



28th GIMAC Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in Africa Moving from Solemn Declarations to Solemn Deliverables

28th GIMAC

10-11 July 2016, Kigali, Rwanda

28th Pre-Summit
Consultative Meeting



on Gender Mainstreaming in the
African Union

Implementing Women's Rights in Africa: 'If not now, when?'



28th consecutive session of the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Civil Society Consultative Meeting on mainstreaming gender equality in the African Union and Member States was held on 10-11 July 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda under the theme: **“Implementing Women’s Rights in Africa: If not now, when?”** The theme was aligned with the African Union (AU) dedication of the year 2016 as the African Year of Human Rights with a Particular Focus on the Rights of Women”

Participants at the 28th GIMAC session represented a diverse group of 200 women leaders, advocates, human rights defenders, young women and girls from across Africa and the Diaspora who deliberated on the current status of health, education, peace and security, economic empowerment, accountability and leadership for women’s rights in Africa. Drawing from the two-day discussions, participants outlined key recommendations.

28th GIMAC participants urged African Heads of States to sign, ratify, domesticate and implement the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol, 2003) in line with the 2015 and 2020 commitments and to lift existing reservations. Further participants commended African Heads of States to implement the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, to report annually on progress, and substantively increase budgetary allocations towards preventive

Recommendation of the 28th GIMAC, among others, stressed on the need to abolish child marriage through reform on the legal structure; establish collaborative mechanisms at all levels and among different actors to protect women and girls from the growing scourge of abductions and trafficking in conflict situations; develop and strengthen age-disaggregated data and narratives on unsafe abortion and its impact on development, as espoused in Agenda 2063; invest in renewable energy in agriculture and to strengthen judiciary systems to enable women smallholder farmers to secure their tenure rights, equitable access, control and ownership of land and natural resources; and encourage gender quotas to increase female representation in corporate boards and for women-owned businesses to secure public procurement contracts.

In-terms of education 28th GIMAC urged states to promote gender-sensitive peace education in schools and develop referral, reporting, tracking and response guidelines to combat violence and provide access to quality and safe education for girls and young women; robustly promote gender-responsive pedagogy in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET); and adopt school re-entry policies to enable pregnant girls and teenage mothers to access quality education along with their peers.

On the situation in Burundi and South Sudan participants urged states to hold armed parties accountable for violence against innocent civilians in South Sudan and Burundi and for leaders and peace mediators to fully honor commitments to make women's effective participation in peace processes a lived reality, as enshrined in United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security.

During the 24th GIMAC meeting in June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the African Union Special Envoy for Women, Peace and Security, Gender Ministers and representatives of Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) joined the deliberations of the GIMAC and committed to working closely with the GIMAC in successive meetings. Accordingly, the 29 GIMAC delegates presented the key recommendations at the AU Gender Pre-Summit held on 24th- 25th, January 2017.

The session also marked the GIMAC launch of the first civil society monitoring report, the **Solemn Declaration Index (SDI)**, to provide evidence-based monitoring of the progress of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA, 2004).

The upcoming 29th GIMAC will be held in January, 2017.

Read the 29th GIMAC Outcome Document [EN](#) | [FR](#)

Read the 29th GIMAC January 2016 Concept Note [EN](#)

Please also visit our [Facebook Page](#) to view highlights and photos of the GIMAC meeting.

For more information, contact the GIMAC Secretariat: gimacsecretariat@gmail.com