The 22\textsuperscript{nd} Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) consultative meeting was held from 20-21\textsuperscript{st} May 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia prior to the 21\textsuperscript{st} Ordinary Session of the Heads of State and Government. The 22\textsuperscript{nd} consultative meeting coincided with the Organisation of African Unity/African Union 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary, as well as the GIMAC 10\textsuperscript{th} anniversary. Prior to this meeting, GIMAC members contributed to the African Union Commission (AUC) Consultative Conference of Women Stakeholders on Pan Africanism, Renaissance and Agenda 2063 that was held from 11-12\textsuperscript{th} May 2063. "No community agenda, national agenda, no global agenda can move forward without the involvement of women; therefore women must help to craft the direction of Africa's Agenda 2063 instead of waiting to be presented with a draft document to comment on", said Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma during her opening remarks. "The African Agenda 2063 cannot be defined by governments alone, it must involve all of us in every sector of society", she further said.

The 22\textsuperscript{nd} GIMAC was convened in partnership with United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Union (AU), UN Women, Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), Ipas Africa Alliance, Urgent Action Fund, African Women’s Development Fund (AWDF), Isis-Women’s International Cross-Cultural Exchange (Isis-WICCE), Institute for Social Transformation, World YWCA, Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE), Pan-African Women’s Organisation (PAWO) and Oxfam International. One of the key achievements of the 22nd GIMAC is that it attracted more technical and financial support from UN Women. Moreover, the UNECA African Centre for Gender renewed its commitment for stronger partnership and support for the GIMAC activities.

The activities carried out during the 22\textsuperscript{nd} GIMAC included an intergenerational dialogue to share experiences and best practices across the generations with a view of contributing to Africa’s Agenda 2063. The opening remarks were given by Ms Grace Kabayo, the PAWO Secretary for Eastern Africa. She emphasised that the 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary celebratory year was declared the Year of Pan-Africanism and the African Renaissance. “As we assess our past, our present and our future, it is important that we celebrate Africa’s women who hold the continent up and Africa’s youth who will inherit the future of our continent” said Ms Kabayo.

The dialogue keynote address was given by Dr. Carlos Lopes, Executive Secretary for UNECA. Dr. Lopes underscored that it was critical and timely to hold an intergenerational dialogue as part of marking the 50\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of the OASU/AU. “There is need for a candid intergenerational dialogue about what the pioneers of African feminism and the gender agenda are bequeathing to young women today so as to be able to take the vision forward in the next fifty years”, stressed Dr. Lopes. He emphasised that the celebration of 50 years of Pan Africanism would be incomplete without paying tribute to the “foremothers” in the liberation struggle. “PAWO, which was established in 1962, a year before the OAU was formed was important in bringing
together African women freedom fighters to forge peace and unity; they also contributed to the debate that shaped the OAU”, said Dr. Lopes.

The debate included a theme “Rising African Youth Leaders” with a panel composed of two young girls aged ten and eleven from the International Community School (ICS) in Addis Ababa as well as a 24-year old young woman entrepreneur. This was the first time in the history of GIMAC that young people were provided an opportunity to express their concerns in shaping the future of Africa. During the debate, Astri Nyambura Kagwanja a ten year old pupil from ICS asserted that her ambition was to become the president of Kenya in order to change Africa. "If a woman can manage a home, why not a nation", asked Nyambura.

In addition, a photo exhibition was organised to celebrate and recognise ordinary women’s contributions to Pan Africanism and African Renaissance. Portraits of the PAWO pioneers were among the photos that were displayed in the exhibitions. The GIMAC members handed over the PAWO pioneers’ portraits to the chairperson of the AUC, Dr. Dlamini Zuma to hang up in the lobby of the AUC premises. This was in view of the fact that only photos of the “forefathers” are currently hung up in the AUC premises.

The 22nd GIMAC also provided space for rural African women from Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania to share their experiences and best practices on how a bottom up approach could contribute to Pan Africanism, Renaissance and Agenda 2063. The women shared personal experiences that motivated them and struggles they overcame to improve their lives including demanding for their rights within their communities. Most of the women shared their struggles to overcome traditional practices and norms to achieve their rights to own assets and property such as land. The women stated that they have a lot of knowledge and experience which is relevant to shaping Africa’s development. "We may be illiterate, we may be rural but we are not stupid; we just need facilitation to enhance our indigenous knowledge", said Hellen Kongai from Uganda.

As part of the 22nd GIMAC activities, a gala dinner was organised on 23rd May 2013 to celebrate the GIMAC 10th anniversary. During the dinner, African women pioneers’ contributions to Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance were recognised. The PAWO pioneers were presented with awards to acknowledge their role in promoting gender equality in Africa. H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of Liberia, H.E. Joyce Banda, President of Malawi, and H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the AUC received awards as well for their contribution to gender equality and women empowerment on the continent. Some of the women pioneers that received the awards included Mrs. Assetou Koite who is the current president of PAWO; Mrs Jeanne Martin Cisse, the First Secretary General of PAWO; Mrs. Fathia Bethabar, the Second Secretary General and Mrs. Maria Ruth Neto, the Third Secretary General.
Related to this, a booklet entitled "The Founding Mothers" was launched. The booklet illustrates the contribution of various African women to the liberation struggle for freedom and independence in Africa. "I learnt a lot of things about women I knew little of, or so little. It is very important indeed, and very well done", commented Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch an outstanding historian on Africa and women organizations. In addition, a GIMAC ten year shadow report on the implementation of the Solemn Declaration in Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) and the Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) a tool to for assessing progress on the Implementation of the SDGEA were launched. The SDI will be used by GIMAC members, AU member states and the AUC to report on the SDGEA. Moreover, a documentary outlining the GIMAC's history, achievements and prospects was shown during the gala dinner.