



Legal Seat – Helsinki, Finland

WORLD FEDERATION OF THE DEAF

An International Non-Governmental Organisation in official liaison with ECOSOC, UNESCO, ILO, WHO and the Council of Europe. WFD was established in Rome in 1951.

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STATEMENT ON UN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020

8 March 2020

The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) and World Federation of the Deaf Youth Section (WFDYS) support gender diversity and equality within its organisations and within its 125 member organisations and 50 Youth member organisations.

In support of the UN International Women's Day 2020 and this year's theme of "I am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights" the WFD is releasing initial results from its survey of gender diversity on the governing boards of its Ordinary Members and Youth Ordinary Members.

In February 2020 the WFD and WFDYS conducted a survey to gather some initial data on gender diversity among the governing boards of its member organisations.

The WFD received responses from 27% of its Ordinary Member organisations and 64% of its Youth Ordinary Member organisations.

The WFD is pleased to see that all responding Deaf association organisations had female board members currently serving on their boards.

Responses showed a marked gender difference in the leadership positions of these associations, with only 23% of those Ordinary Member organisations having a female President and 39% having a female Vice President. Respondents indicated higher statistics among the Youth Ordinary Member organisations boards with 44% of Youth Ordinary Members having a female president and 61% having a female Vice President.

The percentage of female board members on the Ordinary Member organisations boards ranged from 14% to 88%, with an average of 42% female board members across all respondents boards. Again the Youth Ordinary Members responding to the survey indicated a higher proportion of female board members within their governing boards, ranging between 25% and 100%, with an average of 52%.

The WFD and WFDYS will use information from the survey responses to support further work to promote gender equality within its organisations, Member Organisations and Youth Member Organisations.

The survey is still open and WFD and WFDYS encourage more member organisations to fill out the survey.