

UN Headquarters, New York

The UN Representatives for the New York headquarters are Martine Gayon and Michelle Burgess. Inner Wheel holds a consultative status as a NGO participating in the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) is at the heart of the United Nations system and is focused on advancing the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental. Within the ECOSOC are many Commissions that facilitate intergovernmental discussions. These Commissions offer a unique global meeting point for dialogues among policymakers, parliamentarians, academics, foundations, businesses, youth, and 3,200+ registered non-governmental organizations.

Inner Wheel has the honor and privilege to participate in the following Commissions at the UN in New York every year, as well as coordinated side events. The different Commissions focus their meetings around a unique theme each year. This ensures focused attention between all the participants. Please take a look below for a list of the Commissions and their themes for this year.

- **UNPFII United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**
2021 Theme: Peace, justice and strong institutions, the role of Indigenous people in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16.
- **Commission on Social Development**
2021 theme: Socially just transition towards sustainable development: The role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all.
- **Commission on Population and Development**
2021 theme: Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development.
- **Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing**
2021 Theme: For the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons: Rights to work and access the labour market, access to justice, education, training, lifelong learning and capacity building, social protection, and social security.
- **Commission on the Status of Women**
2021 Theme: Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.