

## **Zigen Participates in the “Beijing + 15” Women’s World Conference Non-Governmental Organization Forum**

From February 27-28, 2010, Pat K.P. Yang, Dongjin Cai, Tong Xiaoxi, Fang Mou, Han Jialing represented Zigen, attending the Non-Governmental Organization Forum at the “Beijing + 15” Women’s World Conference held in New York City, making contact with and exchanging information and experience with representatives from all over the world. They also participated in drafting conference documents.

Hosted by the “Non-Governmental Committee on the Status of Women” on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing World Women’s Conference, as well as the 54<sup>th</sup> meeting in New York of the United Nations Committee on the Problem of Women, the forum appraised the results in the fifteen years since the “Beijing Declaration and Action Platform” . The forum’s special topics included: 1) reviewing achievements in the struggle for women’s rights following the First Women’s World Conference (Mexico) in 1975 2) the status of the world’s women 3) paternalism 4) violence against women and girls 5) women’s health and 6) climate change 7) voices from all over the world 8) critical tasks 9) fulfilling the promise of gender equality, peace and development 10) facing the global financial crisis 11) women’s leadership and 12) the Millenium Development Goals.

The keynote speakers reviewed the major worldwide socio-economic changes since the 1995 Beijing World Women’s Conference, particularly changes in the status of women. They pointed out that it would be a long journey before women gain complete equal status in the fields of politics, economy, society and culture.

Tong Xiaoxi, Zigen Director