

1949

Meetings

Dates of Meeting:

24-03-1949 – 03-04-1949

Type of Meeting:

Preparatory Committee for democratic women

Place of Meeting:

Beijing

Attendance:

Ding Ling, Deng Yingzhao, Cai Chang, He Xiangning, Shen Ziju, Liu-Wang Liming, Zhang Xiuyan, Du Junhui, Lu Jingqing, Yang Mo, Feng Yuanjun

members of the CCP-led Preparatory Committee met with delegates from other leading (nonsocialist) women's associations. In attendance were delegations representing both the Young Women's Christian Association (Zhonghua jidujiao nü qingnianhui) and the Women's Christian Temperance Union of China (Zhonghua funü jiezhahui), two major philanthropic organizations long committed to advancing women's interests, having been established in 1890 and 1925, respectively. Both groups would become charter members of the Fulian at its inception. Representatives from the relatively younger Women's Friendship Association (Zhongguo funü lianyi hui), founded in 1945 as a united front organization for progressive middle- and upper-class urban women, were also in attendance. Interestingly, in terms of individual members, in addition to high-profile veteran cadres from the CCP leadership, a number of well-known seasoned intellectuals also became affiliated with the Fulian in the early years of its existence

Major Agenda Items:

Role of women in the transition period

Speeches/Reports:

Dong Biwu: opening speech

Deng Yingzhao: In her report on the direction and tasks for the new All-China Democratic Women's Federation, Deng Ying-chao urged that woman-work in the newly liberated areas should be centered on women workers, and that wherever possible, workers' dependents should be organized to become producers as well as consumers

Liu Shaoqi: April 4 Pointed out: Urban work is to organize urban people, educate them well and protect their interests. This requires help from all aspects. Party agencies, people's governments, youth groups, and women's groups must all work together to do a good job, and they must take trade union work as the center. Once the trade union work is done well, other work can also be done well. If the work of the trade union is done well, the work of female workers and the work of workers' families will also be done well. The work of female workers must be done within the trade union and under the leadership of the trade union. Women have many special difficulties. More nurseries and child care services should be opened so that more women can work in society. We should also train midwives in large numbers so that every village has one midwife and every county has one hospital, so that difficult deliveries can be easily solved.

Zhu De: closing speech

Other Decisions and/or Actions:

- The Resolution on the Current Tasks of the Chinese Women's Movement" passed by the first national congress of the ACWF on April 1, 1949, stated clearly that "women workers should be the basis of the urban women's movement
- Women of New China, under a resolution of the First National Congress of Chinese Women on the eve of the founding of the PRC. The magazine's editors in Yan'an and after 1949 were mainly from the cohort who joined the Communist Revolution in the 1930s. Women of New China was officially affiliated with the newly established All-China Women's Democratic Federation (ACWDF).

Remarks:

1. it is an organization of women who are a major force in building socialism with Chinese characteristics. It works hard to unite and educate women, implement the basic lines of the CPC and play an active role in the building of socialist material and spiritual civilizations. The basic functions of the federation are to represent and safeguard the rights and interests of women and promote the equality between men and women.
2. The highest organ of power of the All-China Women's Federation is its All-China Conference of Women Representatives which is held once every five years. The conference elects the council of the All-China Women's Federation. When the conference is not in session, the council implements the decisions of the conference, discusses and decides major issues in women's work. The council convenes annually.
3. The council elects a chairwoman, vice chairwomen and standing committee members who together form the Standing Committee of the council. The Standing Committee is the leading

organ when the council is not in session. The Standing Committee sets up a secretariat consisting of the first secretary and several secretaries, all elected by the Standing Committee members, to be in charge of the daily routine work.

4. The highest organ of power of local women's federations at various levels is the local women's conferences, which are held once every five years. Local women's conferences elect their councils which consist of a chairwoman, vice chairwomen and standing committee members, to form standing committees to take charge of the daily routine work. At the township and neighbourhood committee level, the council is led by a director instead of a standing committee
5. 4 april noon, Mao Zedong, Zhu De, Liu Shaoqi Zhou Enlai, Ren Bishi met in Xiangshan



Front row: Huang Jingwen, Shuai Mengqi, Li Peizhi, Xiu Yan, Du Junhui, Chen Boer, Shen Ziju ; Second row: Gong Pusheng, Deng Yingchao, Zhang Qinqiu, Zhai Shuzhen, Liu Yaxiong, Cai Chang, Chang Jin-Bao, Liu Qingyang, Lu cui.

第一排左起：黄静汶、帅孟奇、李培之、张秀岩、杜君慧、陈波儿、沈兹九；第二排左起：龚普生、邓颖超、张琴秋、翟淑珍、刘亚雄、蔡畅、张金保、刘清扬、陆瑾。