Leone  
Slovenia - Regular passport holders only; diplomatic and official  
passport holders do not need entry visas.  
Sri Lanka\*  
Sudan\*  
Syria\*  
Tajikistan  
Tonga  
Turkmenistan  
Ukraine  
Uzbekistan  
Vanuatu  
Yemen\*  
Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia/Montenegro)

\* Nationals from these countries may only apply for 9(a) temporary visitor's  
visa at their country of origin or place of legal residence.

The following are also required entry visas to the Philippines:

Holders of Taiwanese passports

Holders of Documents of Identity (DI), Certificates of Identity (CI) or  
Travel Documents ("Titre de Voyage")  
Stateless Persons

The following nationals are allowed to enter the Philippines without a visa  
for a stay not exceeding seven (7) days:

Holders of HongKong Special Administrative Region (SAR)  
passports  
Holders of British National Overseas (BNO) passports  
Holders of Macau-Portuguese passports  
Holders of Macau Special Administrative Region (SAR) passports

Important Note: Nationals who are subjects of deportation/blacklist orders  
of the Department and the Bureau of Immigration shall not be admitted to  
the Philippines.

Further inquiries may be addressed to the Visa Division (Telephone  
numbers: 834-4854; 834-4853 & 834-4961), Department of Foreign  
Affairs, 2330 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City, or to any Philippine Embassy  
or Consulate abroad.