

# GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## IASSW MEETING REPORT – JULY 2022

The focus of the Global Agenda in the first semester of 2022, was to prepare regional reports on the first theme of the 2020-2030 Global Agenda, that is: *Ubuntu: Strengthening Social Solidarity and Global Connectedness*, and finalise theme three (3) of the 2020-2030 Global Agenda.

IASSW took the lead in mobilising the regions to compile the reports on the Ubuntu theme. Thank you to the IASSW representatives as mentioned below who took the lead in organising collaboration with IASSW, IFSW and ICSW members in the region to present the regional reports.

**Asia Pacific Region:** David Rose

**North America and Caribbean Region:** Darla Coffey

**Europe:** Marlene Corydon

**South America:** Pedro Isnardo de la Cruz

**Africa Region:** Antoinette Lombard

The emphasis of the regional reports was on determining the **progress** that has been made in social work practice, education, and policy on Ubuntu in strengthening social solidarity in the region and globally. The Ubuntu theme is ongoing and integrated in the second and forthcoming themes of the Global Agenda. Hence, the emphasis is on progress made.

Data had to be collected and reported on the following questions:

1. How do the principles of Ubuntu impact on social work and social development professionals' thinking and actions to facilitate social transformation?
2. How has Ubuntu been applied over the past two years to maximise inclusivity and linking the active participation of all voices, particularly those often marginalised in activities and programmes in social work practice, education, and social development?

3. What are we learning from the use of the principles of Ubuntu to connect indigenous / local populations with a global world?

Two regional reports have been submitted while the others will be finalised soon. The request was a brief report of a few pages reflecting on the key questions, drawing conclusions, and making recommendations.

The Global Taskforce has not met since February 2022. At that stage the third theme of the 2020-2030 Global Agenda was finalised, and we briefly spoke about collecting data on the first theme from the regions where it was agreed that IASSW will take the lead in the regions to organise this. IFSW was very engaged in planning the People Global Summit over the past months and hence devoted all their time and energy into this planning. As you know, IASSW was represented (by Barbara Shank) in the organising of the People Global Summit. The IASSW representatives on the Global Taskforce were very appreciated that IASSW took the lead and pledged IFSW's support to connect with regions as required. The Global Agenda did not have an organised platform on the People Global Summit (19 June – 2 July).

I foresee that the Global Taskforce will meet soon to discuss the narrative of the third theme for the 2020-2030 Global Agenda which will be on diversity and joint social action. However, **please note** that I do not give you the exact formulated theme as the narrative still has to be finalised and the announcements will be made by the Presidents of the respective international bodies. The theme had to be finalised because of the upcoming world conference in Panama in 2024. The Global Taskforce will also discuss the regional reports on Ubuntu and how it will be disseminated.

Respectfully submitted,  
Antoinette Lombard  
Chair of Global Agenda  
1 June 2022