



**Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition
September 2011 Update**

1. ACTIVITIES

1.1 Hiring of consultants for WHRD

Two positions were recently advertised on the WHRD website. The first advertisement was for a writer for the WHRD Global Report, and recently Kaavya Asoka was hired for this position. She contributed to the WHRD IC Training Manual through her work as Human Rights Officer at ISHR, and will therefore be an asset to those working on the Global Report. The second position is for a Strategic Planning Consultant to assist with the planning and assembly meeting early next year. Interviews for that position will be held soon.

1.2 Global Report progress

The WHRD-IC Global Report on the situation of WHRDs 2006-2010 project is moving ahead. Kaavya will be drawing on existing member analytical materials covering this period to build up the analysis, along with emblematic case studies. As a whole WHRD - IC we identified 5 main trends we wanted to focus on (below). If you have relevant analytical material related to these trends please send links. We know that certain organisations have carried out specific analysis on particular trends (eg AWID on RFs). We need links to that material

Contextual trends:

- Militarisation
- Religious Fundamentalism and other forms of extremism
- Globalisation and the financial crisis
- Crises of democracy and governance
- Heteronormativity

If you have separate analysis on violations against WHRDs, or strategies to contest these, please send that through as well for consideration. Send through materials by Thursday 13th October to Kaavya Asoka [kaavya.asoka@gmail.com]

1.3 IRAN: Arbitrary detention and judicial harassment of human rights defenders continue

Paris-Geneva, September 16, 2011. The Observatory for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, a joint programme of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and the World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), condemns the continuing repression of human rights defenders in Iran, notably lawyers and women's rights defenders. IRAN: [Arbitrary detention and judicial harassment of human rights defenders continue](#)

2. URGENT APPEALS

The Coalition and its members issued urgent appeals on: (available from the website)

- Tanzania, 30 September 2011: [Human rights defender Mr Masesa Bandoma arbitrarily arrested and on trial as a result of fabricated charges.](#)
- Kazakhstan, 13 September 2011: [Arbitrary arrest and administrative conviction of human rights defender and labour rights leader, Ms Natalya Azhigalieva.](#)
- Sierra Leone, 31 August 2011: [Break-in at the office of the Women's Centre for Good Governance and Human Rights \(WOCEGAR\)](#)

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Women Human Rights Defenders International Coalition
Secretariat
www.defendingwomen-defendingrights.org