



EDITORIAL

We are pleased to present you with the new look GAD Exchange. We hope friends and colleagues who have supported us with great ideas and found the previous one beneficial, will continue to engage with us using this newsletter as a forum for exchange of ideas. It is our vision that the GAD Exchange continues to be a regional information resource and a forum for activists to articulate, analyze and debate contemporary gender issues that impact on development, democracy and human rights in southern Africa.

With each issue we plan to analyse emergent and current regional issues and speak to challenges for the future, and provide updates on any information on innovative approaches to policy formulation and reform. We will also aim to provide news on current activities that innovate in legislating on gender, including any news on best practices in gender activism. We also plan to highlight some news briefs on gender and development around global developments, including training opportunities and key events and meetings.

In this issue the role of parliamentary staff in engendering parliamentary processes is highlighted. One of our contributors argues for the need to mainstream gender budgeting in all policy frameworks in SADC, and another looks at the new challenges and commitments that require innovation and action after the Beijing Plus 5 review. We also have a feature on the launch of the regional Women Parliamentary Caucus; it is a significant step in consolidating empowerment of women MPs in SADC. Finally we highlight the recent audit of gender and development by Heads of State or Government, and note their continued prioritization of gender equality as a fundamental human right.

We hope you enjoy this inaugural, and expanded issue of the new GAD Exchange and look forward to your valuable comments and inputs in the upcoming ones. The GAD exchange will continue to be a quarterly publication.

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Role of Parliamentary Staff Critical in Engendering Parliament Processes

by Barbara Lopi

A consultative workshop of SARDC WIDSAA and its national partners in 13 Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states recently observed that parliamentary personnel have a critical role to play in processes aimed at engendering parliaments.

The SARDC WIDSAA annual partner's consultative meeting, which was held in the Mozambican capital, Maputo, from 14 to 15 October 2002, affirmed that the role of parliamentary administrative staff was as critical as that of parliamentarians in the process towards the transformation of parliaments to advance the development and democracy agenda.

SARDC WIDSAA's national partners from 13 of the 14 SADC countries (the Democratic Republic of Congo was not represented) attended the workshop. Parliamentary personnel from Malawi, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe also participated, as well as a representative from the SADC Gender Unit.

The parliamentary personnel were invited to the meeting in order to share experiences and give feedback to the partners' plan of action on intended activities, aimed at engaging with parliaments and parliamentarians at the national level in the SADC region.

Under its current phase, the SARDC WIDSAA programme has a component to engage with parliaments and parliamentarians as strategic partners in fostering the advancement of women and the realization of the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development. This is supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

Often times, NGOs and other organizations working to promote gender equality and equity encounter a number of challenges in their endeavours to engage and share information on critical gender concerns with parliaments. Parliamentary personnel at the meeting provid-

ed insights on how parliaments in the region operate, and attributed the lack of knowledge on the structure and operating systems of parliaments to the difficulties sometimes experienced by organizations in engaging with parliaments.

Parliamentary personnel cited examples where NGOs organized workshops for parliamentarians without prior consultation with parliaments and ended up disappointed with the poor turn out of parliamentarians. "Parliaments," it was noted, "are open and transparent public institutions but those who intend to engage with parliaments and its members ought to know how the institutions function otherwise they will be hitting against a wall."

SARDC WIDSAA partners at the meeting gained insights on the necessary procedures to follow in any engagement with parliamentarians and parliaments, and parliamentary administration staff indicated that they are always at hand to help and advise.

Partners were also provided with insights on how to package information for parliamentarians, as well as when, what and how to get information to parliamentarians for use to facilitate policy change.

Among the main objectives of the SARDC WIDSAA meeting were to:

- bring together partners and key SADC institutional representatives to share ideas on networking and linkages
- unveil and discuss the WIDSAA Phase III programme
- revisit and strengthen networking
- structure a working partnership on WIDSAA III activities for 2003.

SARDC WIDSAA is a regional programme that was established in 1992 to serve as a catalyst and information service to the SADC region's governments, parliamentarians, NGOs and agencies, the media and the public in the formulation of policy affecting women in the southern African region.

A CALL FOR PAPERS

The editorial team of WIDSAA's Quarterly newsletter, the *GAD Exchange*, is calling for papers for Issue No 28. The *Gender and Development Exchange* (GAD Exchange) profiles and analyses current gender and development issues. It aims to be a catalyst and stimuli not only to partners in 14 countries to closely examine the significance of national issues for regional development, but to also provide a platform for gender activists to raise contemporary issues for critical debate. The GAD Exchange also provides current news of activities advancing the gender agenda in the region. Information on all WIDSAA acquisitions for the quarter under review is also profiled.

Writers are invited to submit articles analyzing developments in the areas outlined below, and their significance for, advancing the regional gender agenda:

- The gendered nature of globalisation and its impact on poverty in Africa

- Gender gaps in information and communication technologies
- Women's sexuality and reproductive rights; the link between gender violence and HIV/AIDS
- New gender roles and unremunerated work
- The situation of women in the context of armed conflict
- SADC Protocols and their implications for women
- Innovations in legislating on gender.

Articles should be:

Maximum 1000 words;

Electronic format (MS Word)

Factual and analytical

They should be sent to pmhlanga@sardc.net. Or

blopi@sardc.net WIDSAA reserves the right to edit all articles.

Deadline for articles is 20 December 2002

The Gender Budget Initiative

by Isabella Matambanadzo (Executive Director Zimbabwe Women Resource Centre and Network)

With women and girls forming the vast majority of both the urban and rural poor, poverty remains an enormous burden and stumbling block towards achieving full gender equality. Gender-sensitive budgeting becomes imperative to ensure equitable allocation of national resources.

Across the region research has shown how negatively structural adjustment programmes have impacted on the lives of women and girls, pushing them deeper into a vicious space of poverty. These are compounded by regional trade agreements and international economic principles that ignore the voices of women.

In homes we see mothers struggling to feed their children and find fees, uniforms and books to send them to school. We witness women foregoing health care for themselves, while at the same time often selling-off whatever possessions they may have in order to provide for the care of members of the family who may be ill. All these are practices that not only impact on the household budget, but also hit directly at the woman's individual resource base while leaving her ever more vulnerable to poverty and in a deeper state of economic suffering.

A bleak picture indeed, especially when set against the realities of an already struggling national economy. But it is not a situation that is beyond redress. It has become clear that where sound, gender-sensitive economic policies aimed at driving progress and development are adopted, the quality of women's lives can improve while encouraging economic efficiency.

Gender Budgeting

Australia was one of the very first countries to begin a process of exploring ways in which women's specific needs could be mainstreamed into national expenditure, creating a more balanced distribution of resources by gender.

Closer to home, South Africa and Tanzania have made moves towards what is called a "Women's Budget". This is not a separate budget process drawn up for women and girls alone but rather an examination of how budget choices decided upon with information and input from understanding the different socio-economic needs of both women and men have implications for how resources are allocated and expended.

The United Nations Development Fund for Women –

UNIFEM is part of an initiative that is trying to demystify gender budgeting while at the same time encouraging the adoption more broadly of gender responsive budgets. UNIFEM is backing up such processes in countries such as Mauritius and Tanzania.

Economic Empowerment

Gender budgeting is a complex business. It is not only about taking into account women's paid and unpaid (what is sometimes called domestic or household) work, women's different earning capacity, women's access to property, etc. But it is possible to engender budgets by first putting into place policies that recognise the need to understand just how deeply deliberate or non deliberate gender-based discrimination impacts on women's rights to economic wellbeing through the state.

There is need for policies that realise how programmes such as home-based care (which has been developed to cater for the health care needs of people living with HIV/AIDS) are conscripting

women and girls into being involuntary, unpaid home nurses. Policies that recognise the need to push for the training of women in the field of economics and key positions of political leadership in parties and government, are important so that matters affecting women are brought to the forefront and the budget process can be influenced. In addition, there is also a need for policies that give all people, especially women who deal with daily household budgeting, the skills to understand and interpret and contribute to the direction of national budget debates.

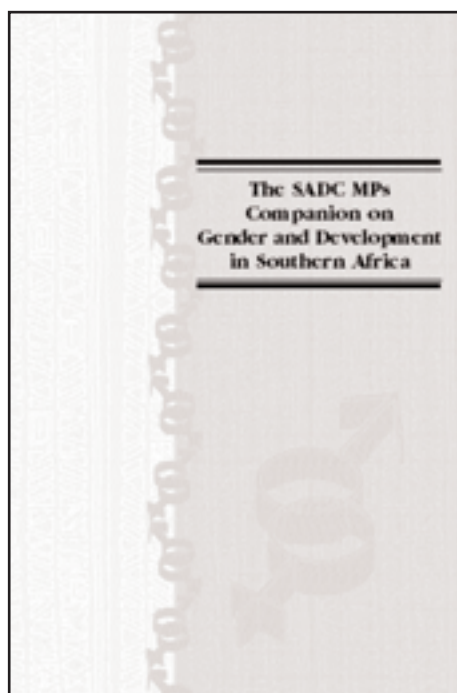
The budget is the most important instrument of national planning for economic and other development. Without a recognition at this very important level of women's economic rights to fiscal policies and practices that take their needs into account (especially as many of them make a contribution to revenue through various taxes levied on them), very little change will come about. And once the political will for policy revision is made, the commitment must go beyond the level of paper.

Documents are a good first step for outlining a framework. But it is follow ups through action and implementation of the policies and practices on the ground, aimed at creating women who are genuinely empowered economically, which will have the greatest effect and impact, turning lives around and moving people from poverty to prosperity.



Regional forum for women MPs created

The Regional Women's Parliamentary Caucus (RWPC), an autonomous lobby and structure of the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC PF), was launched on 11 April at a ceremony in Luanda, Angola. The launch took place in the wings of the first session of the biannual 2002 Plenary Meeting of the SADC PF. The ceremony was attended by chairpersons of national parliamentary caucuses in SADC member states, the SADC PF Committee on Democracy, Gender and Conflict Resolution, the Commonwealth Association of Women MPs, and representatives of European MPs for Africa (AWEPA), SADC Secretariat and SADC PF. South Africa was elected to chair the caucus, while the two deputy chairpersons are Mozambique and Namibia. Preparations for the formation of the RWPC date back to 1999 when the SADC Secretariat convened a meeting on Women in Politics and Decision-making in SADC where it was agreed that such a caucus should be formed. The Gender Unit at the Secretariat then embarked on a series of consultations with various stakeholders including the SADC PF and chairpersons of national women's caucuses, leading to the establishment of an interim executive committee and subsequently the launch of the regional caucus in Luanda. Its overall objective is to accelerate the transformation of parliaments to achieve the full implementation of the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development signed by heads of state and government in 1997. It is also in line with the commitments of the declaration, in particular: "Ensuring the equal representation of women and men in the decision-making of member states and SADC structures at all levels, and the achievement of at least 30 percent target of women in political and decision-making structures by year 2005;



The SADC Parliamentary Forum has just produced the SADC MPs Companion on Gender and Development, and it is available at their Secretariat. SADC coordinated the research, writing and production of the Companion.

[and] "Repealing and reforming all laws, amending constitutions and changing social practices which still subject women to discrimination and enacting empowering gender-sensitive laws." The caucus aims to:

- monitor and follow up the domestication and implementation of regional policies and declarations on the advancement of women and gender equality by SADC countries (specifically the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development);
- strengthen the capacity of National Women's Parliamentary Caucuses, networking and support among women MPs on gender issues in SADC parliaments;
- improve the participation and role of women MPs in electoral processes, conflict prevention, resolution and management;
- lobby for the increased representation and effective participation of women in politics and decision making structures to "critical mass" of at least 30 percent women in policy-making bodies by 2005; and
- improve the allocation of resources towards programmes and activities on HIV/AIDS.

To achieve its objectives, a number of strategies have been identified for the caucus, which include:

- capacity building and training;
- advocacy and lobbying;
- monitoring and observing electoral processes from a gender perspective;
- increased budgets for HIV/AIDS programmes and activities;
- sharing of information and experiences; and
- peace building and conflict prevention and resolution processes.

Athaliah Molokomme, SADC Senior Programme Officer (Gender), who attended the launch, said the RWPC would be "an autonomous lobbying and advocacy structure within the SADC PF, with strategic links to its Engendering Parliaments Project, Standing Committee on Democracy, Gender and Conflict Resolution, SADC Gender Unit and national parliaments."

The Engendering Parliaments Project, which the SADC PF is implementing in partnership with the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC), with the SADC Gender Unit as a key strategic partner, facilitates and provides gender capacity building and training for about 1,800 female and male MPs in SADC. The project augments ongoing efforts at the national and regional levels. Whilst the Forum's emphasis is on gender capacity building and training for both female and male MPs, the project pays particular attention to the practical needs and interests of women MPs. Thus the RWPC seeks to create space for strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of women MPs.

A new global framework for gender and development defined

by Alice Kwaramba

A new global framework to accelerate and ensure the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform For Action (BDPFA) and to identify further actions and initiatives to overcome emergent obstacles and challenges, has been defined now as we move towards the end of the decade after Beijing.

A review of progress made in implementing the BDPFA, as outlined in the Beijing Plus Five Outcome document, revealed that although considerable progress has been made in most of the critical areas identified, setbacks have also been experienced. This was attributed to new challenges and hurdles that have emerged, including the HIV/AIDS pandemic and general global poor economic performance and recession. World leaders recommitted themselves to, in some instances, taking further action and initiatives, and in others, revising their strategies to overcome these challenges.

One fundamental shift taken is the general drive towards a human rights framework for mainstreaming gender and HIV/AIDS. This major shift, advocated for during the review process, came from the recognition that the gains made in the respective critical development areas were fast being eroded, especially by HIV/AIDS. The leaders' meeting at New York agreed that all human rights, be they civic, cultural, economic, political, and social, and even the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and are essential for the realization of gender equality, development and peace. For this reason, the Outcome document advocated for a new global framework for mainstreaming gender, HIV/AIDS and human rights.

It is therefore imperative that gender activists and policy-makers in SADC move fast and reposition their programmes and activities, in light of this new global framework that will guide the world and the region towards 2005.

Key areas such as education and health, where major inroads had been made even prior to Beijing, have experienced a reversal of gains and have emerged among those needing urgent redress. This has forced governments to prioritize these two areas and pledge to "adopt policies and implement measures, as a matter of urgency..." These areas have been approached from a human rights perspective; based on the right of both girls and boys to education that can transform their lives into healthy and productive beings.

In line with this, new strategies and goals have been set for guaranteeing equal access to education, including vocational training, science and technology- especially among girls in rural areas. While goals and targets had been set for 2005, government recommitted themselves to "closing the gender gap in primary and secondary education by 2005 and to ensure free compulsory and universal primary education for both girls and boys by 2015." The additional decade towards 2015, will hopefully give governments and other players room to ensure a complete closure of the gender gap in education, through protecting the rights of both girls and boys to education.

While the BDPFA recognized the need for general health care and related services, the new proposed global framework pays particular attention to reproductive health and promotion of mutually respectful and equitable gender relations, particularly those of adolescents, to equip them with skills to deal with their sexuality. This is critical, given the fact that the young are among

those that are hardest hit by the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

World leaders also made a fresh commitment to ensuring universal access to quality health care and sexual reproductive education throughout the life cycle of women and men by 2015. Again by 2015, an additional decade after Beijing will have passed, creating more space for players to effectively implement, monitor and evaluate their respective initiatives.

Other crucial areas reviewed that SADC gender players need to take note of and include economic empowerment of women and institutional mechanisms at all levels. The general economic restructuring undertaken by most developing countries has led to a shrinking in resources for women's poverty eradication programmes, resulting in more women, especially those in rural areas, living in abject poverty. A key strategy identified in the Outcome document is the incorporation of a gender perspective into the design, development, adoption and execution of all budgetary processes to ensure equitable allocation of resources among men and women, boys and girls. Governments reconfirmed their commitment to addressing this wide gender gap.

While governments were lauded for having made progress in putting in place institutionalisms at all levels, a gap was highlighted in coordination between civil society and governmental structures. A commitment was made to develop the capacity to undertake policy-oriented and gender-related research and impact studies by universities and national research and training institutions to enable gender specific knowledge-based policy making at the national level. This is an area that organizations and other actors in gender can explore to inform their programmes and activities.

There is a need for those active within the gender spectrum to review their strategies and goals, in response to new challenges and hurdles identified at the Beijing review process in New York and for them to inform their programmes and activities, so that they comply with new goals and targets set by world leaders.

SADC Heads of State or Government Audit Gender Developments

by Pamela Mhlanga

It is now common cause that SADC Heads of State or Government recognize gender equality as a fundamental human right. This is captured in one of the key innovative regional instruments on gender and development in southern Africa, the SADC Gender and Development Declaration (the Gender Declaration) adopted by Heads of State and Government in 1997 (and the subsequent Addendum on the Prevention and Eradication of Violence Against Women and Children).

The benchmarks outlined in the Declaration aim to:

- address commitments to achieve policy development;
- increase institutional mechanisms;
- facilitate the establishment of gender focal points;
- facilitate equal representation of men and women in politics and decision-making;
- promote women's full access to productive resources, law and constitutional reform;
- enhance access to quality education, reproductive and other health services;
- protect reproductive and sexual rights;
- deal with violence against women; and
- encourage the mass media to effectively disseminate information.

This framework for equality has set in motion a number of initiatives that have contributed to a shift in both the language and action on gender equality at the highest level in the region. Significant ones include the integration and mainstreaming of gender issues in the SADC Programme of Action and Community Building Initiative, the SADC Parliamentary Forum Gender Action Plan five years after Beijing, and the SADC HIV/AIDS Strategic Framework, amongst others.

At the recent SADC Summit held in Luanda, (the Angola Summit) from 1-3 October 2002, SADC Heads of State or Government took the opportunity to critically review regional imperatives. Amongst these was the reaffirmation of people-centred development, particularly women and the poor, and the definition of a correct strategy for harmonisation of macro-economic policies.

Investment in human development was highlighted, with special emphasis on women's education since, as was noted by President of the Republic of Angola Jose Eduardo do Santos, the host of the 2002 Summit, higher literacy among women contributes to the reduction of child mortality.

A key theme of the Angola Summit was peace and a move towards national reconciliation in Angola, as well as substantial progress towards peace in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Of significance was the support expressed for ongoing efforts towards providing assistance to demobilized soldiers, orphans, and internally displaced persons.

A gendered approach to these peace-building initiatives is critical, in order to address those that have borne the brunt of the war, namely women and children. National dialogue to address priorities and ensure equal participation in Angola's future remains a key strategy to

sustain the peace effort, and women need to be central to this process.

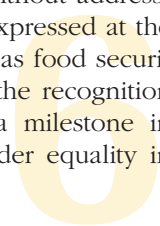
It is significant that in the next three years, six SADC countries will be conducting national elections. Against this background the SADC Heads of State or Government made specific reference at the Angola Summit to the progress made in reaching the minimum target of 30% of women in politics and decision-making by the year 2005 as set out in the Gender Declaration.

The continued under-representation of women in politics and decision-making positions was noted, and the need for more concerted efforts towards realizing this minimum 30% target for the entire region was emphasized.

It was further noted that opportunities presented by elections and cabinet reshuffles in respective Member State should be seized in order to ensure that more women are represented in key decision-making positions. Half of SADC countries have at least 15% women in parliaments with Angola, Botswana, Namibia and Tanzania above 15%. The best performers are Mozambique, South Africa and Seychelles who have reached the 30% minimum target.

The launch of the Regional Women Parliamentary Caucus (the Regional Caucus) in Angola in April 2002 is a catalyst to facilitate the acceleration of progress towards this goal for the entire region. A key objective of the Regional Caucus is to engage leaders of political parties in the six countries scheduled to hold elections in 2004-2005 and lobby for at least 30% women candidates on their election nomination lists for Parliaments. As a regional body of about 322 women Parliamentarians out of 1800 MPs, the Regional Caucus is an integral part of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, and the Steering Committee is made up of Chairpersons of Women's Caucuses in all SADC parliaments.

The audit of gender and women's empowerment developments in SADC by Heads of State or Government at the Angola Summit clearly demonstrates that there can no longer be a meaningful agenda to discuss regional democracy and development concerns without addressing gender concerns. With the urgency expressed at the Summit to address pressing matters such as food security and HIV/AIDS amongst other issues, the recognition that gender underpins these issues is a milestone in action towards realizing substantive gender equality in SADC.



Platform on Women's Land Rights in Southern Africa Established

A regional Platform on women's land rights in southern Africa has been established. Its goal is to coordinate efforts towards achieving women's land and water rights in the southern African region.

The Platform, comprising of eight southern African countries, was officially launched in Harare, Zimbabwe on 27 May 2002 during a regional conference under the auspices of Women and Land in Zimbabwe. The eight southern African countries are Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The May 2002 conference was a follow-up to another regional conference that was held in 2000 by the Women and Land in Zimbabwe (formerly Women and Land Lobby Group), to conduct a comparative analysis of the policies, laws and constitutional provisions governing women's land rights in southern Africa.

The Platform's vision is "equal access to and ownership of land, water and natural resources in southern Africa". The broad objective is to enhance accessibility, control and ownership of land, water rights and other economic resources for sustainable livelihoods. Activities will include research and documentation; lob-

bying and advocacy; information dissemination; networking and capacity building; as well as monitoring and evaluation to gauge the impact of the activities.

According to the interim Regional Director for the Platform, Abby Taka Mgugu, the anticipated results of the Platform are "a region that takes cognisance of women's land and water rights and how these will impact on development and eradication of poverty".

During its first phase, the activities of the Platform will entail building its profile, as well as consensus on its activities with other relevant organisations. An interim Committee comprising Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe has already been constituted to formulate policy for the Platform.

The interim Committee will meet on a quarterly basis to plan, advise and guide the implementation of the activities of the Platform.

For further information on the Platform on Women's Land Rights in Southern Africa contact: The Interim Regional Director, Abby Taka Mgugu, 120 Baines Avenue Harare, Zimbabwe. Tel / Fax 263 4 797648. Email: ullg@africaonline.co.zw / atmgugu@yahoo.com

CALENDAR OF GENDER EVENTS

The 6th Interdisciplinary and International Symposium on Gender Research is to be held from November 15 to 17 at Kiel University, Germany. The symposium will focus on the economic aspects of gendering with the aim of discussing the costs and benefits of the gender category. Among the questions to be discussed are the following: How much does it cost when women earn just as much as men? How useful is the gender-specific distribution of tasks? How expensive is it not to make use of the leadership potential of women?

The World Summit on the Information Society The Pan-European Regional Ministerial Conference, Round Table on Building a Gender Sensitive Information Society, 7-9 November 2002, Bucharest, Romania

CEI Economic Summit, Round Table on Gender, Science and Technology 13 November 2002, Skopje, FYR Macedonia

International Perspectives: Global Voices for Gender Equity A symposium to explore how women create change.

The Symposium will provide policy-makers, scholars, and practitioners an opportunity to explore how women have used their education to address four key global issues, especially in emerging nations: literacy improvement, peace education and conflict resolution, governance, education for people with disabilities. 18-19.11. Oslo, Norway

International Conference: Gender-Based Violence and Global Peace 18-20 November, Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Sub-Theme: Gender Sensitivity as a Tool for Sustainable Development.

For more information contact widsaa@sardc.net

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NEW ACQUISITIONS

Available at WIDSAA Information Resource Centre

CHILDREN; HUMAN RIGHTS

Voice of African Children / edited by Ndiaye, A.R. and Omolu, G.P.

Senegal: ENDA, 2001.

173pp.

Translated from French by Cecil Palmer and Enda tm, Jeunesse action.

The book contains expressions of youths in the age ranges 11 to 25 chronicling their experiences such as engagement in child labour from as early as 7 years and perceptions of their basic rights. The youths' articulations bring out the twelve fundamental children's rights which are: the right to be respected, the right to self expression and forming organizations, the right to learn to read and write, the right to be taught a trade, the right to remain in the village, the right to be listened to, the right to equitable legal aid, the right to rest when sick, the right to healthcare, the right to light and limited work, the right to work in a safe environment and the right to play.

Source: ENDA PO Box 3370, Dakar, Senegal. E-mail editions@enda.sn.

Website: www.enda.sn

GENDER; CONFLICT

Women And Men in Partnership for Post-Conflict Reconstruction: Report of the Sierra Leone National Consultation Freetown, Sierra Leone. London: Commonwealth, 2002/ Baksh-Soodeen, Rawwida, Etchart L [eds].

202pp.

The report is based on the *National Consultation on Women and Men in Partnership for Post Conflict Reconstruction*, held in Freetown in May 2001. The main objective of the consultation was to learn from experiences of post conflict reconstruction in Commonwealth countries and to develop a National Plan of Action. The book examines post conflict reconstruction, concerning differing gender roles and proposes best practices for fostering gender balanced sustainable development. It focuses on rebuilding democracy, peace and security; human rights and legal reform; violence against women and children; resettlement and rehabilitation; poverty and economic development; gender issues in education and health; and the role of young women and men in post conflict reconstruction.

Source: The Publications Manager, Information And Public Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, Pall Mall, London SW 1Y 5HX, UK

Email: r.jones-parry@commonwealth.int

Website: www.thecommonwealth.org

GENDER; VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Picturing a Life Free of Violence: Media and Communications Strategies to End Violence Against Women. - New York: UNIFEM, 2001.

77pp.

The book is a collection of materials using innovative communication strategies arranged thematically focusing on domestic violence, sexual assault and coercion, harmful traditional practices, trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation, HIV/AIDS, violence and a life free of violence. It explores the strength contained in the messages inscribed on posters, videos or cd-roms and gives an account of the situation being described, how the materials were developed and disseminat-

ed and the direct impact that the works have. The materials were selected on the basis of strength and consistency of message, innovation and creativity.

Source: United Nations Development Fund For Women (UNIFEM), 304 East 45th Street, 15th Floor New York, NY 10017, USA. Email: unifem@undp.org. Website: www.unifem.undp.org or Violence Against Women Resource Centre, John Hopkins Center for Communication Programmes, 111 Market Place, Suite 310, Baltimore, Maryland 21202, USA Email: endvaw@jhucpp.org Website: www.endvaw.org

GENDER; VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

With An End In Sight: Strategies From The UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women / By Spindel, Chelwa, Levy Elisa and Connor, Melissa. - New York: UNIFEM, 2000.

132pp.

The book recounts efforts made by groups of men and women in every region, to end violence against women. The book outlines developments from the culture of silence on domestic violence to acknowledgement and responsibility and works towards the elimination of the practice. Seven case studies from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Honduras, India, Kenya, Nigeria and the West Bank and Gaza highlight the situation of women as it relates to culture and societal values, projects being undertaken to eliminate violence against women and focuses on how governments and non governmental organizations can collectively work towards the elimination of gender based violence. The book is a result of efforts made by staff at UNIFEM and the Trust Fund projects.

Source: United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), 304 East 45th Street, 15th Floor, New York, NY 10017 USA.

Email: unifem@undp.org Website: www.unifem.undp.org

GENDER; WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Women in Action No. 1 2001. Men's Involvement In Women's Empowerment

92pp.

The issue contains papers that emphasize the importance of men within the gender and development framework. It outlines men's involvement in gender equality movements in Japan; lack of tolerance for domestic violence in Thailand; and activities transforming Filipino mens' consciousness that they can advocate violence against women and be involved in fertility management and breastfeeding activities. It also highlights how important is that women's organizations be emancipated from patriarchal bondage and that they be allowed to speak out for themselves.

Source: Women in Action, Isis International, Manilla, PO Box 1837, Quezon City 1100, Philippines. Email: communications@isiswomen.org

WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT; PROJECTS

Botswana National Council on Women (BNCW) Strategic Plan 2001-2003

23pp.

The booklet contains the overall strategic framework of the Botswana National Council on Women and the plan of action on women: and poverty, in power and decision making roles, education and training, health and violence against women and violence against women and children. The Botswana National Council on Women acts as an advisory body to the government on matters relating to women and development.

Source: Botswana National Council on Women (BNCW), PO Box 339, Gaborone, Botswana Tel/Fax 352109



Produced by Women In Development Southern Africa Awareness (WIDSAA), the gender programme of Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC). The WIDSAA programme is regional in focus and aims to be a catalyst and information service to the region's governments, parliamentarians, NGOs and agencies, the media and the public and the formulation of policy affecting women in SADC. This is done through the collection, production and dissemination of information and enabling the capacity to generate and use information. The publication is produced with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).



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