

WAGGGS Global Advocacy Champions - Terms of Reference

The Global Advocacy Champions programme, launched in 2018 is a unique opportunity for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts to advocate for the rights of girls and young women and champion gender equality at a local, national and international level.

WAGGGS will recruit a select number of young women for the 2026-2027 Global Advocacy network, chosen for their commitment to gender equality, their involvement in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and their ability to lead, challenge and create a ripple effect.

The Global Advocacy Champions network will:

- Act as WAGGGS delegates for 13 months. At the 10-month mark, a new pool of Global Advocacy Champions will be selected. There will be an overlap in the mandates of current network and the newly selected ones. The Advocacy Champions will be responsible for mentoring of the new generation of Advocacy Champions.
- There will be various opportunities to engage in international advocacy. Some maybe be in person depending on funding and some virtual.
- Young women who are engaged in the Girl-led Action on Climate Change (GLACC) programme and applying to be Advocacy Champions will now also be part of the wider Global Advocacy Champion group. They will engage in the same process as GACs but will also receive specific training related GLACC and any engagement with climate related international advocacy spaces such as COP. The application process for GLACC participants will be the same as the wider GAC one. Applying does not guaranty a place.

All Global Advocacy Champions will engage at the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) virtually, with no guarantee that anyone will participate in person in New York this year due to funding limitations and safety considerations. This year, the focus will be on the GACs' work at a national level, including high-level meetings with decision makers and completing a task booklet filled with important, impactful, and fun activities to achieve in order to receive the certificate.



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Opportunities:

By becoming Global Advocacy Champions young women will have exciting opportunities for personal growth and development and to represent WAGGGS and their Member Organisation externally. This personal development is likely to include, but is not limited to:

- 12 weeks webinar programme. This will expand their knowledge of the priority WAGGGS issues, as well as cover areas such as United Nations, specific events information, advocacy, effective communication, what it means to be a WAGGGS Advocacy Champion etc.
- Planned and ad hoc webinars as required, as well as opportunities for Q&As with WAGGGS staff.
- Access to any relevant e-learning courses (using WAGGGS' Campfire digital platform) if appropriate, and as available.
- Support and training for speech/blog writing, social media and public speaking across all the areas of work, particularly how to represent WAGGGS priorities – specifically at the CSW (in person and during social media lives, for example.)
- implementation of a project of their choice in their country; for example, designing an advocacy campaign specific to their context and needs.
- Gaining experience in shaping policy at an international level and representing a global membership organisation, experience which can be taken forward into future careers and professional experiences.
- Represent WAGGGS in different global working groups as and when needed.

By nominating a young woman to become a Global Advocacy Champion, Member Organisations will be able to:

- Benefit from the experience their Global Advocacy Champions gain and from the wealth of knowledge and skills they will bring to their association.



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- Benefit from jointly agreed (by MO and Global Advocacy Champion) project to be conducted by the Global Advocacy Champion that will be tailored to the MO needs, e.g., advocacy training, helping MO to design an advocacy campaign, mentor young women within the MO, etc.
- Gain more visibility on the global level by Global Advocacy Champions increasing awareness of work done by their MO and facilitating new partnerships.

Description of Responsibilities:

The detailed responsibilities for the new Global Advocacy Champions network are outlined below. Most of these responsibilities will be continuous throughout an individual's involvement with the network and some will be of a more ad hoc nature, as particular opportunities arise. The members of the network will not necessarily have identical responsibilities. Depending on their strengths, expertise, commitment and engagement throughout the first few months, they will be asked to take on different roles.

The responsibilities below are applicable to ALL members of the network.

Global events:

- Engage at global events, such as UN Commission on the Status of Women and COP. These may also include ad-hoc events that don't take place on annual basis, e.g. UN Women events, European Development Days etc. This will depend on budget availability.
- All Global Advocacy Champions will engage at the UN CSW.

Member Organisation Support:

- Provide support to MOs in relation to advocacy, for example advocacy training to staff/volunteers, campaign development, mentoring of other girls, peer-to-peer support.



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- Post-CSW all Global Advocacy Champions will create and implement a project of their choice based on what they are most passionate about and relevant to their MO's and community's/country's needs.
- Becoming Global Advocacy Champions within their MOs upon completion of their mandate.

Alongside the above responsibilities Global Advocacy Champions might be asked to support with other advocacy-related tasks throughout their term. The examples of tasks are below.

1. Representation Responsibilities:

- Representing WAGGGS in global advocacy spaces, such as the Global Youth Mobilisation, Generation Equality and other working groups.

2. Programme and campaign responsibilities:

- Helping to shape and providing feedback on relevant campaigns
- Piloting activities from the relevant programme with their unit/troop.
- Building the capacity of their Member Organisations to create a tailored and appropriate national action plan for working on relevant campaigns in their country and communities.
- Promoting activities, calls to action and initiatives from WAGGGS, related to a relevant campaign to their Member Organisation and within their own networks and communities.
- Contributing ideas on how to move the relevant campaign forward while ensuring it is in line with the views of girls and young women across our Movement.

3. Communications responsibilities:

- Writing blogs about:
 - their experiences working on the relevant campaign/programme.



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- any international events they attend where WAGGGS will not have a formal delegation.
- Providing quotes for news stories etc. as and when needed.
- Being available for Twitter/other social media chats on WAGGGS thematic issues as they arise.
- Providing stories for WAGGGS fundraising pitches.

Selection criteria:

Any Girl Guide or Girl Scout who meets the selection criteria and is between the ages of 18 and 30 (throughout their term of engagement) can apply to join the Global Advocacy Champions network. **Please note while you can apply to be a GAC across multiple years if you are unsuccessful, you can only serve as a GAC once.** The selection criteria can be found below:

Essential:

- Involvement in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting in Member Organisation.
- You must be registered on the [WAGGGS Volunteer Network](#). If you are not already registered, your Member Organization (MO) must register you by completing the Volunteer Pool form which is available in [English](#), [Arabic](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#). Applications from candidates who are not registered on the Volunteer Network will **NOT** be considered.
- An interest in and passion for gender equality and sustainable development.
- Knowledge of and commitment to, issues relating to girls, young women and women, specifically the thematic priorities for WAGGGS, such as gender-based violence, climate change, digital safety and access, body confidence, STEM and informal education etc.
- Extensive experience and engagement with key WAGGGS programmes and campaigns e.g., Stop the Violence, Action on Body confidence, Surf Smart, Girl-led action on climate change, etc.



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- Current or previous experience working on community action or advocacy campaigns, in particular related to WAGGGS campaigns and programmes.
- A very good working knowledge of English, in order to represent WAGGGS in different international fora.
- Strong public speaking skills and the confidence to represent WAGGGS at international and regional levels.
- Proven experience, knowledge and/or skills in at least two of the following areas: campaigning, lobbying, awareness raising, policy development, communications (including social media), non-formal education, event planning.
- Excellent interpersonal skills and experience of engaging within a team.
- Conscientiousness and an ability to take ownership of all responsibilities and to honour commitments.
- Regular access to the internet (assistance may be provided where possible)

Desirable:

- Demonstrated leadership skills, either through positions of leadership or examples of leadership during recent or current initiatives within or outside MO.
- Good written communication skills in English.
- Skills in innovation and creativity.
- Knowledge of another WAGGGS official language (Arabic, French, Spanish).

Time commitment

On average Global Advocacy Champions will be expected to dedicate an average of 4 hours per week. This will be different throughout their term of service, with typically less time commitment in the early and final stages of engagement. It will also naturally vary throughout the year as we develop new resources and/or pilot new campaigns.



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It is assumed that by joining Global Advocacy Champions network the member will want to contribute and has given sufficient thought to the time commitment this may entail.

Diversity

WAGGGS is committed to ensuring that the Global Advocacy Champions network is as diverse in its membership as possible and that representatives from all five regions of WAGGGS are included.

However, it is important to note that all tasks will require proficiency in English. For Global Advocacy Champions network members to attend global events, represent WAGGGS on the global level and be involved in the design and development of new resources, they will need to be able to have excellent working knowledge of English.

Attending CSW71 in person

CSW71 will take place between 8 to 19 March 2027. The theme for CSW71 is *Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

Travelling to New York to attend CSW71 is subject to the number of delegate places made available by the UN, US government approval of visas if required and availability of funding to support WAGGGS delegates with no guarantee that anyone will participate in person in New York this year due to funding limitations and safety considerations.

In order to be considered for the in-person delegation you must have actively participated in one or more of the following WAGGGS programmes which connects to the theme of CSW71:

- Stop the Violence
- Free Being Me/Action on Body Confidence
- Surf Smart
- Girl-led Action on Climate Change

If chosen to attend, you must ensure that you have a current passport with a minimum of six months validity at the time of travel. A visa will be required to enter into USA.



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The USA also has strict regulations on the need to have had an approved Covid vaccine before you will be allowed to enter the country. Please see this link for further information about vaccine requirements and which vaccines will be accepted: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/proof-of-vaccination.html#covid-vaccines>

Delegates to New York will be accompanied by two members of WAGGGS staff.

If chosen to attend in person, WAGGGS will cover the following:

- Provide support in obtaining a visa¹
- Purchase of flights.
- Arrange and cover cost of accommodation for all delegates
- Provide a daily stipend to cover food costs during your stay.

WAGGGS will not cover costs for personal items you may need to travel such as clothes, luggage etc.

If chosen to attend you will commit to attending CSW events and meetings as specified by WAGGGS staff and contribute to any side events, media and communications including blog writing.

Endorsement

Applications by young women to the Global Advocacy Champions network require the endorsement of their Member Organisation in order to be considered by WAGGGS. MOs will also need to commit to supporting young women in the role if selected, particularly in relation to the activities they will need to undertake on the national/community level. This may include helping them to conduct surveys with girls and young women, facilitating connection with the national government delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, helping to arrange travel if needed, as well as supporting them in their role as Global Advocacy Champions within the MOs.

¹ Please note, issuing a visa to travel to New York is dependent on the US government and if they choose to issue a visa. If a visa application is rejected WAGGGS is not able to intervene. In this circumstance the delegate will join the wider Global Advocacy Champion pool and engage with CSW virtually.



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In return MOs will benefit from the wealth of experience that the Global Advocacy Champions will bring back to their MOs and the projects that they will initiate in their local communities including a national action plan for relevant campaigns.

We would encourage MOs to have clear expectations of their Global Advocacy Champion. Both they and the Global Advocacy Champion will benefit more from the process if these expectations are clearly set from the beginning. This can be outlined in detail in the MO Endorsement section of the Application Form.

Applications to join the Advocacy Champions Network will close on Thursday 15 September 2026



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