

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Selina Gan
Email: selina@scwo.org.sg
Tel: (O) 6571-0181

SCWO Celebrates International Women's Day 2011

"Creating the Future – Women in Society, Economy & Government"

Each year, International Women's Day is celebrated on the 8th of March, and 2011 is especially important as it is the Global Centenary. Around the world, thousands of events in hundreds of countries will mark this important milestone in the progress of women to fair partnership in family, social, business and political life. Where we are today is the result of the women and men of vision in our past, and we look now to the future.

In Singapore, SCWO as the national co-ordinating council of 51 women's organisations, will be marking this historic event in several ways:

1. The making of the Video – 100 Voices which will be shown for the first time at the Celebration Dinner
2. Inaugural SCWO Debating Tournament (Fri 25–Sun 27 Feb)
3. Celebration Dinner (Wed 9 Mar)
4. SCWO Mural (Sat 19 Mar)

Video – "100 Voices"

The SCWO video "100 Voices" featuring women from our past, present and future, outlining their triumphs and tribulations through the years. This will be a historical documentary of the progress of Singapore Women for the last 100 years.

SCWO Debating Tournament

This is an initiative to engage the future generations of the workforce and thought leaders, by collaborating with the Singapore Management (**SMU**) University's Debating Society to organise the **Inaugural SCWO Debating Tournament** for students of tertiary institutions in Singapore, to hear their views, understand their concerns and learn from their hopes for the future. This is the start of an annual tournament, which we hope will develop to include regional and international debate teams in the coming years. The tournament will be held from the 25th to 27th February 2011 in SMU.

Celebration Dinner

The Celebration dinner to be held at the Regent Hotel Singapore will be graced by our patron, First Lady Mrs Urmila Nathan and by Minister of State, MCYS, Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon.

Highlights for the evening will include:

- Presentation of awards for the Debating Championship
- The SCWO video "100 Voices" will be shown for the first time
- The Launch of the "Women's Register"
- A Special Presentation to Mrs Nathan to thank her for the 10 years of support to SCWO

SCWO Mural

Social Creatives Ltd, a Social Enterprise whose vision is to be the leading non-governmental group nurturing community art through youth development, will be creating a Mural for the Wall on the front of the SCWO Centre. The Mural will be painted mostly by the various youth groups that they will bring together. However, on the Saturday, 19th March from 10 am to 4.30 pm we will be inviting 100 women and girls to get involved part of the painting process.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend.

- 1. The Finals of the Debating Tournament on Sat 27th Feb 2011 at 7 pm at the Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium in SMU**

- 2. To the Celebration Dinner on Wed 9th Mar 2011 at the Regent Singapore Ballroom at 7.30 pm.**

Please Media Enquiries and to RSVP:

Please email Selina at selina@scwo.org.sg or call 6837-0611

About SCWO

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations is the National Coordinating body of women's organisations in Singapore. Incorporated in March 1980, the SCWO serves to unite the various women's organisations, clubs, committees, groups and women leaders together, working in accordance with its various aims and objectives. The SCWO also serves to coordinate these associations into a national movement and to act on their behalf in matters for which it is authorised by its members.

The SCWO is represented on various Government and inter-ministry committees where we contribute our views in the areas of family, women, and on children's issues. We are involved in government Feedback Sessions and other discussions on issues and policies

Our Services & Initiatives

Star Shelter—A crisis centre that provides temporary refuge for women and children who are victims of family violence.

New2U Thrift Shop—sells pre-loved clothing, bric-a-brac and furniture with all proceeds going to Star Shelter.

Maintenance Support Central – A one-stop centre to assist claimants in the collection of maintenance payments from defaulters. (The centre will be ready by the middle of the year).

IT Hub—offers a non-threatening environment for women and their family members to become IT literate and for the re-training of retrenched workers.

Bonny Hicks Education & Training Centre—consists of six rooms for training courses and meetings, and are available for rent.

F.A. Chua Library— is an archival library of all women's organisations — local and international.

Women' Register— a platform for networking, education and mentorship for women between 18 to 35 years of age.

BoardAgender – assists and facilitates the appointment of women to leadership positions in the public, private and non-profit sector.

Wall of Fame – dedicated to the women who made a difference in Singapore.

###

14 February 2011