

## United Nations Report, 2013

The NGOs here in New York bade farewell to the former Director of UN Women Michelle Bachelet. She returned to Chile in order to run for the presidency of her country (Interestingly she is facing another woman for the position).

On 10 July UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon named **Phumzile Mlambo Ngcuka** the new Executive Director of UN Women. She is from South Africa and was Deputy President of that country from 2005 to 2008. Before that she held various Parliamentary positions since 1994.

Now that the year 2015 is fast approaching and the MDG (Millennium Development Goal) providing for the extrication of women out of poverty has not and will not be achieved by 2015, the attention of the UN is turning to the SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals. The Governments and UN agencies are busy preparing a framework of global goals and targets for development, following the Rio+20 Summit (June 2012) as well as a follow-up of the Millennium Development Goals, post 2015.

At a recent meeting the Women's Major Groups [created as a result of the UN's Earth Summit, 1992] recognized women as one of the major groups of civil society whose participation in decision-making is essential for the achieving sustainable development. NGOs were encouraged to continue their work for gender equality and women's rights and priorities when these goals are promulgated.