



MEDIA ADVISORY

25th GIMAC Pre-Summit Consultative Meeting on Mainstreaming Gender in the African Union and Member States

20-23 January 2015

The media is invited to the following press opportunities:

- 1) **AFTERNOON KEYNOTE ADDRESS**, 3:30 pm-3:45 pm at the UNECA Conference Center:
“Harnessing Social and Political Activism for Concrete Changes in the Lives of African Women”
by Ms. Leymah Gbowee, Nobel Peace Laureate, Co-Chair of the International Campaign to Stop Rape and Gender Violence in Conflict, President, Gbowee Peace Foundation.
- 2) **PHOTO OPPORTUNITY** of the Gender is my Agenda Campaign members and special guests on 21th January 2015, from 15:30 at the UNECA Conference Center.
- 3) **PHOTO OPPORTUNITY** of the Consultation’s stakeholders from 9:45-10:00 at the AU New Conference Center Mandela hall.
- 4) **PRESS CONFERENCE** on 23 January 2015 from 1:30 pm-2:30 pm at the African Union New Conference Center Mandela Hall chaired by the Chairperson of the African Union, the Special Envoy for Women, Peace and Security of the AUC Chairperson, Bineta Diop, the Peace Nobel Prize recipient, Leymah Gbowee, Femmes Africa Solidarité Board member Thelma Awori, GIMAC representatives.

Addis Ababa, 21 January 2015 – 2015 is a unique opportunity for the acceleration and realization of the commitments made to African women’s rights, gender equality, women’s empowerment and inclusive development. 2015 marks the 5th year into the African Women’s Decade (2010-2020), the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+20), the fifteenth anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, and the finalization of deliberations on the Post-2015 agenda.

In this context, **the biggest network of African Civil Society Organisations on the continent**, the Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC), is holding its 25th Pre-Consultative Meeting on Mainstreaming Gender Equality in the African Union and Member States under the theme **“2015, Year of Women’s Empowerment and Development towards Africa’s Agenda 2063: What is the Change We Want to See?”**. More than 55 organizations working on promoting gender equality and women’s rights in Africa reflect on progress, current gaps and emerging issues, and review implementation of existing commitments made by African Union member states to women’s human rights, health, education, governance, women’s economic empowerment, peace and security and climate change.

The GIMAC will be followed by a **stakeholders' consultation** from 22–23 January 2015 held by the African Union Commission, under the leadership of the Chairperson, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma at the African Union New Conference Center Mandela Hall. The consultation will bring together Ministers of Gender and Women's Affairs from across Africa, Civil Society Organizations, Regional Economic Commissions and other Stakeholders to strategize on the "Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063".

The Gender is my Agenda Campaign, A unique network of African civil society organizations coordinated by Femmes Africa Solidarité

GIMAC is the biggest African women's platform. It is coordinated by Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) and brings together more than 55 organizations coming from diverse backgrounds and from all over the continent. It was created to provide the space for civil society to formulate and promote a gender equality agenda for Africa. It has campaigned tirelessly over the last ten years for the equal participation of women in AU leadership and to ensure women voices are heard during the Head of states AU summit meeting.

Since 2005, the GIMAC members meet on the margins of the African Union (AU) Heads of State Summit for a Pre-Summit Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the AU. The GIMAC members use this opportunity to examine cross-cutting issues in line with AU summit themes and to develop recommendations that are disseminated to the African Union Heads of State and Government and the international community, in support of the ensuing high-level recommendations.

CONTACT

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Hashtag: #GIMAC25 #YearofWomen #Agenda2063

Learn more: www.genderismyagenda.com
www.fasngo.org

Come and hear what African women leaders have to say
to the African Union Heads of States!