

UN WOMEN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

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Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016 report launched in Nairobi



L:R Ms Zebib Kavuma, Ms Simone ellis Oluoch-Olunya, Dr. Manu Chandaria, Amb Sahle-Work Zewde, Ms Christine Musisi.

Nairobi, Kenya—The report on Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016 was launched in Nairobi on Monday, 27th April 2015.

The chief guests for the event were Amb Sahle-Work Zewde, UN Under Secretary General and Director General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON) and Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chairman and Chief Executive

Officer of Comcraft Group. The event was attended by key partners in the government, civil society, NGO's, private sector, development partners and UN agencies.

Amb. Zewde stressed on the importance with which the United Nations views gender equality and pointed out that the UN Chief Executives Board, chaired by the Secretary-

General had agreed on a landmark UN System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

"As a result, UN organizations have adopted policies on gender equality and women's empowerment in corporate strategic planning documents that commit to achieving at least one gender equality objective," she said.

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Amb Sahle-Work Zewde, Director General-UNON



Dr. Manu Chandaria, Chairman and CEO of Comcraft Group

vast majority of working women and men lack access to decent jobs.

“It is unfortunate that even though Africa’s annual growth rate is 5 per cent, which is above the global average of 3 per cent, it is not generating employment or decent jobs for its population, least of all, for women,” she observed.

“In addition, through effectively collaborating together, we have been able to undertake a number of key initiatives as the UN, key among them, the adoption of a Gender Scorecard, which is a globally standardized rapid assessment tool that enables the UN development system to assess how well gender has been mainstreamed through the UN country level joint planning process—otherwise known as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) cycle,” she added.

Dr. Chandaria noted that it was time to take stock of women’s contributions to development. “Women are critical contributors to economic growth yet most time they are ignored because a lot of

the work they do is unpaid labour. Research shows that inequalities persist in the way paid and unpaid work is divided between women and men where women remain the sole caregivers at home, with limited access to resources and these imbalances slow economic growth,” he said.

UN Women’s Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa, Ms Christine Musisi said that globally, only half of women participate in the labour force, compared to three quarters of men. In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 89 per cent of women’s jobs are informal, unprotected by labour laws and lack social protection, compared to 83 per cent for men. This means that the

A panel discussion on the theme of the report was held as part of the launch event which focused on contextualizing the issues discussed within the report and proposing possible responses. The panelists were Ms Mwende Mwendwa, Economic Analyst at the Presidency, Mr. Kwame Owino, Chief Executive Officer, Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA), Ms Esther Mwaura-Muiru, Founder and Coordinator of GROOTS Kenya, Ms Najma Ismail, International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Ms Ginette Azcona, Research and Data Specialist, UN Women. It was moderated by a prominent media personality, Mr. Jeff Koinange.



Panelists. L-R: Mwende Mwendwa, Najma Ismail, Kwame Owino,



A participant contributing to the panel discussion

Political Parties in Tanzania Respond to the Challenge of Nominating Women



"Women should not settle with being just party secretaries, we should also aim to be chairpersons," said Ms Dhifaa Mohd Bakar, a deputy party chairperson from Zanzibar during the workshop. Credit: UN Women/Stephanie Raison

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania - More women, young people and persons living with disabilities are expected to seek nomination as election candidates within political parties over the next few months. This follows continued capacity building and advocacy as well as multi-stakeholder dialogue and research supported by UN Women Tanzania and its partners.

Representatives from all political parties met in Dar es Salaam in April to discuss a report on Gender Sensitive and Inclusive Guidelines for Nomination of Candidates in Decision Making Organs in Tanzania, led by Tanzania Centre for Democracy together with the Women and the Constitution Coalition and the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties with the support of UN Women. The report examined Party manifestos, constitutions and

rules from a gender equality and social inclusion perspective.

One of the authors of the report, Dr Alexander Makulilo from the University of Dar es Salaam, said that overall political parties were positive towards greater participation of women, youth and Persons Living with Disabilities (PWDs) in nominations.

"Almost all political parties agree that there is a problem and they would like try to provide space for other actors, particularly women, youth and persons with disabilities. However the problem has always been that they have not been able to translate principles into practice," said Dr Makulilo.

The Report recommended the development and implementation of harmonized guidelines on Gender Sensitive

and Social Inclusive Nomination Procedures. As a result, the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties is now working with a technical drafting team to finalize guidelines on nomination procedures in consultation with party leaders. These guidelines can then be implemented under the electoral law in Tanzania, and serve to hold political parties to account for these commitments.

One of the participants, Ms Leticia Ghati Mosore, welcomed the Harmonised Guidelines. She is currently a deputy chairperson nationally of one party and walked out of two parties in the past because she did not feel they gave enough opportunities for women to be leaders.

Political Parties in Tanzania Respond to the Challenge of Nominating Women —continued

“When I read the Report I was thinking ‘it seemed as if they went into each and every party and even inside my head’ because what they brought out in the paper is fact and what is really happening. If they can work on (the report’s proposals) then we are going to have better parties. If they (impose guidelines or a law) then that would be perfect because they talk and then they write but nothing is put into practice,” said Ms Mosore.

Sitting alongside Ms Mosore at the workshop was 24-year-old Salum Issa Mkanje who said that he was initially nervous about coming to the meeting

but he had the support of his peers who would like to see more young people in politics.

“This was the first time for me to attend a workshop on issues related to politics. Through this workshop he has been able to learn that he as a young person has the right to participate in elections and to compete for different posts,” said Mr Mkanje.

Ms. Dhiffa Mohd Bakar participated in some of the activities and is intending to seek nomination in Zanzibar.

“As a party secretary and deputy chair of the women’s’ wing I have tried to sensitize and empower a

number of women so that they may seek political party nomination. Recently when the party went to seek the names of people who would like to contest I saw an increase in the number of women,” said Ms Bakar.

UN Women Tanzania Country Office has been supporting gender and social inclusion of youth and persons with disabilities as part of the Democratic Empowerment Project (election cycle project) led by UNDP and in partnership with UNESCO.

UN Women Tanzania UNiTEs to End Violence against Women on Orange Day



UN Women Tanzania Country Office staff UNiTE to end violence against women on Orange Day, 25 April 2015.

Photo credit: UN Women/Stephanie Raison

UN Women Tanzania UNiTEs to End Violence against Women on Orange Day



*UN Resident Coordinator for Tanzania, Mr Alvaro Rodriguez and his Staff wore orange in support of the campaign.
Photo credit: UN Women/Stphanie Raison*

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania—The United Nations Secretary-General's Campaign UNiTE to End Violence against Women has proclaimed the 25th of each month as 'Orange Day', a day to raise awareness and take action against violence against women and girls. As a bright and optimistic colour, orange represents a future free from violence against women and girls, for the UNiTE Campaign.

To call for a world free from violence against women and girls UNiTE and HeForShe joined forces on 25th April to call on men and boys to stand together with women and girls against violence.

The staff of UN Women Tanzania and WFP Tanzania showed their support to the cause by wearing Orange on 25 April 2015.



In Zanzibar, UN Sub Regional Office, led by Ms Anna Senga, wear orange on every 25th of the month. Photo credit: UN Women/Stphanie Raison

Cérémonie de l'installation de la commission chargée de la mise en oeuvre du plan d'action des forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo pour la lutte contre les violences sexuelles



Membres de la Commission chargée de la mise en oeuvre du plan d'action des forces armées

République démocratique du Congo - Il s'est tenu ce 30 Mars 2015 à l'hôtel du fleuve à Kinshasa la cérémonie de l'installation de la commission chargée de la mise en oeuvre du plan d'action des forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo pour la lutte contre les violences sexuelles présidée par le Ministre de la défense nationale, ancien combattant et réinsertion.

La cérémonie a connu la participation des Madame la représentante spéciale du secrétaire général des nations unies chargée de la lutte contre les violences sexuelles en période de conflit, les membres du Sénat et de l'Assemblée Nationale, des hauts de l'Armée et de la Police Nationale Congo-laise, des diplomates, des chefs d'agences du Système des Nations et la société civile.

La cérémonie a connu quatre temps forts à savoir :

1. La présentation de l'état de lieu du processus en lien avec l'accord entre le Gouvernement congolais et le bureau de la représentante spéciale du secrétaire général des nations unies en charge de la lutte contre les violences sexuelles en période de conflit, Madame Zainab Hawa BANGURA
2. Le mot du Ministère Défense Nationale, Ancien combattant et réinsertion,
3. La présentation des membres de la dite commission
4. La signature de la déclaration des officiers Supérieurs de la FARDC en signe d'engagement.

La constitution de la commission se présente comme suit :

General de BRIGADE MUTOMBO KATALAY TIENDE JOSEPH, du cabinet de son excellence monsieur le ministre de la défense nationale, ancien combattants et réinsertion ;

Colonel YANGBA TENE DANNY, du cabinet de son excellence

Monsieur le Ministre de la Défense Nationale, Monsieur Évariste KASONGO ISANGANA, du Ministère du Genre, Famille et Enfant.

Madame Liliane TSHAL, du ministère de la santé publique ; Madame Francine MVUMBI, du bureau de la Représentante personnelle du chef de l'état, chargée de la lutte contre les violences sexuelles et le recrutement d'enfants ;

Madame Irma VAN PUEREN, de la MONUSCO (Protection des femmes) ;

Docteur Jules MULIMBI KABOYI, de L'ONU FEMMES

Colonel magistrat MUTATA LUABA, de l'Auditorat Général

Colonel Bomwenda MANGOY, de l'Etat-Major Général des FARDC (vice-président)

Lieutenant-Colonel BATABOMBOMBI APANZA Jean Daniel, du service d'éducation civique, patriotique et actions sociales (secrétaire) ;

Lieutenant-Colonel BADIA BANGLOF FLORY, du service de communication et d'information des FARDC (secrétaire adjoint) ;

Major TSHITENDE MUKUNDI Jean, de l'Etat-Major renseignement

Cérémonie de l'installation de la commission chargée de la mise en oeuvre du plan d'action des forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo pour la lutte contre les violences sexuelles—continued



Le Mot de Madame BANGURA

Déclaration de haut cadre des Forces armées Congolaises

Je m'engage sur mon honneur, personnellement et en tant que commandant d'unité à :

- 1) Respecter et faire respecter scrupuleusement en tout temps et en tout lieu les droits humains et le droit international humanitaire et d'appliquer les mesures de prévention et de répression des violences sexuelles ;
- 2) Dénoncer tout acte ou incident des violences sexuelles commis par les éléments sous mon commandement ;
- 3) Appréhender et traduire en justice les auteurs présumés des VS et exécuter le mandat de la justice;
- 4) Faciliter l'accès à la justice militaire pour raison d'enquête et livrer les auteurs présumés, inculpés, condamnés pour les actes des violences sexuelles à la justice ;
- 5) Sanctionner, indépendamment de l'action judiciaire, disciplinairement tout militaire auteur des violences sexuelles conformément aux dispositions du statut militaire des Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo;
- 6) Rapporter à la hiérarchie des Forces Armées de la République Démocratique du Congo les incidents et les allégations des violences sexuelles commises dans ma zone de responsabilité ;
- 7) Rappeler de manière régulière les éléments sous ma responsabilité la tolérance zéro pour les actes des violences sexuelles;
- 8) Prendre des mesures spécifiques enfin d'assurer la sécurité des victimes et des témoins, des acteurs judiciaires et autres intervenants

Uganda's Women of Influence meet to Step It Up for Gender Equality



Sarah Kizito of Lady Charlotte. Photo credit: Guru Events.

Kampala, Uganda – Leading women from politics, business, diplomacy, government, and media met at the Serena Hotel in Kampala on 31 April 2015 to network, share lessons about being a woman of influence and discuss how to use their power and influence to bring about equality between men and women in Uganda and the world.

Hosted by UN Women and UN Uganda, the Women of Influence dinner was against the backdrop of the Beijing+20 theme of 'Empowering Women, Empowering Humanity: Picture It!' 2015 marks 20 years since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action outlined 12 critical areas of concern for reaching gender equality and women's empowerment worldwide.

At the event, Uganda's leading women signed a commitment that read: "In this momentous year 2015, we commit to Step It Up to end gender inequality. We envisage a world where all women and girls have equal opportunities and rights by 2030."

High profile attendees included Former Uganda Vice President Dr. Speciosa Wandira-Kazibwe, the French Ambassador H.E. Sophie Makame and British High Commissioner Ms. Alison Blackburne, members of parliament, UN Resident Coordinator Ms Ahunna Eziaknowa-Onochie, UN heads of agencies, and leading women from business, tourism, the health sector and the media.

In her welcoming remarks, UN Women Country Representative Hodan Addou called on the attendees to Step It Up for gender equality:

"I hope that this evening we will make new history and we will note in 2030 that this was the year we took bold steps to deliver for women and girls everywhere."

Addressing the guests via video link, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women, Lakshmi Puri urged all women in Uganda to make gender equality a personal project and to hold leaders accountable for their commitments on women's issues.

Uganda's Women of Influence meet to Step It Up for Gender Equality—continued



Uganda's women leaders in discussion at the dinner. Photo credit: Guru Events.

In a discussion led by Jane Kasumba of UBCTV, each attendee spoke about why she is a woman of influence. At the beginning, some of the women described themselves as “not very influential” before describing their many outstanding accomplishments over many years. This changed when Agnes Konde of NTV encouraged women to be confident and claim their status as women of influence, encouraging the attendees to share their stories with her on NTV “to inspire others and encourage them.”

The attendees spoke about being influential in a variety of ways, such as heading an organisation with two thirds of the staff being female (Susanne Spets, Swedish Embassy); being a mother of three sons, which is “my most challenging task” (HE Sophie Makame, Ambassador of France to Uganda); bringing a lot of jobs to Uganda, as well as the Nakumatt brand (Amina Hersi Moghe); running for the position of President of Uganda and working to change the governance system (Betty Kamyu); and running the first program in banking in Uganda focusing on women's needs and policy (Theopista Ntale).

Hon. Beatrice Anywar of Kitgum District, also known as ‘Mama Forest,’ spoke of being passionate about women, environment and climate change. As the first woman with a Masters degree in her village, she now wants other women to be educated, and is proud of confronting President Museveni about saving Mabira Forest in 2007. Anywar was awarded a ‘Woman of Courage’ award in the US for her environmental work.

Following an inspirational talk by Keynote Speaker Scholastica Kimaryo of Maadili Consulting and Life Coaching Institute in South Africa, closing remarks were made by the guest of honour was Former Uganda Vice President Dr. Speciosa Wandira-Kazibwe. Dr. Wandira-Kazibwe led the African women's delegation to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing (1995), which set a path-breaking agenda on women's rights

In her remarks, Dr. Wandira-Kazibwe emphasized the need for women to actively engage in elective posts in politics at all levels as a precursor to realizing their dreams.

Trainings Serves as a Wake-up call for Religious and Community Leaders to End Violence Against Women in Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – The Ethiopian Orthodox Church, with support from UN Women have trained 110 religious and community leaders as part of the fight against gender based violence(GBV).

The training is a result of the adoption of an inclusive approach whereby leaders from different religious groups and sectors of the society are trained to understand the issues surrounding GBV and after which they commit to disseminate this information as widely as possible within their communities.

“This training is a wakeup call for the community to start taking action against gender based violence” said Mersha Eshetu speaking in an interview after the training. Mersha, a business man and chairperson of the school’s Parent and Teacher Association (PTA), noted the importance of the community working together to protect its children from ending up as victims of violence by closing down the ‘chat bet’ and liquor stores that surround local schools.

Memehar Hailetsion Amelmu, an Ethiopian Orthodox Church preacher and teacher, emphasized that the training inspired him to work more for the protection of women against GBV. It helped him to know how to resolve issues related to violence and with whom he should collaborate and network to end this pandemic. “I can contribute to ending gender based violence by teaching the community that both men and women are equal and that one exists because of the other. I now understand that I have a responsibility to raise the awareness of the society on GBV taking into account the current reality and the religious teachings. I can reach 10 to 15 people a day during preaching in the church or in my interaction with the community,” he said.

Mohammed Seid, a Muslim Religious leader also reiterated how the training had strengthened his knowledge of GBV and committed to preach on the issue of GBV during his Friday night prayers and to reach out to fellow religious leaders during Kerie meetings. Mr Seid ended his interview by recommending that similar trainings be organized so others could benefit from this critical knowledge.



Memehar Hailetsion Amelmu, Ethiopian Orthodox Church preacher and teacher



Mohammed Seid, Muslim Religious leader

UN Women Uganda hosts conference on Education and Training of Women and Girls



Dignitaries including Minister of State for Gender and Culture Hon. Lukia Isanga Nakadama at left; Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Maj. (Rtd). Jessica Alupo (MP) second from left; and Ms Hodan Addou, UN Women Country Representative, third from left.

Kampala, Uganda - Over 100 students, lecturers, academicians, women's groups, Civil Society Organisations and UN representatives packed Senate House at Makerere University on 19 February for a one-day conference on the Education and Training of Women and Girls.

The conference was held as part of the year-long Beijing+20 campaign commemorating the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Hosted by UN Women; the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development; UNICEF; UNESCO and the School of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University, the event was attended by the Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. (Rtd) Maj. Jessica Alupo; the Minister of State for Gender and Culture, Hon. Rukia Nakadama; Professor Kirumira, Principal of the College of Humanity and Social Sciences – repre-

senting the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, Prof. John Ddumba-Ssentamu, the Dean of the School of Women and Gender Studies, associated Prof. Josephine Ahikire, Ms Alice Ochanda, UNESCO Regional Representative and UN Women Country Representative Hodan Addou.

The Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. (Rtd) Maj. Jessica Alupo, spoke of her own education journey, saying "Twenty years ago, in 1995, I was here at Makerere University studying Political Science. Now that person is here speaking to you as Minister of Education and Sports." She spoke of the significant progress made for education in Uganda in the 20 years since Beijing, such as improving facilities for the girl child, as well as increased literacy rates. "Literacy rate is now 65% for women and 71% overall, but that "we want it to be 100%," she said.

The Minister of State for Gender and Culture, Hon. Rukia Nakadama said that the government's affirmative action policy and creation of the Ministry of Gender raised the profile of women and girls, allowing them to be in more leadership positions both locally and nationally. Hon. Nakadama added "I pledge government support for this initiative and pledge to work towards the overall Beijing goals being achieved."

UN Women Country Representative, Hodan Addou, spoke of the need to consider the role Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) play in expanding women's access to education. "A number of studies indicate that girls lack confidence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and, as a result, do not regularly pursue high-paying careers in fields like computer science," she said.

Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016



To read the full report, visit: <http://progress.unwomen.org/>

UN Women Eastern and Southern Africa– about us

UN Women is the UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women. A global champion for women and girls, UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide.

UN Women's Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office (ESARO) is in Nairobi, Kenya and covers 25 countries in the region. In addition, UN Women has offices in the following countries:

Burundi

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office

Ethiopia

Kenya

Malawi

Mozambique

Rwanda

South Africa Multi-Country Office (Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland)

Somalia

South Sudan

Sudan

Tanzania

Uganda

Zimbabwe



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