



# ACTION

ON GENDER EQUALITY, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND  
ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN AFRICA

## PROGRAMME OF WORK

*Sixth*  
**The African Development Forum (ADF VI)**

19-21 November 2008 - United Nations Conference Centre - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Economic Commission  
for Africa



African Union



African Development  
Bank





# WORK PROGRAMME

## of the Sixth AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF-VI)

### PRE-ADF EVENTS

#### Monday 17 November

08:00 hours

Registration for ADF and pre-ADF activities  
(Registration for ADF open all the day)  
Venue: Delegates Registration Building

9:00-17:30 hours

#### **Workshop**

Regional Consultation on proposed Africa campaign to end violence against women –  
ECA-UNIFEM  
Venue: UNCC - CR 3

#### Tuesday 18 November

08:00 hours

Registration for ADF and pre-ADF activities  
(Registration for ADF open all the day)  
Venue: Delegates Registration Building

9:00-17:30 hours

#### **Parallel workshops**

##### **1. Workshop on youth**

Venue: UNCC – CR 6

##### **2. Workshop on violence against women – UNIFEM-UNICEF-ECA**

Venue: UNCC – CR 3

## ADF EVENTS

### DAY ONE

**Wednesday**  
**19 November**

09:30-11:00 hours

#### **Opening ceremony**

Venue: Conference Room 1

1. Statement by Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa
2. Statement by Mr. Donald Kaberuka, President of the African Development Bank
3. Statement by Mr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission
4. Statement by Honorable Ulla Tornaes, Danish Minister of Development Cooperation Special Guest
5. Opening Statement by His Excellency Girma Wolde-Giorgis, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

11:00-11:30 hours

#### **COFFEE BREAK**

Visit of exhibition by VIPs (exhibition area)

11:30-13:00 hours

#### **Plenary session 1**

High-level session on culture, gender equality, women's empowerment and ending violence against women in Africa

Co-Chairs:

1. H.E. Dr. Mantombazana Tshabalala-Msimang, Minister in the Presidency, South Africa
2. Ms. Marie-Angélique Savané, Former Chairperson of APR Panel of Eminent Persons

Venue: Conference Room 1

#### **Presentations**

Culture and the social construct of gender, - Ms. Rudo Chitiga, International Gender Expert.

Empowerment of women for ending violence against women, - Dr. Auxillia Ponga, Advisor Gender, Commonwealth Secretariat

Effective and creative enforcement measures and tools for ending violence against women – H.E. Ms. Elisabeth Rehn, Minister of State, Finland.

#### **General discussion**

This plenary session will launch the central theme of ADF VI, ending violence against women. It will reflect on how culture and the social construct of gender are linked to violence against women. It will highlight the major achievements in empowering women and developing effective enforcement measures and tools, and identify remaining gaps. The session will offer options on strategies that can be used to accelerate progress towards ending violence against women that will feed into and help shape Africa's development policy.

13:00-14:30 hours

LUNCH

14:30-16:00 hours

## Plenary session 2

Theme: Violence against women

Co-Chairs:

1. H.E. Suzanne Mbomback, Minister of Women's Empowerment and Family, Cameroon
2. Chair: H.E. Ms. Nouara Saadia Djaafar, Deputy Minister for Family and Women's Affairs, Algeria

Venue: Conference Room 1

African voice - Ms. Marsha Moyo, Zambian Artist, UN Goodwill Ambassador MDGs for Zambia

### Presentations

Violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations – Mr Joseph Chilengi, Executive Director, Africa Internally Displaced Persons' Voice

Harmful traditional practices and institutions - Dr Morissanda Kouyaté, Director of Operations, Inter-African Committee

Trafficking of women and exploitation - Ms. Joy Azeilo, UN Secretary General Special Rapporteur on trafficking

### General discussion

This plenary session will set the scene for the break-out sessions by highlighting the progress on the actions that have been done to meet the commitments made by African countries to end violence against women. The session will highlight what has worked well, the achievements, good and effective practices and the major outstanding challenges and gaps.

16:00-16:30 hours

## COFFEE BREAK

16:30-18:00 hours

## BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR DAY ONE

The overall objective of break-out sessions is to deepen the discussion on each of the thematic areas. The expected outcome of the break-out session is an action plan of concrete doable actions that are needed to accelerate implementation of the commitments and to define actors, their areas of responsibility and timeline.

### 1. Violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations

Chair: H.E. Ms. Mamatou Marie Djossou, Minister of Family, Women and Children, Benin

Facilitator: Ms. Hyacinthe Budomo, International Gender Expert

Venue: UNCC – CR 1

Violence is repeatedly used as a weapon against women and girls in conflict and crisis situations and its aftermath in Africa. Building on the presentations and discussions made in plenary sessions 1 and 2, this break-out session will reflect in more detail the challenges and gaps and identify key priority actions that are required to promote prevention of violence and protection of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including the major actors.

16:30-18:00 hours

## **2. Harmful traditional practices and institutions**

Chair: H.E. Ngarmbatina Odjimbeye Sou Vi, Minister of Social Action and Family, Chad  
Facilitator: Ms. Lomcebo Dlamini, Women and Law in Southern Africa, Swaziland  
Venue: UNCC – CR 2

In spite of legislation against some cultural practices, women and girls in Africa continue to be vulnerable to harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation, early marriage; taboos and practices that prevent women from controlling their own fertility; nutritional taboos; traditional birth practices; son preferences and its implications on the status of the girl-child; female infanticide; early pregnancy; dowry/bride price. These practices are in direct violation of the human rights of women and girls. This session will focus on: Why are these practices persisting? What are the key challenges faced by countries in implementing actions aimed at ending this form of violence against women and girls? What are some of the more effective approaches to eliminating harmful traditional practices? What are the priority actions to end this form of violence against women? Who are the major actors and what is the time frame?

## **3. Trafficking of women and exploitation**

Chair: H.E. Chief Mgwagwa Gamedze - Minister of Home Affairs, Swaziland  
Facilitator: Ms. Karen Steffiszyn, Programme Manager, Gender Unit, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria  
Venue: UNCC – CR 3

Trafficking in human beings is the most aggressive and vicious violation of human rights. The majority of the victims are women and children and many are trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation. This session will identify the major reasons why trafficking is still persistent despite the commitments that African countries have made on ending violence against women. It will identify the more effective approaches and best practice experiences on eliminating trafficking in women and girls and how these can be scaled up. The session will identify key priority actions that are required to promote implementation of programmes aimed at ending trafficking and exploitation of women and girls, including the major actors.

## **4. Ministerial Break-out session on Violence against women**

Chair: H.E. Ms. Vabah Kazaku Gayflor, Minister of Gender and Development, Liberia  
Facilitator: Ms. Bineta Diop, Executive Director, Femmes Africa Solidarite,  
Venue: UNCC – CR 4

This session provides the Ministers an opportunity to reflect on the major policy implementation challenges that African countries are facing in efforts to end violence against women and will develop a plan of action with concrete actions that are needed to accelerate implementation of the commitments and with defined actors.

19:00-22:00

ADF VI Cultural evening – Ballroom Hilton Hotel

## DAY TWO

**Thursday  
20 November 2008**

09:00:-09:30

### **MESSAGES TO ADF**

Chair: Ms Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECA

Messages by

1. H.E. Mrs Isatou Njie-Saidy, Vice President of the Gambia
2. Her Royal Highness, Sylvia Nagginda, Queen of Buganda Kingdom, Uganda

09:30-11:00 hours

### **Plenary session 3**

**Theme: Gender and socio-economic rights**

Co-Chairs:

1. H.E. Ms. Syda Bumba, Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda
2. H.E. Lieut. Gen. Germain Niyoyankana, Minister of Defence and War Veterans, Burundi

Venue: Conference Room 1

### **African voice - Network of Ethiopian Women's Associations (NEWA)**

#### **Presentations**

Gender, land and property rights - Professor Okoth Ogendo, University of Nairobi  
 Gender, Employment, markets and trade - Professor Vremudiah Diejomaoh, Nigeria  
 Gender, Education, training and skills development and ICTs - Ms. Codou Diaw, Executive Director, Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE)  
 Financing for gender equality –Dr. Marianna Jacinta Muteshi, International Gender Expert

11:00-11:30 hours

### **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30-13:00 hours

### **Plenary session 4**

Theme: Gender, socio-cultural and political rights

Co-Chairs:

1. S.E. Madame Barry Bibata Niandou, Minister of Women's Affairs and Child Protection, Niger
2. H. E. Mrs Ubah Mohammed, Minister of State for Women's Affairs, Ethiopia

Venue: Conference Room 1

African voice- Ms. Ireen Mukalo Mbewe Nkole

#### **Presentations**

Gender, HIV and AIDS and reproductive rights - Dr Belkis Wolde Georgis, International Gender Expert  
 Gender and Health - H.E. ADV. Bience. Gawanas, Commissioner for Social Affairs, AUC  
 Governance, conflict, peace and security - Mr. Abdallah Hamdock, Director, NEPAD and Regional Integration Division, ECA

13:00-14:30 hours

## LUNCH

14:30-16:00 hours

## BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR DAY TWO

### 1. Gender, land and property rights

Chair: H.E. Ms. Germaine Manguet, Minister of Social Affairs and Promotion of Women, Guinea

Facilitator: Ms. Diana Tempelman, Senior Officer, Gender and Development, FAO Regional Office for Africa

Venue: UNCC – CR 4

Secure land and property rights for women are essential for the economic empowerment of women. Widespread exclusion of women and girls in Africa from owning and/or controlling land and property means that they are often barred from effectively engaging in economic activities and having a secure and sustainable livelihood. This break-out session will identify the major challenges and gaps facing countries in promoting women's land and property rights. It will highlight some of the key achievements, effective and best practices in promoting women's land and property rights (at community, national, subregional and regional levels) and reflect on how they can be scaled up or replicated. The session will identify key priority actions that are required to promote the land and property rights of women, including the major actors.

### 2. Employment, markets and trade

Chair: H.E. Ms. Anna Andrew Kachikho, Minister of Gender, Child Welfare and Community Development, Malawi

Facilitator: Ms. Jennifer Kargbo, Director – ECA Southern Africa Office

Venue: UNCC – CR 2

An important means of economically empowering women includes improving their opportunities to find decent employment and participate in markets and trade. This break-out session will: identify the major challenges and gaps facing countries in empowering women in these areas, highlight some of the key achievements, effective and best practices; and identify key priority actions that are required to improve women's opportunities to decent employment, markets and trade, including the major actors.

14:30-16:00 hours

### 3. Education, training and skills development and ICTs

Chair: H.E. Ms. Marlene Mungunda, Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Namibia

Facilitator: Ms. Aida Opoku-Mensah, Director, ECA - Division of ICT, Science and Technology (ISTD)

Venue: UNCC - CR 3

African States have explicitly expressed their commitment to ensure girls' and women's right to education, training, skills development and ICTs. Without the right skills, experience and access to ICT, African women, find it increasingly difficult in a globalized world to find a decent job, and ultimately, be empowered to carry out the lives they value. This session will discuss the major challenges and gaps that countries are facing in empowering women with education, skills and ICTs; share the key achievements, effective and best practices and identify the key priority actions, including the major actors.

#### 4. Financing for gender equality

Chair: H.E. Ms. Margret Simwanza Sitta - Minister of Community Development, Gender and Children, Tanzania

Facilitator: Ms. Laetitia Mukurasi, Chief Gender Specialist, African Development Bank

Venue: UNCC - Large Briefing room

Translating declarations on gender equality and women's empowerment into action requires resources. One of the greatest challenges faced by African countries in undertaking activities that promote gender equality and women's empowerment has been identified to be limited resources. Yet investment in gender equality is essential and has been shown to positively impact on poverty, productivity and economic growth in positive, sustainable and empowering ways. This session will discuss the major challenges and gaps that countries are facing in mobilizing resources to finance gender equality and women's empowerment; share the key achievements, effective and best practices and identify the key priority actions, including the major actors.

14:30-16:00 hours

#### BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR DAY TWO continued

#### 5. Gender, and HIV and AIDS

Chair: His Royal Highness, Phathekile Holomisa, Member of Parliament, South Africa.

Facilitator: Ms. Bernadette Olowo-Freers, Senior Political Advisor for Advocacy, African Union, UNAIDS

Venue: UNCC - CR 5

Addressing gender issues is an integral and essential dimension in the response to the AIDS epidemic. HIV and AIDS in the region is feminized; gender inequality, low socio-economic status of women, and gender based violence make women and girls much more vulnerable to HIV infection. The proportion of women infected by HIV is high and is increasing on the continent. As of December 2007, women constitute 61 per cent of infected people in Sub-Saharan Africa up from 57 per cent at the end of 2003. This session will discuss the major challenges and gaps that countries are experiencing in addressing the gender equality issues associated with the HIV and AIDS epidemic; share the key achievements, effective and best practices and identify the key priority actions, including the major actors.

#### 6. Gender and health

Chair: H.E. Ms. Marie Solange Pagonendji- N'dakala. Minister for Social Affairs, Central African Republic

Facilitator: Dr. Florence Baingana, Research Fellow, Makerere University School of Public Health

Venue: UNCC – CR 6

Gender inequalities give rise to inequities between men and women in health status and access to quality health care services. Social circumstances including gender inequalities defined by social norms are the key determinants of poor health outcomes that can be changed through both health and social policy. This session will discuss the major challenges and gaps that countries are experiencing in promoting the access of women to health service; share the key achievements, effective and best practices and

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identify the key priority actions, including the major actors.

## **7. Governance, conflict, peace and security**

Chair: Brigadier General Jack Nziza, Government of Rwanda

Facilitator: Mr. Okey Onyejekwe, Director, ECA - Governance and Public Administration Division.

Venue: UNCC – CR 1

African countries have adopted international and regional policy instruments that promote the participation of women in governance, peace and security initiatives. However not all countries have been able to make good progress in promoting women's participation in governance, peace and security initiatives. As a result, women are still under-represented in decision-making positions in governments, civil society and the private sector in almost all African countries. Women are often marginalized in formal post-conflict peace-building processes, on the national and the regional levels. This session will discuss the major challenges and gaps that countries are experiencing in promoting women's participation in governance, peace and security initiatives; share the key achievements, effective and best practices and identify the key priority actions, including the major actors.

16:00-16:15 hours

**COFFEE BREAK**

16:15-18:00 hours

**BREAK-OUT SESSIONS FOR DAY TWO continued**

## DAY THREE

**Friday, 21  
November 2008**

09:30-10:00 hours

### **Plenary session 5**

Chair: Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Executive Secretary, ECA

Venue: Conference Room 1

### **African Voice - NEWA**

Remarks by Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

10:00-10:30 hours

### **COFFEE BREAK**

10:30-13:00 hours

### **PARALLEL PLENARY SESSIONS**

#### **Plenary session 6**

Moderator: Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Executive Secretary, ECA

Theme: Interactive dialogue with political, economic and community leaders on emerging issues – focusing on soaring food and fuel prices, climate change and the financial crisis

Venue: Conference Room 1

#### **Interactive Dialogue with panelists including Ministers, community, religious and traditional leaders and partners**

This interactive dialogue with the leaders will focus on pressing emerging issues, namely: soaring food and fuel prices, climate change and the financial crisis.

The purpose of this dialogue is to demonstrate the importance of tackling these challenges from a gender perspective and to provide a platform for developing policy recommendations.

#### **Plenary session 7**

#### **Open Ended Committee Meeting on the Draft Action Plan**

Co-Chairs: Ms. Lalla Ben Barka, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECA

H.E. ADV. Bience. P. Gawanas, Commissioner for Social Affairs, AUC

Venue: Conference Room 2

#### **General discussion**

An Action Plan developed from the discussions held in the Forum will be presented to the committee. The Plan of Action will highlight the key priority actions needed to accelerate progress towards gender equality, women's empowerment and ending violence against women. The committee will discuss and improve on the draft Action plan.

13:00-14:30 hours

### **LUNCH**

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14:30-15:00 hours Launch of the Third joint ECA/AU Report of "Assessing Regional Integration in Africa" (ARIA III) on the theme: Towards Monetary and Financial Integration in Africa, by ECA Executive Secretary Mr. Abdoulie Janneh and AUC Chairperson Mr. Jean Ping  
Venue: Conference Room 1

15:00-17:00 hours **Informal Bilateral meetings and side events**

17:00-17:30 hours **COFFEE BREAK**

18:00-19:00 hours **Plenary session 8**

Theme: Adoption of the Action Plan

Chair: H.E. Jeanne Françoise Leckomba, Minister of Promotion of Women and the Integration of Women in Development, Congo

Venue: Conference Room 1

A draft Action Plan will be presented and the Forum will be invited to adopt.

19:00-19:30 hours **CLOSING CEREMONY**

Chair: H.E. ADV. Bience. P. Gawanas, Commissioner for Social Affairs, AUC

Venue: Conference Room 1

**African Voice (African Youth)**

**Closing Remarks by:**

- The Executive Secretary of ECA
- The Chairperson of the AUC

## ADF SIDE EVENTS

### DAY TWO

**Thursday  
20 November 2008**

18:30-19:45 hours **Reclaiming popular culture to promote women's rights and gender-equality – AWDF ECA**  
Venue: UNCC – CR 2

19:45- 21:45 hours Reception and Launch of UNIFEM's report "Progress of the World's Women 2008/2009: Who Answers to Women?"  
Venue: Banquet Hall



# WORK PROGRAMME

of the SIXTH AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF-VI)

## DAY THREE

**Friday  
21 November 2008**

14:30-16:00 hours

**1. Securing Women’s Access to and control over land in Africa through the land policy and land reform framework and guidelines for Africa – ECA-ACTION AID-UNIFEM**

Venue: UNCC – CR 3

**2. Panel discussion: UDHR 60 years on: the quest for dignity and justice for the African Women - OHCHR, ECA, United Nations Team in Ethiopia and the Ethiopian National Committee for the Commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the UDHR.**

Venue: UNCC – CR 4

## POST-ADF EVENTS

**Saturday  
22 November**

09:30 - 17:30 hours

**Parallel workshops**

Securing Women’s Access to and control over land in Africa through the land policy and land reform framework and guidelines for Africa – ECA-ACTION AID-UNIFEM-AU-AWDF

Venue: UNCC – CR 3

09:30 - 17:30 hours

**Post ADF UNIFEM regional consultation on follow-up- ECA-AU-UNIFEM**

Venue: UNCC – Large Briefing Room

**Sunday  
23 November**

09:30 - 13:30 hours

**Post-ADF-UNIFEM regional consultation on follow-up- ECA-AU-UNIFEM**

Venue: UNCC – Large Briefing Room

