



Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing®

UNITED NATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

[Department of Public Information](#)—Associated non-governmental organizations (NGOs) Sigma Theta Tau International and the Medical Women's International Association led the inaugural NGO Resource Centre Chat Series on Wednesday, 16 November 2016. The series offered an informal networking and capacity-building session focusing on "The Role of Health NGOs in Advancing SDG 3 and SDG 5."

The event was held at the United Nations Headquarters, New York City, New York, United States.

Report Submitted by Constance Sobon Sensor, STTI United Nations Liaison

We had a successful event that was well-attended and well-received. It was a nice atmosphere because every person in the room had a chance to talk. It is interesting to know that I presented the statistic about the percentage of women on boards in other countries, and one of the participants related this to the International Day of Happiness. The countries with the highest number of women on boards correlate exactly to the countries with the greatest happiness! The information presented was related to our mission of leadership (Board Leadership Institute), scholarship (talked about Promoting Health in Haiti, in which our local members are involved), and service (mentioned Helping Babies Breathe and Helping Babies Survive, and Wanda Johnson of Delta Zeta, Lehman College in the Bronx, presented her chapter's work on vaccinations community education with native speakers who were culturally and linguistically matched to the populations they are teaching). As facilitators, we highlighted some of the work our organizations do and heard what others in the room were doing, so we could make connections. From this flow, Wanda presented as a member of the audience, and I introduced her during my presentation so that we could look forward to hearing what she had to say. When I spoke of gender equality, I mentioned that our organization had a challenge in a different way because our profession is weighted with women and light on men. I mentioned that we embraced equality for all human beings, whether male or female, and regardless of their beliefs or affiliations, we embraced both men and women, as we believe in being inclusive rather than exclusive, or advocating for the rights of one group over another. This was very well-received by everyone in the room and led to further comment and discussion throughout the session. There was no mechanism for feedback, such as a survey, but I think conversations will lead us to knowledge about the main areas of interest to focus on in the future.