



AfWID

AFRICAN WOMEN
IN DIALOGUE

Strengthening the Continental African Women's Movement towards a
New Value-Based Eco-System

African Women in Dialogue

**“WOMEN'S VOICE AND POWER
AS AGENTS OF CHANGE”**

BIRCHWOOD HOTEL, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

04 – 08 NOVEMBER 2019

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FOREWORD BY MS ZANELE MBEKI



ZANELE MBEKI
Founder & Chairperson
Zanele Mbeki
Development Trust

The launching theme of AfWID 2018 was ‘Strengthening the Continental African Women’s Movement Within the 4th Industrial Revolution Towards a New and Value-based Ecosystem’. It is becoming clear to me that this is likely to become the underlying theme for all our future Forums, which will be driven by the purpose of strengthening the African continental women's capacity to create a new world, underpinned by values of respect for all creation.

AU AGENDA 2063

The African Union, in naming the aspirations of the “Africa we want”, says that “Agenda 2063 seeks to deliver on a set of Seven Aspirations, each with its own set of goals, which, if achieved, will move Africa closer to attaining its vision in that year. These 7 aspirations

reflect our desire for shared prosperity and well-being, for unity and integration, for a continent of free citizens and expanded horizons, where the full potential of women and youth are realized, and with freedom from fear, disease and want”.

It goes on to name them thus:

- Aspiration 1:** A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
- Aspiration 2:** An integrated continent, politically united and based on ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance
- Aspiration 3:** An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
- Aspiration 4:** A peaceful and secure Africa
- Aspiration 5:** An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics
- Aspiration 6:** An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people especially its women and youth, and caring for children
- Aspiration 7:** Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner.

Our theme this year is **'Women's Power and Voice as Agents of Change'**. This theme emphasizes that it is in our hands to effect the change we want.

AU GENDER AGENDA

With regard to the gender agenda the AU says:

"Africa of 2063 will have full gender parity, with women occupying at least 50% of elected public offices at all levels and half of managerial positions in the public and the private sectors. The economic and political glass ceiling that restricted women's progress will have been shattered."

The key components of the AU Gender Agenda are as follows, with a focus on GENDER EQUALITY,

1. so that by 2063 all forms of violence and discrimination (social, economic and political) against women and girls would have been eliminated, and they would fully enjoy all their human rights. This means an end to all harmful social practices and that all barriers to access to quality health and education for women and girls would be non-existent.
2. The Africa of 2063 would see fully empowered women with equal access and opportunity in all spheres of life. This means that the African woman would have equal economic rights, including the rights to own and inherit property, sign a contract, register and manage a business. Over 90% of rural women would have access to productive assets including land, credit, inputs and financial services."

I would add 3. PEACE and 4. DEVELOPMENT.

AFWID AS A TOOL TO CHANNEL AND MATERIALIZE CONTINENTAL ASPIRATIONS

I have quoted all these paragraphs of the AU aspirations for us only to show that the AfWID agenda has been set. It is now in our hands to deliver the 2063 agenda programmatically by acting on these imperatives where we are. Local outcomes will impact nationally and continentally. I wish this forum to be a critical contributing partner in galvanizing the women of this continent to become agents of our own change.

We can achieve this by being a very strong continental women's movement that gives voice to all.

We need to be a strong and capable civil society women's movement that can contribute substantially for Africa to reach its aspirations. It is in our hands to give effect to the African dream.

When we launched AfWID in 2018 we said that it will be an inclusive platform of dialogue intended to unite African women from all walks of life under one

roof to deliberate on issues of continental importance. AfWID will be a regular pilgrimage of African sisters from diverse fields to explore emerging challenges, share opinions, exchange views and review policies on themes crafted by national, continental and global agendas.

In 2019 we have invited continental leaders who have led our nations, as Presidents, ministers, ambassadors; pan-African business and social development leaders, entrepreneurs, social entrepreneurs, traditional and faith-based leaders, to intermingle with general civil society women representing all classes of society, especially the so-called grassroots sisters who live in our under-resourced urban and rural communities. This is intended to ensure that we are connected for mutual exchanges, learnings and building sisterhood for social cohesion. Conversations across classes and across geographic borders will result in mutual understanding that reduces the possibility of conflict in local communities and across borders.

Our theme this year is **'Women's Power and Voice as Agents for Change'**. This theme emphasizes that it is in our hands to effect the change we want. This time let us showcase much more of our agency to take action for good even as we actively combat our exploitation in patriarchal societies. We must be solution-driven. Let us not be passive victims who forever need to be liberated by others. Women must seize their power to change their own conditions, and the dire societal conditions facing everyone. Let us act locally to effect continental outcomes. At this forum we give voice to all; especially to those who tend to get left behind.

Above I have said that the platform will also address emerging challenges. Today South Africa as host country has an emerging challenge that was recently broadcast throughout the world, because of violence perpetrated against African brothers and sisters who live in our neighbourhoods. Whatever anyone may have seen or heard, South Africa must remain a home for all our brothers and sisters. We shall use this platform to examine the causes and help find solutions for local and national implementation towards neighbourly living. The

first panel will seek to give voice to issues related to this very unfortunate development, among other voices.

A vision of a free South Africa where every African can walk free, and not be confined to refugee camps, seems to have backfired, because the largest immigrant settlement load got carried by poor communities with inadequate national management of migration movements and documentation. Just recently, the news was broadcast that African refugees themselves were staging a sit-in at the UNHCR office in Cape Town to be removed from RSA because of insecurity; an antithesis of what was intended. What is to be done?

GOVERNANCE

In 2018 I indicated that ZMDT wishes to co-create the AfWID platform with you; i.e. its vision, mission, objectives and values, as well as its governance processes. In that regard we proposed a flexible steering committee of women of continental standing within professions and activists. We have not yet achieved this goal. However we have created a platform of regional AfWID Co-Ordinators who have managed the recruitment and facilitation of documentation and travel logistics for everyone here present. We are truly grateful for their willingness to volunteer their time.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

The rules of engagement remain the same as in 2018. We shall engage with one another with honesty, empathy and respect for our differences. We shall be guided by the spirit of Ubuntu which underpins all our values.

LET US JOURNEY TOGETHER

There is so much to be done. The African Union has clearly set out the Agenda for us all. Let us gird our loins and get to work. There must be a beneficial take-home for each one of us.

Wishing you all a pleasant and enriching experience at this Forum.





WELCOME MESSAGE BY LINDA VILAKAZI



LINDA VILAKAZI
Zanele Mbeki
Development Trust
Managing Director &
AfWID Coordinator

The dream for African women to finally convene on African soil, guided by an African agenda, is finally a reality. This started last year, in 2018, when 1000 women from only 16 SADC countries gathered in Johannesburg, South Africa to launch the now firmly in place African Women in Dialogue (AfWID) platform. Finally, today in 2019 we make history, with 1000 women attending from all 55 African countries. We are a truly Pan-African platform connecting everyone, regardless of 'the country you call home'.

The African Women in Dialogue platform is firmly rooted in principles of inclusivity, non-partisanship, non-hierarchical practices and provides an open platform for all women. These represent the non-negotiable principles articulated by our founder, Mrs. Zanele Mbeki, supported by many brave, committed and confident African women.

These principles seek to ensure that the platform is accessible to all women, with a bias towards grassroots women and marginalized women. In reality this means that the process for attending the dialogue has to be fully funded such that no woman is unable to attend due to lack of funds. In practice there has to be financial, emotional and logistical support in place to ensure that women can travel to local offices to apply and pay for all relevant travel documents. Often these procedures affect grassroots and marginalized women more. We've heard of women having to repeatedly, even five times, travel long distances to local offices before they can have all the required documents.

The upside of this is that some women, for the very first time, could claim their identities by applying first for birth certificates, followed by ID documents, passports and then finally visas. Senior women were finally granted their dream to travel outside their villages, beyond their capital cities to another African country. All these stories and many more, provide a compelling case for all of us to make this platform a success as we continue to strengthen the African women's movement, thereby increasing women's role and participation at all levels towards Africa's growth and development.

AfWID opens doors for all women to finally experience what it truly means to be Pan-African; overcoming our continent's travel challenges, and so defeat all cultural, social, patriarchal and political stereotypes of women.

Challenges encountered in this journey should be taken as lessons learnt to enrich future plans. We aim to use such lessons to lobby and advocate for changes, at village level, country level, AU and UN level. AfWID

is not only represented by the 5-day dialogue you are attending, but rather should be seen as an ever-operating movement that carries African women's dreams and aspirations, making it possible for them to freely participate at all levels of society in order to gain personal and collective success.

The AfWID platform prides itself on being a home for all women, where all are treated as equally special. We do not observe class levels, we respect the contribution by each woman as an individual while acknowledging their respective experience, and the wisdom they bring. This is what makes AfWID a rich space for all to participate.

Being here today with 999 other African women would not have been possible without the selfless support of many women across the continent who worked tirelessly with the AfWID secretariat to find you, and support your travel arrangements. Some of them even had to travel to Johannesburg pre-dialogue to contribute to the planning beforehand, as well as confirm the authenticity of the platform. These are the 18 coordinators from across all regions who worked closely with the AfWID secretariat to make this platform a reality. To you, we say – *Asjiki! There's no turning back*, women are here to be counted as part of Africa's next chapter of development and prosperity.

As you navigate the 5-day dialogue space, remember that the program is curated specifically for your benefit. Take time to meet and engage with women you may never have met, learn from them, share your own knowledge and connect beyond the dialogue week. The 2019 theme, **Women's Power and Voice as Agents of Change**, is unpacked through various plenary and side event sessions focusing on the economy, women, peace and security, cyber security, personal well-being, climate change, African Feminism and many others. It is

possible that in some discussions you may experience some uncertainty due to differing perspectives and ideologies. Do not be discouraged by this, take part, listen and freely share your views. You are in a safe space to learn, engage and be exposed to what others know and have experienced. Collectively we are a tapestry of Africa's diversity. Make the best of your time here.

Furthermore, the 5-day agenda includes time to reflect on international declarations that impact on our continent's prosperity and well-being. The UNSCR 1325 Resolution on Peace, and the Beijing +25 Review will be under the spotlight. The full attainment of peace in our continent cannot be achieved without the active and meaningful participation of all women at all levels. The recent presentation by the AfWID secretariat at a United Nations Security Council meeting emphasized the inclusion of all women, especially grassroots women, at all levels of peace processes. This includes peace building at local levels, at villages and including at AU and UN high-level tables. Our discussions on peace will focus on the role women play at all levels of peace building and conflict prevention, from the personal to community levels.

We cannot celebrate this unprecedented gathering without taking time to observe the contribution by those who may not be with us here today. They too are part of what made today possible. In particular, we dedicate the AfWID 2019 gathering to celebrate the life of one of our founding members, Dr Thandi Ndlovu, who tragically lost her life in a car accident on the 24th of August 2019. Her power and love for humanity will continue to fuel this platform.

*Linda Vilakazi, and the
2019 AfWID Secretariat*

” *Take time to meet and engage with women you may never have met, learn from them, share your own knowledge and connect beyond the dialogue week.*



ABOUT THE ZANELE MBEKI DEVELOPMENT TRUST (ZMDT)

The Zanele Mbeki Development Trust (ZMDT) is an independent, nonpartisan, Public Benefit Organisation which is committed to improving the status of African women by engaging national governments, the private sector, civil society and donors in partnerships to shape communal, municipal, provincial, national and continental agendas. ZMDT is impartial and not-for-profit. It is tied to no political or partisan interests.

VISION OF THE ZMDT

“Pan-African women working together to build a sustainable ecosystem to humanise our continent.”

PROGRAMMES OF THE ZMDT

ZMDT Supports the following programmes:



AfWID AFRICAN WOMAN IN DIALOGUE

AfWID is an inclusive platform of dialogue which seeks to unite African women from all walks of life under one roof to deliberate on issues of continental importance.



ZANELE MBEKI FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship is a year-long programme which seeks to cultivate a new generation of feminist leaders on the continent and to foster in them the knowledge, skills and attitude required to effect positive change for women in public and private spaces.



RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND PUBLICATIONS

This programme is committed to preserving, promoting, and widely disseminating research of historic and current issues affecting society, particularly in respect of topics that are relevant to the issue of African women development and gender justice.

GOVERNANCE

The Board of trustees of the ZMDT:

Zanele Mbeki	Founder & Chairperson
Futhi Mtoba	Trustee
Nana Magomola	Trustee
Mojanku Gumbi	Trustee
Sibongile Mkhabela	(Incoming Trustee)
Hope Chigudu	(Incoming Trustee)

Statutory Registrations:

Public Benefit Org. Reg. No.:	9300 54495
Non-Profit Org. Reg No.:	168-280
IT No.:	003652/2015 (G)
Income Tax Reg. No.:	3678/695/16/8

ABOUT THE AFRICAN WOMEN IN DIALOGUE (AfWID)

AfWID is an inclusive platform of dialogue which seeks to unite African women from all walks of life, with a bias towards women who live in under-resourced rural and urban areas, under one roof to deliberate on issues of continental importance, with its location in South Africa. This platform is not representative of any organisation or political opinion. Women speak in their own voices according to their own perspectives and personal experiences.

This pilgrimage gives voice to the perspectives and experiences of thousands of African women including; rural and urban women, politicians, public servants, women of various religious denominations, faith-based formations, academics, development practitioners, traditional leaders, business leaders, professionals from diverse fields and youth, to share opinions and exchange views, and review policies on themes crafted by national, continental and global agendas.

AfWID OBJECTIVES ARE TO:

- Contribute towards attaining a united voice of African women on continental issues
- Vitalise, inspire and broaden the vision of African women under a common development agenda
- Review continental strategies and programmes which are aimed at impacting African women
- Identify current and evolving systemic barriers, including practices and norms, which work against the implementation of the women's and development agenda
- Facilitate the review of undergirding systems, structures and practices, which hinder the advancement of the African women. This includes the review of policies, structures and programmes on a national and continental level
- Influence community, national and continental structures (public, private, civil society) and implementation strategies aimed at empowering African women
- Strengthen national, regional and continental networks of women organisations

MESSAGE OF SUPPORT
BY DR GERTRUDE MONGELLA



DR GERTRUDE MONGELLA

*Special Advisor to the
UNESCO Director General;
Founder of Advocacy for
Women in Africa (AWA);
Former President of the
Pan-African Parliament*

The theme, “Women’s Voice and Power as Agents of Change” is an opportunity for African women to reflect on the impending anniversaries of UNSCR 1325 and Beijing +25, using their voice and power to advocate for change.

BEIJING +25

We are celebrating 25 years since we left Beijing with the commitment to implement the Platform for Action and Declaration. In many nations, actions by both men and women, governments and NGOs have taken place towards the social, political and economic changes that were suggested then.

In short, the world is going through a societal revolution towards creating a developed, peaceful and equal environment for both men and women. We have seen women assuming high positions in institutions of decision-making in governments, companies, local and international organizations and villages.

Norms and rules in societies have changed towards improving the relationship between men and women. Women continue to be recognized and trusted as capable enforcers. As a result, women have gained confidence and all this is due to the powerful voices raised by women to recreate a new economic, social and political order that recognizes the rights and dignity of women as human beings. Institutions, ranging from government to non-governmental organizations, have been put in place to monitor the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and its Platform for Action.

AfWID is one of these organizations. It has committed its time and resources to bring together, from time to time, and under the leadership of Zanele Mbeki, women

of the African continent to discuss, reflect and energize themselves for further action.

The year 2020 is going to be a special year, when the world will act on its commitment to the unfinished work of the implementation for the advancement of women.

UNSC RESOLUTION 1325

Peace has always been one of the priority areas in women’s agenda conferences. The UNSCR 1325 re-echoed women’s concerns about peace and the need for women to participate in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Honestly, women’s contribution to peacebuilding in post-conflict areas has been huge. Examples include women’s contributions to peacebuilding in Burundi & Rwanda, the Mano River area, the DRC and in South Sudan. Those are but a few of the many examples where African women have contributed to peacebuilding.

Equality, development and peace have remained the major themes of the four world conferences on women organized by the United Nations, and held in Mexico, Copenhagen, Nairobi and Beijing. Article 1325 has therefore strengthened the voices of women by making the participation of women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding one of its main focus areas, mainly because women and girls tend to be the most affected during violent wars and conflicts.

The international community with its many conferences, now more than ever before, has paid attention to these issues. Global development goals such as the Millennial Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals have picked the women’s agenda to be the international agenda.

In conclusion, we owe AfWID a debt of gratitude for its unflinching efforts to mobilize and raise women’s voices for equality, development and peace.



Honestly, women’s contribution to peacebuilding in post-conflict areas has been huge.





Programme

BIRCHWOOD HOTEL,
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA
04 – 08 NOVEMBER 2019

African Women in Dialogue

“Women’s Voice and Power as Agents of Change”

SUNDAY, 03 NOVEMBER

Arrival & Registration

DAY ONE: MONDAY, 04 NOVEMBER

Time	Activity/Event	
06h00 – 08h30	Breakfast	
07h00 – 08h15	Participants Arrival & Registration	
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR/MODERATOR: Ms Lebogang Chaka, CEO of Afro Visionary Legacy (South Africa)		
08h30 – 08h45	Music Item AU Anthem & SA National Anthem	Wits Choir
08h45 – 09h00	Inter-Faith Devotion	Ms. Mu-Aalima Amyna Fakude (Muslim) Ms. Vela Maseko (Traditional)
09h00 – 09h30	Welcome Address Introduction to the AfWID Forum and its Objectives	Adv. Mojanku Gumbi, <i>Zanele Mbeki Development Trust Trustee</i>
09h30 – 09h40	Messages of Support	Dr. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, <i>Executive Director of UN Women</i> Ms. Editar Ochieng, <i>Feminist for Peace Rights and Justice Centre (Kenya)</i>
09h40 – 09h50	Music/Entertainment Item	Wits Choir
09h50 – 10h00	Introduction of Breaking Barriers	Ms. Bunie M Matlanyane Sexwale, <i>Co-founder of Lesaka La Basadi (South Africa)</i>
10h00 – 13h00	BREAKING BARRIERS: CONNECTING WITH SELF AND WITH OTHERS The purpose of this session is to give participants an opportunity to meet and connect with other participants on a personal basis. Through this session, we plan to strengthen our connection as diverse women from across the continent, united in our quest for a solid vision for Africa’s development and future. Facilitator: Various	
13h00 – 14h30	Lunch	
14h30 – 17h30	BREAKING BARRIERS: CONNECTING WITH SELF AND WITH OTHERS (cont.) <i>(Please return to your small groups)</i>	
18h00 – 20h30	Dinner & Free Time	

DAY TWO: TUESDAY, 05 NOVEMBER		
Time	Activity/Event	
06h00 – 07h00	Morning Meditation & Physical Exercises (<i>Optional</i>)	
06h00 – 08h15	Breakfast	
PROGRAM DIRECTOR/MODERATOR: Ms. Farida Yahya, CEO Lumo Naturals (Nigeria)		
08h30 – 11h30	BREAKING BARRIERS: CONNECTING WITH SELF AND WITH OTHERS (cont) <i>(Please return to your small groups)</i> Facilitator: Various	
12h00 – 12h15	WRAP-UP: BREAKING BARRIERS & CONNECTING SESSION Ms. Bunie M Matlanyane Sexwale, <i>Co-founder of Lesaka La Basadi (South Africa)</i>	
12h15 – 13h00	MEDITATION WITH BRAHMA KUMARIS The Barrier Breaking Session will conclude with a guided meditation facilitated by Brahma Kumaris. Sister Fatima Dike and Dipty Naran	
13h00 – 14h30	Lunch	
14h30 – 14h45	OPEN MIKE SESSION: Reflection on previous day's programme	All
14h45 – 15h45	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION THEME: "WOMEN'S VOICE & POWER AS AGENTS OF CHANGE"</p> <p>Since time immemorial, through their activism and resistance, African women have been and continue to be a beacon of hope for the Continent. This panel seeks to celebrate the voice and power of African women. It will unpack, probe and reflect on how women's voices and agency have enabled change, provided solutions and advanced women's resistance and activism. Panellists and participants alike will share their personal stories and experiences of how they found their voice, reflect on lessons learnt as change agents, as well as share their dreams and hopes for the Continent.</p> <p>PANELISTS</p> <p>Opening Comments via video: Ms. Winnie Byanyima, <i>Executive Director UNAIDS (Uganda)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Kasha Nabagesera, Founder of Freedom & Roam Uganda (<i>Uganda</i>) Ms. Fadumo Dayib, Founder of Move Somalia Forward (<i>Somalia</i>) Ms. Tsitsi Masiyiwa, Founder & Co-chairperson of the Higher Life Foundation (<i>Zimbabwe</i>) Hon. Cicilia Saayioi Wuapari, Minister of Education, Youth and Gender, Culture and Social Services, Narok County (<i>Kenya</i>) 	
15h45 – 17h00	OPEN MIKE SESSION: Plenary Discussion and Q & A	ALL
17h00 – 17h10	Closing Devotion: Led by West Africa	
18h00 – 20h30	Dinner – Movie Night & Free Time MOVIE: <i>Where Do We Go Now?</i>	

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER		
Time	Activity/Event	
06h00 – 07h00	Morning Meditation & Physical Exercises (Optional)	
06h00 – 08h30	Breakfast	
PROGRAM DIRECTOR/MODERATOR: Ms. Diakhoumba Gassama, Regional Activism and Youth Coordinator for Africa at Amnesty International (Senegal)		
09h00 – 09h05	Morning Devotion: Led by Central Africa	
09h05 – 09h30	OPEN MIKE SESSION: Reflection on previous day's programme	
09h30 – 11h30	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION THEME: "WOMEN, PEACE & SECURITY"</p> <p>Wars and conflicts continue to reign large in Africa and remain the biggest barrier to development on the Continent. As has been globally recognised, women and children bear the biggest brunt of these conflicts. In recognition of women's role as peace activists and champions, this panel will explore the meaning of peace and security at all levels of society including personal spaces, domestic spaces, communities and at national level. The discussions will also focus on strategies to prevent violent conflict, and maintain peace and stability post conflict.</p>	
(20minutes)	DOCUMENTARY: WOMEN, PEACE & POWER This documentary, by Peace is Loud, follows the stories of female activists, politicians, and ordinary citizens in Afghanistan, Liberia, and Northern Ireland as they try to influence peace talks against all odds.	
(1h30 hours)	<p>PANELISTS</p> <p>Opening Comments: Prof. Cheryl Hendricks, <i>Executive Director of the African Institute of South Africa (South Africa)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amb. Liberata Mulamula, Associate Director and Visiting Scholar, Elliot School of International Affairs, Institute for African Studies, George Washington University (<i>Tanzania</i>) Sister Pratiba Daya, Senior Yogi of the Brahma Kumaris (<i>South Africa</i>) Ms. Avril Andrews Founder of Alcardo Andrews Foundation: Mom's Move for Justice (<i>South Africa</i>) Dr Obiageli (Oby) Ezekwesili, Public Policy Analyst / Senior Economic Advisor, AEDPI and Co-Founder of #BringBackOurGirls Movement (<i>Nigeria</i>) Alaa Salah – Sudanese Student and anti-government protester (<i>Sudan</i>) 	
11h30 – 12h25	OPEN MIKE SESSION: Plenary Discussion and Q & A	All
12h25 – 12h30	ANNOUNCEMENTS: Guide to Side Events	
12h30 – 14h00	Lunch	

DAY THREE: WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER (CONTINUED)	
14h00 – 17h00	AfWID SIDE EVENTS SESSION 1 Please consult the side event schedule for more information and select which side event you wish to attend.
Introduction to the African Women Leadership Network (AWLN) <i>Curated by: AWLN in partnership with UN Women</i>	Launch of the SADC Gender Barometer <i>Curated by: Gender Links</i>
African Feminism as a Tool for Social Change <i>Curated by: Kibera Feminists for Peace Rights and Justice Centre</i>	The 4th Industrial Revolution and the Job Apocalypse. How do I remain relevant? <i>Curated by: Rachel Sibande</i>
Rehumanizing the African woman taking her rightful place in society <i>Curated by: Dr Judy Dlamini</i>	Coding Workshop <i>Curated by: University of Johannesburg</i>
Womanomics Africa Masterclass <i>Curated by: Womanomics</i>	Mitigation & Adaptation and Resilience in Climate Change Documentary: Plastic Ocean
UN Security Council Resolution 1325 Review <i>Curated by: FEMWISE Africa</i>	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Documentary: Jaha's Promise (Gambia)
18h00 – 20h00	WORKING DINNER REGIONAL MEETINGS Regional meetings will provide participants an opportunity to discuss poignant issues from their region as well as build cross-border ties and networks. Participants are encouraged to choose which ever region resonates with them the most.

DAY FOUR: THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER	
Time	Activity/Event
06h00 – 07h00	Morning Meditation & Physical Exercises (Optional)
06h00 – 08h30	Breakfast
09h00 – 12h00	AfWID SIDE EVENTS SESSION 2 Please consult the side event schedule and select which side event you wish to attend.
Beijing +25 Review <i>Curated by: FEMNET</i>	Women & Land Rights <i>Curated by: Doo Aphane</i>
African Futurism <i>Curated by: Aimée Gratia Ilibagiza Mutabazi</i>	Resilience: find peace of mind and build inner power <i>Curated by: Brahma Kumaris</i>
The Struggle of Upholding LBTQI+ Rights in Africa <i>Curated by: Coalition of African Lesbian (CAL)</i>	Music as an element of peace and social cohesion Documentary: Yalla Khartoum (Sudan)
Cyber Security Training Workshop <i>Curated by: CISCO</i>	Microfinance and development models: a holistic approach <i>Curated by: WDB Trust</i>
Dialogue as Tool for Mediation & Peace Keeping <i>Curated by: ACCORD</i>	African Indigenous Knowledge <i>Curated by: The University of Johannesburg</i>

DAY FOUR: THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER (CONTINUED)	
Time	Activity/Event
12h00 – 13h30	Lunch
13h30 – 16h30	AfWID SIDE EVENTS SESSION 3 Please consult the side event schedule and select which side event you wish to attend.
Voice Out <i>Curated by: Sara Chair</i>	Sexual Harassment in the Workplace <i>Curated by: Oxfam South Africa</i>
Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Workshop <i>Curated by: PinkDrive</i>	Women's Solidarity through entrepreneurship <i>Curated by: African Women Innovation & Entrepreneurship Forum (AWIEF)</i>
Self Care: Mind, Body, Spirit <i>Curated by: TBC</i>	Cyber Security Training Workshop <i>Curated by: CISCO</i>
Understanding Female Leadership Styles in Conflict Resolution & Management: Lessons Learnt from Central Africa <i>Curated by: Women for Change Cameroon (Wfac)</i>	Gender Based Violence (GBV) <i>Curated by: #Total Shut Down</i>
Enhancing Financial Capacity for a Secure future <i>Curated by: Gloria Kono of Zenith Bank Ghana</i>	Women Writing in Africa <i>Curated by: Asinakuthula Collective</i>
18H00 – 22H00	CELEBRATORY DINNER

*Devotions to be led by East Africa at the Celebratory Dinner

DAY FIVE: FRIDAY, 08 NOVEMBER	
Time	Activity/Event
06h00 – 07h00	Morning Meditation & Physical Exercises (Optional)
06h00 – 09h00	Breakfast & Hotel Check out
PROGRAM DIRECTOR/MODERATOR: Ms. Saida Ali (Kenya) & Maimouna Kabran (Cote d'Ivoire), AfWID Regional Coordinators	
09h30–09h40	Morning Devotion: Led by North Africa
09h40 – 10h00	Open mike session: Reflection of the week
10h00 – 11h00	Messages from Regions
11h00 – 11h20	Closing Address Ms. Hager Alsharif, Together We Build It (Libya)
11h20 – 11h50	Next Steps & Vote of Thanks Ms. Linda Vilakazi & Ms. Naledi Maite, AfWID Secretariat
11h50 – 12h30	Closing Devotion & Moment of Silence: led by Southern African
12h30 – 14h00	Lunch & Departure





Side Events

WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2019, 14H00 – 17H00

No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
1	Introduction to the African Women Leadership Network (AWLN)	UN WOMEN & AWLN which is a dynamic and intergenerational movement of African women with the vision to build and drive the transformation of Africa through six key initiatives to be implemented in peace and security, governance, finance, young women's leadership, agriculture and social mobilization.	Women Leadership in political areas and broader leadership. Peace and Security and Political Power are some of the key focus areas of AWLN. This event will provide an idea of what the AWLN is and how it has been implemented in some African Countries.	Cedarwood at the Atrium Centre
2	African Feminism as a Tool for Social Change	KIBERA FEMINISTS FOR PEACE RIGHTS AND JUSTICE CENTRE seeks to empower young girls in Kibera slums of Niarobi, Kenya by providing safe spaces for them. They have a community library and a rescue centre for Sexual and Gender Based violence cases. They also conduct community outreach programmes to educate the People of Kibera Slums.	Showcases how feminist work can translate into real impact on the daily lives of women and others, drawing on the experience and work of the FPRJC in Kibera, Nairobi.	Auditorium at the International Centre
3	Rehumanizing the African woman taking her rightful place in society	DR JUDY DLAMINI is the Executive Chairperson of the Mbekani Group. She is a qualified medical doctor, accomplished businesswoman with an MBA and PhD in business leadership. She is the author of the celebrated book "Equal but Different" and is the recipient of multiple accolades and awards, including the African Economy Builder Lifetime Achievement Award.	A deep reflection on how colonial and apartheid dehumanization of an African lingers in our minds and women and children carry the brunt of self-hate learnt from the violent system of Apartheid. What will it take to heal the mind and the soul of an African? How do we regain our Humanity?	OR Tambo Centre (Plenary Room)

WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2019, 14H00 – 17H00				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
4	Womanomics Africa Masterclass	Womanomics Africa is platform for business women and stakeholders to unpack how women can participate more meaningfully and effectively in African economies.	Practical conversations with women in business and key stakeholders, to unpack and facilitate, how women can participate more meaningfully, significantly and effectively in African economies through the promotion of intra-Africa trade and investment by and with women.	Cypress at the Atrium Centre
5	UN Security Council Resolution 1325 Review	Established by the African Union (AU) Assembly of Heads of State and Government FEMWISE is the Network of African Women Mediators. It's aim is to strengthen the role of women in conflict prevention and mediation.	FEMWISE will provide practical information about Res. 1325 and how the training of women mediators is critical to attain sustainable peace in the different regions. They will further explain the institutional make-up of FEMWISE and how the delegates can get involved.	Yellowwood at the Atrium Centre
6	Launch of the SADC Gender Barometer	GENDER LINKS (GL) is a leading Southern African Women's Rights Organisation whose work has been widely acclaimed across the continent. GL is headquartered in Johannesburg, South Africa, with offices in ten Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries.	This side event will focus on the 2019 #VoiceandChoice Barometer. The side event will create an opportunity for the presentation of the findings of the 2019 #VoiceandChoice Barometer, and provide an opportunity for selected representatives from the SADC Alliance and partners to share their country experiences on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) laws, policies, programmes and campaigns in relation to the Barometer results.	Arcadia 1 at the Le Grande Centre
7	The 4th Industrial Revolution and the Job Apocalypse. How do I remain relevant?	RACHEL SIBANDE is a Malawian technology expert, computer scientist, STEM educator, social entrepreneur and innovator. She is the Founder and Director of Malawi's First innovation Hub and incubator for emerging start-ups, entrepreneurs and innovators, mHub. She is an entrepreneur in the technology and energy space. Apart from the Hub, Rachel is Chairperson at Girl Effect Malawi and Board member at GiveDirectly Malawi.	In a world where digital automation is cutting across all sectors at an exponential rate; human jobs are at risk. Researchers estimate that over 47% of jobs will be automated by 2034. We have recently seen companies trim their human staff component in high volumes, opting for the precision and quality that comes with automation. Digital futurists predict that automation will cut across even the more traditional fields previously considered to be less likely to be automated, such as law, catering, construction and medicine, to mention just a few.	King Shaka at the Domestic Centre

WEDNESDAY, 06 NOVEMBER 2019, 14H00 – 17H00				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
7	The 4th Industrial Revolution and the Job Apocalypse. How do I remain relevant? (Continued)		However, it has also been established that not all human jobs can be wiped out. There are human traits and evergreen skills such as empathy, negotiation and intuition that automation may not offer. How do we remain relevant in a world where automation is fast replacing human jobs?	
8	Coding Workshop	The UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG is a public university located in Johannesburg, South Africa.	A practical demonstration of how abstract thinking can be applied to obtain different functionalities on mobile phones, computers and smart appliances, and of how coding is done and how can that be useful to improve the lives of women on the continent, making it easier for them to go about their daily lives.	Arcadia 2 at the Le Grande Centre
9	Mitigation & Adaptation and Resilience in Climate Change Documentary: Plastic Ocean	There will be a facilitated discussion after the documentary. Facilitator: TBC	Plastic and pollution have a negative impact on how we live our lives. Delegates will learn about daily things that have a short, medium and long term effect on the health of our oceans and water bodies and how that impacts poverty and livelihoods in cities and villages .	Arcadia 3 at the Le Grande Centre
10	Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Documentary: Jaha's Promise (Gambia)	There will be a facilitated discussion after the documentary. Facilitator: TBC	When Jaha Dukureh was a baby when she was subjected to female genital mutilation; when she was 15 she was taken to New York to marry a 45 year-old man she'd never met before. A decade later Jaha has returned to her native Gambia in west Africa demanding that her own family and society end the practices that almost ruined her life. Full of the raw drama of personal, family, religious and political conflict, "Jaha's Promise" is an extraordinary narrative of individual and social change.	Silverwood at the Le Grande Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 09H00 – 12H00				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
1	Beijing +25 Review	FEMNET , also called the African Women's Development and Communication Network, is an organization established in 1988 to promote women's development in Africa. FEMNET helps non-government organizations share information and approaches on women's development, equality and other human rights.	A Review rooted in deep Pan-African feminist principles and spiced with the story on how we can collectively rekindle the Beijing fire as we gear up for the worldwide review of the 25th year anniversary of the Beijing Platform of Action.	OR Tambo Centre <i>(Plenary Room)</i>
2	African Futurism Film: Afronauts (Ghana)	AIMÉE GRATIA ILIBAGIZA MUTABAZI is a young feminist who is passionate about African Futurism. She is a Master of Arts candidate in Anthropology at Wits University and her academic interests include identity reconstruction amongst Rwandan refugees who live and have grown up in exile. Gratia is part of the first cohort of the Zanele Mbeki Fellow, which an African feminist leadership programme.	Afronauts and African Futurism from a Pan-African youth perspective. <i>*Film made available curtesy of MUICA- Otro Sur (Muestra Itinerante de Cine Africano – Itinerant Sample of African Films)</i>	Auditorium at the International Centre
3	The Struggle of Upholding LBTQI+ Rights in Africa	THE COALITION OF AFRICAN LESBIANS (CAL) is a feminist, activist and pan Africanist network of 14 organisations in 10 countries in sub-Saharan Africa committed to advancing freedom, justice and bodily autonomy for all women on the African continent and beyond. They are committed to raising consciousness amongst and strengthening activism and leadership of lesbian women on sexuality and gender and its intersections with a wide range of lived realities.	A description and showcase of the activism strategies implemented by the coalition of African Lesbians across the continent. Some of their testimonies and coping strategies will be shared with the delegates.	Cedarwood at the Atrium Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 09H00 – 12H00				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
4	Cyber Security Training Workshop	CISCO is the worldwide leader in IT and networking. We help companies of all sizes transform how people connect, communicate, and collaborate.	Information and data are valuable resources for identification and transactional purposes. Identity and data theft can have devastating effects for an individual's life. In this session delegates will learn skills to protect their identity and have a secure virtual footprint.	King Shaka at the Domestic Centre
5	Dialogue as Tool for Mediation & Peace Keeping	THE AFRICAN CENTRE FOR THE CONSTRUCTIVE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES (ACCORD) is a civil society organisation working throughout Africa to bring creative African solutions to the challenges posed by conflict on the continent. It's primary aim is to influence political developments by bringing conflict resolution, dialogue and institutional development to the forefront as an alternative to armed violence and protracted conflict.	A practical demonstration of dialogue as a tool for peace keeping and dispute resolutions in both urban and rural areas will be provided with a panoramic view which includes armed and non-armed conflict situations.	Yellowwood at the Atrium Centre
6	Women & Land Rights	DOO APHANE is the founder of the Women for Women Development Consultancy. She is a Swazi lawyer and women's rights campaigner. She has worked with many human and women's rights organisations and in 2012 she was successful in changing Swaziland's law to allow married women to hold property in their own name.	Land rights are at the crux of liberation and equality in African countries as they ensure wealth creation, retention and generational transmission. An expert advice on how to navigate the Land Rights landscape in the continent and enable delegates to be informed about the existing modalities of tenure and legal protection.	Arcadia 1 at the Le Grande Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 09H00 – 12H00

No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
7	Resilience: find peace of mind and build inner power	BRAHMA KUMARIS is a worldwide spiritual movement dedicated to personal transformation and world renewal. Founded in India in 1937, Brahma Kumaris has spread to over 110 countries on all continents and has had an extensive impact in many sectors as an international NGO. However, their real commitment is to helping individuals transform their perspective of the world from material to spiritual. It supports the cultivation of a deep collective consciousness of peace and of the individual dignity of each soul.	Stress, emotional burnout and frustration are some of the challenges we face in our everyday lives. Through the tools of reflection and meditation you can learn how to become more self-aware, create practices that help you calm the mind and build inner strength. This session will be an interactive process of helping you to understand and experience the power of your own mind and heart.	Cypress at the Atrium Centre
8	Music as an element of peace and social cohesion Documentary: Yalla Khartoum (Sudan)	There will be a facilitated discussion after the documentary. Facilitator: TBC <i>*Documentary is made available courtesy of MUICA-Otro Sur (Muestra Itinerante de Cine Africano – Itinerant Sample of African Films)</i>	In Sudan, music is a central part of daily life. At the same time young musicians struggle to find society's support in pursuing their passion the way they want. One organization called "Yalla Khartoum" strives to counteract this challenge by creating safe spaces for young artists to experiment in. This short documentary was shot during one of their workshops.	Arcadia 2 at the Le Grande Centre
9	Microfinance and related development models: a holistic approach	WDB TRUST is an NGO based in South Africa which provides developmental micro finance. It links poor rural communities to developmental resources in their areas in order to assist them to graduate from poverty. It empowers communities in its areas of operation by providing developmental training and ICT training.	Poverty eradication has many dimensions, but three key areas are access to capital, training and social services. When these are provided as a battery of services, the measurable impact is evident. The WDB Programme Trusts shall present the dynamics and challenges of integrating these three dimensions and their achievements in their attempt to eradicate poverty in their influence areas.	Arcadia 3 at the Le Grande Centre
10	African Indigenous Knowledge	The UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG is a public university located in Johannesburg, South Africa.	Intellectual property protection for indigenous knowledge. Probing the knowledge of delegates on indigenous subjects (medicine, oral traditions, history and social configurations)	Silverwood at the Le Grande Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 13H30 – 16H30

No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
1	Voice Out	SARA CHAIR is a social activist from Morocco, who describes herself as a peace builder. She is a Yala citizen journalist, a community service addict, youth trainer and a poet. She is captivated by the human interaction and fascinated by culture and its influence on individuals' behaviours and actions.	I have a voice, but, do I always use it? When I do, am I always heard? We all have ideas and thoughts that shape our personalities and make us who we are. Nonetheless, most of the time we don't dare to verbalise our inner voice. "Voice out" is a workshop where people of all ages are invited to express themselves openly and freely about a given topic that they randomly pick. It is a welcoming space where all voices are heard because each and every one of them matters.	Cypress at the Atrium Centre
2	Sexual & Reproductive Health Awareness Workshop	PINKDRIVE , is a health sector NGO, which was founded on the premise that "Early detection will help prolong a life." PinkDrive's cardinal purpose is to contribute meaningfully towards preventing as many people as it can, from succumbing to breast, cervical, prostate and testicular cancer. It's primary focus is on citizens without access to reasonable care for these conditions, and who reside in areas where health services do not reach.	Breast and Cervical cancer cause hundreds of deaths among African women. Learning how to detect early signs of these types of cancer can be vital for timely treatment which can be life-saving. Delegates will learn to self-examine and acquire other prevention tools.	Auditorium at the International Centre
3	Self-Care: Mind, Body, Spirit Curated by: TBC		As within, so without. This session will invite the delegates to reflect on these three dimensions, to learn how to care for them and to understand how they project in the outside world. The session will invite delegates to integrate them and have a holistic approach to their self, procuring adequate care and sufficient self awareness, with the aim of experiencing a more centered existence and an improved quality of life.	Cedarwood at the Atrium Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 13H30 – 16H30				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
4	Understanding Female Leadership Styles in Conflict Resolution & Management: Lessons Learnt from Central Africa	WOMEN FOR CHANGE CAMEROON (WFAC) is a feminist advocacy and awareness-raising organization working with and for women and girls sexual and reproductive health, leadership and development.	By addressing Gender Based Violence on Women and Girls through advocacy, public campaigns, awareness raising and capacity building programs, we connect, support and empower women to claim their SRHR, building their personal leadership, as well as gain self confidence and enable them to find the voice to speak out on VAWg (Violence Against Women and Girls).	OR Tambo Centre (Plenary Room)
5	Enhancing Financial Capacity for a Secure future	GLORIA KONO is a Trade Officer at Zenith Bank Ghana and is passionate about women's financial independence.	Women in Africa need to take advantage and know how to recognize safe financial institutions to save, invest and take credit from them. This event will provide women with the tools to identify safe from unsafe financial institutions and leave them with a checklist of savvy financial practices to increase their wealth.	Yellowwood at the Atrium Centre
6	Sexual Harassment in the Workplace	OXFAM is an international confederation of autonomous and interdependent organisations working together with partners and local communities in more than 90 countries. Oxfam is part of a global movement for change, empowering people to create a future that is secure, just, and free from poverty. Oxfam South Africa contributes to lasting solutions to the injustice of poverty. It mobilise the power of people to claim their rights and participate fully in shaping decisions, policies and processes that affect their lives and hold power to account, challenging systems which perpetuate poverty and inequality.	The results of the Oxfam research on sexual harassment in the workplace shall be presented along with the recommendations and the strategies for women to know and defend their rights and integrity while at work.	Arcadia 1 at the Le Grande Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 13H30 – 16H30				
No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
7	Women's Solidarity through entrepreneurship	AFRICAN WOMEN INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM (AWIEF) is a pan-African women economic empowerment organisation which nurtures and actively promotes women innovation and entrepreneurship through its development programmes, accelerators, and networking events, including the annual AWIEF conference, exhibition and awards. AWIEF's mission is to foster the economic inclusion, advancement and empowerment of women in Africa through entrepreneurship support and development.	The event will be about women entrepreneurship, broadly. AWIEF will be briefly introduced, the need for the economic empowerment of the African woman, especially at the grassroots level; and their entrepreneurship support programmes. A successful woman entrepreneur will be invited to share her entrepreneurial story. To conclude they will run a practical workshop for the participants to interact and discuss a relevant topic on entrepreneurship.	Arcadia 2 at the Le Grande Centre
8	Cyber Security Training Workshop	CISCO is the worldwide leader in IT and networking. We help companies of all sizes transform how people connect, communicate, and collaborate.	Information and data are valuable resources for identification and transactional purposes. Identity and data theft can have devastating effects for an individual's life. In this session delegates will learn skills to protect their identity and have a secure virtual footprint.	King Shaka at the Domestic Centre
9	Gender Based Violence (GBV)	#TOTALSHUTDOWN is an intersectional womxn's movement against gender-based violence in South Africa. 1 August 2018, womxn from across South Africa took to the streets to protest against GBV and demand for greater accountability from the government. The womxn marched under the banner of #TotalShutDown with the intention to bring the whole country's focus on the issue.	Gender based violence is one of the most pervasive and negative practices in African societies. Women are often re-victimized, gaslighted and poorly supported. Instead of placing the onus on the individuals, it is time that GBV is considered at a large scale so that the microaggressions that lead to incidents of gender based violence and which are entrenched in daily practices are detected and transformed both in men and women.	Arcadia 3 at the Le Grande Centre

THURSDAY, 07 NOVEMBER 2019, 13H30 – 16H30

No	Topic	Curator	Description	Venue
10	Women Writing in Africa	The ASINAKUTHULA COLLECTIVE is a group of teachers and researchers interested in uncovering the hidden histories of African women and finding creative ways of engaging young people in meaningful discussions about the past. Asinakuthula, meaning we cannot keep quiet, comes from a line in a poem of one of South Africa's unknown women literally treasures, Nontsizi Mqwetho's: <i>Asinakuthula umhlaba ubolile: We cannot keep quiet when the world is in shambles.</i>	A fascinating review of African literature written by women, a historical re-discovery of our literary ancestors, their work, their stories and the importance of revisiting history, reclaiming their Pan-African legacy and honouring their memories.	Silverwood at the Le Grande Centre



Speaker Profiles



LEBOGANG CHAKA

Lebogang founded a company called **Afro Visionary Legacy**, a boutique strategic advisory firm. She has experience as a strategic advisor having worked for top-tier consulting firms such as **Accenture, Deloitte and KPMG**.

Her career has seen her travel to 19 African countries, Australia, UK, Dubai and USA. She currently serves on the advisory board of the African Women in Energy and Power.

She holds a Master of International Business awarded with distinction and a Bachelor of Business and Commerce from Monash University, Australia. She studied African Studies to understand the needs of the Continent. As a speaker, she has shared stages with, Vice President, H.E. Jewel Taylor; Former Vice President, H.E. Joice Mujuru; Former President, H.E. Mkapa; Former President, H.E. Marzouki; Former President, H.E. Mbeki and Former President, H.E. Mohamud. She represented the Africa region during the Football for Peace event with HRH Prince of Prince William, Duke of Cambridge.



ADV. MOJANKU GUMBI

Advocate Gumbi is a human rights lawyer, who has worked as both an **Attorney and Advocate** and has over **30 years of experience** in private practice, public policy development and African conflict resolution.

She holds Law degrees from the University of Limpopo (former University of the North) and the University of Witswatersrand, as well as a certificate in Trial Advocacy from the University of Texas in Austin.

Advocate Gumbi acted as the Head of the Adjudication Secretariat of the Independent Electoral Commission during South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994.

She was the Special Advisor to South African President Thabo Mbeki from 1999 to 2008. From 1994 to 1999, she was an Advisor to the then Deputy President Mbeki in the Mandela administration. During this time, she spearheaded South Africa's economic diplomacy, ensuring a global presence for South African companies, as well as peace-making initiatives in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Sudan, Lesotho, Somalia, the Balkans and the Middle East. At the same time, she also provided advice to the Presidential Office on domestic policy issues including the reform of the local healthcare industry, the expansion of South African telecoms operators to the rest of Africa and the world, banking and mining sector reforms.



PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA

The United Nations (UN) Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka was the first woman to hold the position of Deputy President of South Africa and the first president of the Natal Organization of Women (NOW).

She holds a bachelor's degree in social science, a masters degree in Philosophy and a PhD in Mobile Technology.

A former youth director for the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) Board in Geneva, consultant at Phumelela Services, board member of the Women's Development Foundation and Deputy Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry.

She also founded the Umlambo Foundation that supports over 30 schools across South Africa, contributing to the professional development of school heads and empowering them to elevate learners from the cycle of poverty.



EDITAR OCHIENG

MP candidate for the community of Kibera in Nairobi, she has volunteered at the Young Health Programme, and served as the founding director of the Feminist Centre For Peace Rights and Justice in Kibera. She holds a diploma of Social Work from MOI University.

Editar is passionate about empowering young people and working to eradicate sex and gender based violence. She works to educate people on sexual health and reproductive rights as well as general health through a variety of mediums, including door-to-door visits, youth forums, community dialogue days, magnet theatre and school outreach programs.

As part of her work, Editar has formed the Kibera Young Women's Network as a forum through which young women and girls can have open conversations about their health concerns. She also uses radio and social media to facilitate youth engagement.



BUNIE M MATLANYANE SEXWALE

Bunie's vision is to be a facilitator for access to healing and transformation for women who experience violence. As part of this she created and co-founded Lesaka La Basadi, a solidarity circle of women consciously healing and transforming self, communities and the planet.

It is a body, mind, emotion and inner-self exploration space where women convene with the aim to reclaim, rebuild, maintain, and take control of own lives – own being. Laughing, dancing and pedestrian arts anchor her love.

Whatever traces of sassiness in her feminisms have been brewed in a myriad sojourns traversing countries and continents, and garnered over decades of trial and error, learning and teaching, training, facilitation, research, and activism. She dared to be among the women and men, doves and vultures who endeavoured to liberate a people – and nearly lost herself in the process. Choice sometimes a question of blind stubbornness. She braved the weather to mother two daughters in exile, the levels of success of which depends on who you're talking to.

Bunie is a lifelong learner.



FARIDA YAHYA

Farida Yahya is the Founder and CEO of Lumo Naturals, an Abuja-based natural haircare solutions brand that provides a combination of natural products, techniques, artistic styles and education about African hair and the importance of healthy and natural hair to naturalistas.

She is also the founder of The Brief Academy, a learning hub dedicated to developing and supporting female-owned startups to achieve wealth and scalability via training in Strategic Planning, Networking, Financial Management, Sales & Marketing, Business Collaborations, Team Building, Branding, E-commerce Implementations as well as Operational Efficiency.

In 2015, Farida was selected as one of 10 youth leaders to meet (the then) UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon to discuss development, climate change and the role of the youth in promoting the Sustainable Development Goals and increasing momentum and ownership in Nigeria.

She is a career mentor for the SOS (Skills Outside School) Foundation, and the "I am Nigeria" initiative- where she mentors over 200 young girls on career choices, skills acquisition, and financial literacy using creative writing, workshops, and peer education.

Farida was a recipient of The HOD's Prize for second best research of 2010 (University of Maiduguri). Her thesis on eucalyptus paved the way for using the plant as a biotechnological resource and how it can be harnessed as a



WINNIE BYANYIMA

Winnie is the incoming Executive Director of UNAIDS and the former Executive Director of Oxfam International. She is a leader on women's rights, democratic governance and peace building. She served eleven years in the Ugandan Parliament, and has served at the African Union Commission and as Director of Gender and Development at the United Nations Development Program.

She co-founded the 60-member Global Gender and Climate Alliance of civil society, bilateral and multilateral organizations, and chaired a UN task force on gender aspects of the Millennium Development Goals, and on climate change. Born in Uganda, Ms. Byanyima was elected for three terms and served eleven years in the Ugandan Parliament. She led Uganda's first parliamentary women's caucus, championing ground-breaking gender equality provisions in the country's 1995 post-conflict constitution. A world recognized expert on women's rights, she founded the still-thriving civil society organization Forum for Women in Democracy (FOWODE). She has served at the African Union Commission and as Director of Gender and Development at the United Nations Development Program.

Ms. Byanyima is a signatory to her country's 1985 peace agreement and has helped to broker and support women's participation in peace processes in Rwanda, South Africa, Burundi, Sudan and other countries emerging from conflict.

She has served on numerous global boards and commissions including the African Capacity Building Foundation and the International Centre for Research on Women.

She holds a M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering, Energy Conservation and the Environment (University of Cranfield), and a B.Sc. in Aeronautical Engineering (University of Manchester).



KASHA NABAGESERA

Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera was born in 1980 and studied to become an accountant. Having openly lived as a lesbian all her life, she was nearly expelled from university in 2002 for her sexual identity.

This incident motivated her to become a human rights activist, and after taking courses in human rights law and interning with a South African LGBTI organisation, Nabagesera founded the NGO Freedom and Roam Uganda (FARUG) in 2003. FARUG advocates and lobbies for policy change of discriminatory laws, researches and documents human rights abuses, shares information to sensitise the LGBTI community and the entire population about issues of sexual orientation and gender identity, and engages in grassroots organising to empower and mobilise the LGBTI community to assert their rights and lead healthy lives. After 10 years of leadership, Nabagesera stepped down as Executive Director of FARUG in 2013, focusing her efforts on community building and advocacy.

Despite being arrested, attacked and subjected to harassment, Nabagesera persists with her advocacy. As a result of harsh reprisals, most Ugandan LGBTI activists have been killed or have fled, leaving Nabagesera as one of very few prominent members of the Ugandan LGBTI movement still living in the country. Nabagesera was responsible for developing a 'security team' that is able to respond rapidly to human rights abuses and the arbitrary arrests of LGBTI persons, and provide legal support and solidarity to victims.



FADUMO DAYIB

Fadumo's story of determination, courage and triumph in the face of adversity has inspired thousands. As a teenager with less than 5 years of primary and secondary school education, Fadumo persuaded her way onto one of the last planes leaving Mogadishu, Somalia, when civil war erupted in the early 90's.

Fadumo has been instigating social change and cultivating the skills to turn her vision for Somalia, and more broadly Africa, into action for decades. She is an International Development professional with over 16 years' experience delivering programmes that have resulted in providing public health services, gender equality, and widening of access to economic opportunities and sustainable livelihood for young women and men in Africa, Europe and Asia Pacific. Professional experience includes serving as UN Women's Country Director for Somalia; Executive Advisor to the Barona Group - Finland; UNICEF Program Specialist in Liberia, Fiji, Kenya and Somalia.

In September 2014, she declared her ambitions to run for the Presidency of Somalia in the country's first democratically-held election since 1967. While she calls herself a dreamer, history has shown that important political and social change often begins with a dream and a vision for change. The path she



TSITSI MASIYIWA

Tsitsi Masiyiwa is a philanthropist and social entrepreneur devoted to empowering young people in Africa with education opportunities and access to technology.

During the last twenty years, the Higherlife Foundation, founded by Masiyiwa and her husband, Strive Masiyiwa, has directly and indirectly supported the education of more than 250,000 vulnerable and highly talented students in Zimbabwe, Burundi and Lesotho.

Driven by her passion for technology and innovation, Masiyiwa developed an online smart learning platform, Ruzivo Digital Learning, which provides rich learning opportunities for students. Ruzivo delivers high quality primary and secondary school content that is aligned to national curricula. Every month, thousands of students access the Ruzivo platform in information and communications technology (ICT) equipped learning hubs that the Higherlife Foundation has established across the country.

To meet the skill needs of out-of-school youth, Masiyiwa also co-founded the Muzinda Hub in Zimbabwe, which leverages technology to develop digital skills, provide mentorship on business and secure jobs for its trainees.

In 2016, Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, honored Masiyiwa with a doctorate degree of Humane Letters in recognition for the tremendous opportunities she continues to provide to both vulnerable and talented African children. She sits on the boards of PATH and END Fund, is a founding member of the African Philanthropy Forum, and together with her husband, is a member of the Giving Pledge.



CICILIA SAAYIOI WUAPARI

Cicilia is the Minister of Education, Youth, Gender and Social Services in Kenya a position she was appointed to in 2017. She is a trained teacher and holds a Masters Degree in Education.

She had a humble Maa upbringing and witnessed discriminatory practices towards girls as she grew up. This factor has influenced her passion and commitment to address Gender Based Violence and is passionate about the education of girls and ending child marriage among the Maasai community.



DIAKHOUMBA GASSAMA

Diakhoumba is an anti-FGM feminist human rights defender, a survivor of this violation herself, who has actively engaged in spaces like the Council of Senegalese Women, the African Feminist Forum, AWID, FEMNET and the Research and Support Center for Development Alternatives.

Current Regional Activism and Youth Coordinator for Africa at Amnesty International, she is the outgoing Vicepresident of the Reseau National des Jeunes Femmes Leaders du Senegal and has more than 15 years of experience working for intergovernmental organizations in Africa, Europe, New York and Asia and the Pacific including the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the African Union Commission, UNIFEM/UNWomen and UNDP. She has been following closely and participating in inter-governmental processes around sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), human rights, gender equality, inclusive democratic governance and sustainable development (such as ICPD+, Beijing+, Rio+20, MDGs, post 2015, SDGs).

Diakhoumba holds an LLM in International and Human Rights Law from the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town, South Africa and a LLB (Maitrise) in International and European Law from the University of Aix-Marseille III in Aix-en-Provence, France. A passionate panafropolitan feminist, war resister and human rights defender, she is fluent in French, English and Spanish. She is a national of Senegal who loves the planet, children and laughing.



PROFESSOR CHERYL HENDRICKS

Cheryl Hendricks is the Executive Director of the Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA) at the Human Sciences Research Council. Prior to Joining AISA she was the Head of the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Johannesburg.

She was also a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Security Studies in the Conflict Management and Peacebuilding Programme where she focused on issues of Women, Peace and Security and Security Sector Governance. She also worked at the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Centre for Conflict Resolution and spent many years teaching in the Political Studies Department of the University of the Western Cape. She holds a PhD from the University of South Carolina in Government and International Relations and an MA from the University of York in Southern African Studies.



AMBASSADOR LIBERATA MULAMULA

Ambassador Mulamula (Ret.) from Tanzania is currently a Visiting Scholar and Associate Director at the George Washington University's Institute for African Studies-Elliott School of International Affairs. She teaches Women and Leadership in Africa, as well as the 'Role of Multilateral and Conference Diplomacy in Global Politics'. She is also the Chairperson of Good Governance Africa (GGA)-USA.

She has been a career diplomat with 35 years of experience and has served as the first female Permanent Secretary of the Tanzania Ministry of Foreign Affairs in International Co-operation and in various capacities at Tanzania Diplomatic missions abroad including as Ambassador to the United States of America and Mexico. She also served as Senior Diplomatic Advisor to the former Tanzania President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete before her retirement in 2016.

She was the first Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa for Peace, Stability and Development with headquarters in Bujumbura, Burundi, covering 12 post-conflict and other countries of the region-Angola, Burundi, CAR, Congo Republic, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

She has participated in many peace forums including the Global Action Against Mass Atrocity Crimes, UN Peace Building Commission and African Union High Level Retreats on the promotion of Peace, Security and Stability in Africa.

Ambassador Mulamula is a member of various Boards including the UN Secretary General Advisory Group on Peacebuilding Fund; Steering Committee of the African Women Leaders Forum; Advisory Board of the Women's Platform of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region; and Member of the Women Peace Mediation Network of the Great Lakes Region; Board of Overseers of the School of Diplomacy,

Seton Hall University and Binghamton University's Institute for Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention; among others.

She is a Recipient of the Order of the United Republic of Tanzania 2015 Award for Distinguished Public Service and was awarded the 2018 Elliott School of International Affairs Recognition of Service Award for outstanding performance and contributions as Acting Director of the Institute for African Studies.

PRATIBA DAYA

This renowned yogi has acquired over 30 years experience as a public speaker, presenter and facilitator, and she is the Programme Coordinator for the Brahma Kumaris in South Africa.

The Brahma Kumaris is a global spiritual movement described as a "rainbow" family of individuals across the world, from all walks of life. Committed to helping people rediscover their inherent worth and reconnect with their spirituality, they encourage people to live by their highest values, vision and purpose.

It is their firm belief that this commitment to self transformation will create peace and a better world for all.

AVRIL ANDREWS

Avril Andrews is the founder of Moms Move for Justice, an organisation that assists mothers of gang violence victims. Her son was killed as a result of gang violence in Cape Town.

She currently serves as the director of the Alcardo Andrews foundation, and she has become a rock for mothers, not only in her community but in areas around Cape Town where gang violence is rife.

Moms Move for Justice not only helps to support mothers who have had family members fall victim to gang violence, they also actively advocate for an end to gang violence in Cape Town. Recently, Andrews and Moms Move for Justice marched to Parliament to demand that the government take their concerns about gang violence seriously.

Andrews thinks it is important for mothers to show support to other mothers to help stop generational violence from being passed on.



OBIAGELI (OBY) EZEKWESILI

Oby Ezekwesili is a Nigerian chartered accountant from Anambra state. She was a co-founder of Transparency International, serving as one of the pioneer directors of the global anti-corruption body based in Berlin, Germany.

She served as Federal Minister of Solid Minerals and then as Federal Minister of Education during the second-term presidency of Olusegun Obasanjo. Since then, she served as the Vice-President of the World Bank's Africa division from May 2007 to May 2012, and she was a 2018 nominee for the Nobel Peace Prize for her work in transparency in the extractive sector.

She has served on the boards of Bharti Airtel, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the School of Public Policy of Central European University, The Harold Hartog School of Government and Policy, New African magazine, and the Center for Global Leadership at Tufts University.

In May 2012, Ezekwesili was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science (DSC) degree by the University of Agriculture, Abeokuta in Nigeria. She was selected as one of the BBC's 100 Women in 2013 and 2014.

In the aftermath of the nearly 300 mainly Christian girls who were abducted from Chibok by the Islamist militant group Boko Haram, Oby used the Bring Back Our Girls (BBOG) advocacy group to draw global attention to the plight of all persons who have been abducted by terrorists from Nigeria's war ravaged northeast region. Ezekwesili was instrumental to the start of the viral #BringBackOurGirls campaign on social media, which trended internationally. On 23 April, at the opening ceremony for a UNESCO event honouring the city of Port Harcourt as the 2014 World Book Capital city, Ezekwesili urged Nigerians to not just tweet but actively participate in efforts to "bring back our girls".

In March 2019, Ezekwesili won the Forbes Woman Africa Social Influencer award for her efforts dedicated to the #BringBackOurGirls campaign on social media.





ALAA SALAH

Alaa Salah, engineering and architecture student at Sudan International University, is a woman who has come to symbolise protests in Sudan after being photographed chanting atop a car during protests against President Omar al-Bashir. She reported receiving death threats since her image went viral.

She declared *“I’m very glad that my photo let people around the world know about the revolution in Sudan. Since the beginning of the uprising I have been going out every day and participating in the demonstrations because my parents raised me to love our home. I will not bow down. My voice cannot be suppressed.”*

She has continued to receive threats for standing up against Bashir and his cronies who have suppressed the Sudanese and left the country in near economic ruin. Women, and men in good measure, stood up and supported her.



HAJAR AL – SHARIF

Hajar Sharif entered the public sphere and humanitarian work at the age of nineteen, as she was deeply affected by what happened in Libya as a result of the Libyan revolution in 2011.

She was a co-founder of Together We Build at the time to support peaceful transition and democratic transformation in Libya. Two years later she participated in the 1325 Network project, which consists of several human rights organizations and civil society actors in 30 cities in Libya, to discuss human rights. And the empowerment of women.

At the Security Council, Sharif spoke about the situation in Libya and the reasons for peace building, telling horrific stories that “Together We Build” addresses. “Peace building is not only to stop violence, but also to avoid violence. “All the voices and differences of Libyan society are taken into account. Young people, especially girls, make up a huge proportion of the population of the Middle East and North Africa, so their role is very important in building peace.”

Hajar focuses on highlighting the difficulties imposed on the Libyan people and the suffering caused by the local armed conflict and insecurity.



Recommended Readings



THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325

An Explanation of the Landmark Resolution on Women, Peace and Security

A continually growing research base has now recognized the importance of women's involvement in peace and security issues towards achieving long lasting stability. This acknowledgment stems from the efforts by international organizations, national governments and civil society around the world to establish what we now know as the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

In 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) formally acknowledged through the creation of Resolution 1325 the changing nature of warfare, in which civilians are increasingly targeted, and women continue to be excluded from participation in peace processes. The resolution specifically addresses how women and girls are differentially impacted by conflict and war, and recognizes the critical role that women can and already do play in peacebuilding efforts. UNSCR 1325 affirms that peace and security efforts are more sustainable when women are equal partners in the prevention of violent conflict, the delivery of relief and recovery efforts, and in the forging of lasting peace.

HOW DID UNSCR 1325 COME ABOUT?

UNSCR 1325 was adopted due to the hard work of both civil society and the member states of the UN. Prior to its adoption, several major global conferences and policy frameworks were championed that sought to advance the rights of women and girls.

Beginning in 1975, the United Nations convened world conferences to elevate gender equality on the global stage. In 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women yielded the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action with key objectives that promoted the role of women in peacemaking.

Despite these important actions, there remains a general lack of recognition of gender in commissioned reports by the UN, especially regarding peacekeeping. The Coalition on Women and International Peace and Security was formed in response and became the main lobbying force for the creation of UNSCR 1325. In 2000, the Coalition's efforts came to fruition when Namibia held the Security Council Presidency and conducted an open session on Women, Peace, and Security. During this session, the U.N. Security Council acknowledged the changing nature of warfare, in which civilians are increasingly targeted, and women continue to be excluded from participation in peace processes, leading to the passage of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325.

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF UNSCR 1325?

Resolution 1325 addresses two major points – the inordinate impact of violent conflict and war on women and girls, as well as the crucial role that women should, and already do play in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacemaking and peacebuilding. Women's full participation and involvement is critical to every aspect of achieving and sustaining peace and stability within a community. The Resolution urges all actors to increase the participation of women and additionally incorporate gender perspectives in all United Nations peace and security efforts. Parties engaged in conflict must take special measures to protect women and girls from all forms of gender-based violence, especially rape and other forms of sexual violence that are particularly widespread during times of violent conflict. Each of its mandates falls into one of the UNSCR 1325's four basic pillars: participation, protection, prevention and relief and recovery.

WHAT ARE THE FOUR PILLARS OF UNSCR 1325?

Each of the Resolution's mandates is related to one of the four basic pillars: participation, protection, prevention and relief and recovery. Each pillar appears below as described by the Resolution.

Participation: Calls for increased participation of women at all levels of decision-making, including in national, regional, and international institutions; in mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict; in peace negotiations; in peace operations, as soldiers, police, and civilians; and as Special Representatives of the U.N. Secretary-General.

Protection: Calls specifically for the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, including in emergency and humanitarian situations, such as in refugee camps.

Prevention: Calls for improving intervention strategies in the prevention of violence against women, including by prosecuting those responsible for violations of international law; strengthening women's rights under national law; and supporting local women's peace initiatives and conflict resolution processes.

Relief and recovery: Calls for the advancement of relief and recovery measures to address international crises through a gendered lens, including by respecting the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps, and considering the needs of women and girls in the design of refugee camps and settlements.

Source: *The United States Institute of Peace*
https://www.usip.org/gender_peacebuilding/about_UNSCR_1325



CREATING SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND SECURITY



PROF CHERYL HENDRICKS
Executive Director,
Africa Institute of South Africa
Human Sciences Research Council

CHANGING CONFLICT CONTEXT

The world has come a long way in developing the structures, policies, processes and partnerships to deal with peace and security. In Africa, which has accounted for the largest number of wars over the last two decades, we see marked progress in resolving conflicts in, for example, the dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea, the multiple conflicts in Sudan, and in the contestation over political power in Madagascar. But, many countries still lack peace and people remain insecure: Algeria, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Libya, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara, Zimbabwe, to name a few.

Globally the protests and wars, as well as the plight of people, in Afghanistan, Hong Kong, Pakistan, Lebanon, Myanmar, Syria, Yemen, Iraq, and Venezuela have all beamed into our living rooms, along with a rise in inter-state tensions between China and the United States (US), the US and Iran, Russia and the Ukraine, and disputes in the South China Sea.

Since 2008, the Global Peace Index (GPI)¹ has been highlighting a deterioration in global peace. South Africa has dropped in ranking on this index from being placed at 125, in 2018, to 127 in 2019. In this index, Iceland ranks as the most peaceful country and Afghanistan as the least peaceful. Five of the 10 least peaceful countries in the world are in Africa.

Insecurity stems from a number of different sources, such as: unequal global power relations, incomplete disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) processes, poor governance, authoritarianism, marginalisation, violent extremism, corruption, transnational crime, gang violence, proliferation of small arms and light weapons, rapid urbanisation and demographic changes, disease, poverty, unemployment, environmental degradation, food, water and energy shortages, xenophobia, gender inequality, sexual and gender based violence, and human trafficking.

The Human Security approach identified seven realms of [in]security: Political, Economic, Environmental, Health, Food, Community, and Personal. This insecurity

manifests in varied forms such as war/violent armed conflict, genocide, local battles, banditry, large-scale national protests, local service delivery protests, oppression, cyber insecurity, humanitarian disasters, health crisis, refugees, IDPS, slavery, human rights abuse, and so forth.

To date our approach to dealing with violent conflict has been that of prevention, peace-making, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding: this is the Agenda for Peace. It has been a predominantly state centric agenda in which women, youth, and civil society have largely been excluded. These stakeholders have been advocating for inclusion: a seat at the table.

Many conflicts remain unresolved, new ones [re] emerge, and our state of peacefulness and security are receding. Our wars are more complex and more violent. In addition, the nature and forms of our conflict contexts, and the actors engaged, have changed. We have seen a return to national protest politics in which women and youth are the dominant forces, many of our conflicts are at the local level and involve non-state actors (e.g. farmers, herders, nomads, ethnic groups, militia), or between state and non-state actors (rebel groups, violent extremists, rogue military), conflicts are not contained by national borders, there are often multiple conflicts happening simultaneously in a country, and the rules of war are no longer respected such that civilians, especially women and children, are the targets. Violent extremism on the continent is perhaps our most pressing security concern. The rhetoric for dealing with it has been that of prevention, and the actual predominant response has been militaristic. This has not diminished the threat.

*Pathways to Peace*² noted that by 2018 we had reached the highest number of fatalities/battle deaths that we have seen in 20 years. We are essentially back to the heights of conflict we saw in the early 1990s when the Agenda for Peace was formulated, but with different conditions prevailing. This situation demands that we rethink our conflict management approaches and that

we spend more energy and resources on preventing conflict and building the infrastructure necessary for long lasting peace.

PREVENTING, MANAGING AND TRANSFORMING CONFLICTS

Our approach to conflict management has consisted of four pillars, each with a set of tools:

- 1. Conflict Prevention** – which consists of preventative diplomacy, confidence building measures, fact finding missions, preventative deployment (demilitarized zones);
- 2. Peace-making** – mediation, negotiation, arbitration, sanctions;
- 3. Peace-keeping** – multi-dimensional integrated peace-missions (military, police, civilian)
- 4. Peace-building** – repatriating refugees, DDR, security sector reform, elections, advancing human rights, strengthening governance institutions, market reform.³

Post Conflict Peacebuilding, as it was referred to in the Agenda, did not get much attention. However, by 1995 it was evident that more than half of the countries returned to conflict: peacebuilding was seen as the antidote for this phenomenon and the world ploughed resources into this endeavour. At first peacebuilding concentrated on building liberal states. After a barrage of critique, it shifted focus to stability (security and political). The 2015 peacebuilding review of the UN noted the shortcomings of the peacebuilding approach at the UN, most notably the misunderstanding of what peacebuilding is, the silo approach, and that it is under-resourced and under-prioritised and often only undertaken “after the guns fall silent.”⁴

Peace-making has been widely critiqued for its elitist nature and that it is often a hurried process driven by outsiders with formulaic peace agreements being signed. Many of these agreements do not hold. Women, despite being at the forefront of many of the protests

¹ Institute for Economic and Peace. *Global Peace Index 2019: Measuring Peace in a Complex World*. Sydney.

² United Nations and World Bank Group. 2018. *Pathways to Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict*. Washington DC.

³ UN General Secretary General. 1992. *An Agenda for Peace: Preventative Diplomacy, Peace-making and Peace keeping, A/47/277 –S-24111*

⁴ The Challenge of Sustaining Peace: Report of the Advisory Group of Experts for the 2015 Review of the UN Peacebuilding Architecture.



or the peace building and humanitarian efforts during conflict, have constituted only 8% of negotiators and less than 3% of the mediators at these peace tables. National dialogues, when they happen, are often perceived as biased, favouring the state incumbents (the recent dialogue in Cameroon being an example). Negotiations in which those responsible for the violence are present are important to obtain cease-fires. More inclusive national dialogues are important to get a broader say and buy-in by all those impacted by the conflicts and to build a common vision for the society to move forward. But, to transform conflicts we need many more dialogues at the local level, where the conflicts often first emanate from. It is here where peace and reconciliation has to happen and be continuously reinforced.

Our peacekeeping efforts remain feeble in the face of the ongoing violence in areas where they are located. The continued high number of fatalities highlights the limitation of the Protection of Civilian mandate that many of these missions have. The report by the High level Panel on UN Peace Operations in 2015⁶ highlighted that the mandates and missions resemble cookie cutter templates and that they, too, are under-resourced and not sufficiently agile to adapt to changing conflicts. It argued for more emphasis on conflict prevention.

Indeed the pendulum has swung in favour of prevention. Much of the discourse at the UN now is around the need for prevention. The UN Secretary General has identified four priorities for prevention:

1. Support the development and implementation of national disaster risk reduction plans;
2. Prioritise early warning and early action on preventing violent conflict (through measures such as collating information, supporting national capacities for facilitation and dialogue, and ensuring the ability to rapidly respond through good offices, mediation, crisis and peacebuilding services);

3. Advance a preventative approach to human rights;
4. Build resilience to external economic and financial shocks.⁷

This shift is welcomed, but does it go far enough in preventing conflict?

SILENCING THE GUNS

In Africa we have pledged to “Silence the Guns by 2020.” We will not reach this goal. Indeed we may be running the risk of having far more guns on the continent than before we set this as our target – this largely due to the presence of many foreign militaries and to the bolstering of militaries in the Sahel region to combat violent extremism.

The original conceptualisation of the way in which we should be silencing the guns was through governance – “the mechanism that states and societies adopt to reach collective compromises about the distribution and allocation of resources.”⁸ Emphasis was on participation and representation, enhancing state capacity, secular and tolerant states, justice and the rule of law, demilitarisation of politics and regional disarmament.

The First Ten Year Implementation Plan of the AU for Agenda 2063⁹ also clearly refers to the strategies and instruments needed to bring about peace (Dialogues, African Standby and Rapid Response forces, Early Warning, Panel of the Wise, mainstream peace education at schools, promote reconciliation, mainstream gender into the peace and security programmes, develop an Africa Human Security Index, strengthen the role of the local communities to keep communities gun free, develop a centre for post-conflict reconstruction, etc).

It is therefore not that we lack ideas of what is needed to create greater peace and security. Much discussion, development of frameworks and resources have gone into this. Yet, we err on the side of implementation –

we do not get to implement many of the measures, and we distort implementation. For example, we speak of “whole of society approaches” to prevent conflict but we bomb and shoot and seek to eliminate when confronted with the reality of conflict. We advocate for peace, but we want to achieve it through war; we seek to make peace and govern better, but we hand over our societies to the perpetrators of war to govern; we talk national reconciliation but we distribute the spoils of the state between those with the ability to do harm. We are also not innovative enough and still far too state-centric in our approaches to conflict management. And, if we are not seeking to transform conflicts – changing behaviours and relations – we are simply placing band aids on wounds that continue to fester.

TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE PEACE

We have spent a lot of time, energy and resources focusing on traditional security mechanisms – militaries, police, border control, intelligence officers, peacekeepers, rapid response forces, and so forth. These institutions are necessary to protect us from physical violence. They do not, however, prevent violence and they do not create peace. They are more often reactive rather than pro-active.

If we want to prevent violence (both physical and structural) we need to mitigate its sources. If we want to create peace we need to concentrate on peace. Peace, as we are all aware, is not merely the absence of war, it is about transforming our societies, communities, and people so that we “live without fear, without want¹⁰” and in dignity. In this conceptualisation we are not saying that there will be no conflict. There will always be conflict, and because it is a driver of change, so should there be. However, conflict should not become violent. For this to happen we need to concentrate on building relationships and constructing the structures, processes and institutions that enable us to deal with conflict in non-violent ways. Our societies should have appropriate forms of governance, participation and

representation. Our societies must at minimum cater for the basic needs of people, and preferably reach a stage where we can have opportunity and exercise choice – this is the economic realm.

Importantly, and often neglected, is the social dimension. Governing institutions and rule of law, including the organs for their compliance, are not sufficient to create peace or security. It is actually the social dimension – the family (however constituted), the community, religion, sports, clubs, civil society, etc, where the values, norms and rules of a society are inculcated and which help the individual self-regulate their behaviour and forms of interaction. Prevention and Peacebuilding tend to ignore this aspect and concentrate on the governance (including security) and economic dimensions. To concentrate on the social dimension forces us to work at the local level – the foundation of our societies. It is not an either/or process, we need a focus at all three levels. To date, however, we have had a state-centric approach to peacebuilding that has concentrated on governance and the economy.

We also need to invest more in, and reinforce, the frameworks, mechanisms, skills, processes and networks that focus on peace - infrastructures for peace at local, national, regional, continental and international levels. Where are the Ministers of Peace? Where are the peace brigades (army of peace builders) and peace corps (youth working for peace across the continent)? Where are the national, regional and local peace centres? Peace clubs? Peace dialogues at local levels? If we want to sustain peace we need to build the architecture for it.

It takes the whole of society to be engaged in creating peace. The provision of physical security is limited to those with the means of violence. Let us not continue to bemoan what we do not have to successfully manage our conflicts and harness the resources that we do have to transform conflicts. We as women can be at the forefront of doing this.

⁵ UN Women. Women's Representation in Major Peace Processes between 1990 and 2017. Infographic on website.

⁶ Uniting Our Strengths for Peace – Politics, Partnerships and People. Report of the Independent High Level Panel on Peace Operations. 2015.

⁷ UN Secretary General. Priorities: Prevention. <https://www.un.org/sg/en/priorities/prevention.shtml>

⁸ Khadiagala, G. 2014. “Silencing the Guns: Strengthening Governance to Prevent, Manage and Resolve Conflicts in Africa”. International Peace Institute. pg 3.

⁹ African Union Commission. 2015. “Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. First Ten Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023.”

¹⁰ A definition of peace and security proposed by 'Funmi Olonisakin.

THE CENTRALITY OF WOMEN FOR PEACE

Women have developed the Women, Peace and Security Agenda. It is an agenda that largely calls for inclusion into the predetermined Agenda for Peace. Women have campaigned for a seat at the table, often laid out by the international community, because we are actors during conflict (peacebuilders, humanitarian workers, representatives of government, part of rebel movements and so forth), and victims of conflict (refugees and IDPs, sex slaves, women who are raped, maimed, and killed), and because we believe that peace agreements will be enhanced by our presence.

Women have formed mediators' networks and trained many women as peacebuilders, globally and continentally. Gender advisors for peace-missions and women peacekeepers have all been trained. But, the number of women has not grown substantively in either peace-making or peacekeeping.

We have already noted the limitations of our current formal peace processes. There should therefore not be too much energy placed into being included into them. Let us not simply try to fit into an existing agenda but reconfigure the agenda for the benefit of all: be

proactive in envisioning a peace agenda that is more inclusive, transformative, innovative and sustainable.

Strengthen and consolidate the work that has already formed the foundation for prevention and peacebuilding – the peace work that we have been engaged in for decades but have jettisoned for inclusion in the more formal peace processes. Women have been creating local peace-tables/dialogues, been peacebuilders, and worked in what is here labelled “the social dimension” for a long time. It was on the basis of this, to begin with, that we have laid claim to inclusion in the more formal peace processes.

We certainly should be represented at the formal processes, but the bulk of our peacebuilding work should be in creating that peace infrastructure/ architecture outlined above.

We have the resources, experience and the knowledge to do so. Let us harness what we already have so that we can have more holistic and sustainable ways of ensuring peace. We can be at the forefront of preventing conflict, deploying peacebuilders, and transforming our societies, and not lamenting our exclusion, if we retake the initiative.



THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

In September 1995, an unprecedented 17,000 participants and 30,000 non-governmental activists streamed into Beijing for the opening of the Fourth World Conference on Women. They were remarkably diverse, coming from around the globe, but they had a single purpose in mind: gender equality and the empowerment of all women, everywhere.

Two weeks of political debate followed, heated at times, as representatives of 189 governments hammered out commitments that were historic in scope. The 30 000 non-governmental activists attended a parallel Forum and kept the pressure on, networking, lobbying and maintaining a global media spotlight. By the time the conference closed, it had produced the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (PfA), which laid out a comprehensive agenda for women's political and economic empowerment and the foundations for gender mainstreaming.

The Platform for Action made comprehensive commitments under 12 critical areas of concern:

- Women and the environment
- Women in power and decision-making
- The girl child
- Women and the economy
- Women and poverty
- Violence against women
- Human rights of women
- Education and training of women
- Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
- Women and health
- Women and the media
- Women and armed conflict

Since then, governments, civil society and the public have translated the Platform for Action's promises into concrete changes in individual countries. These have ushered in enormous improvements in women's lives. More women and girls than at any previous point in time serve in political offices, are protected by laws against gender-based violence, and live under constitutions guaranteeing gender equality. Regular five-year reviews of progress on fulfilling Beijing commitments have sustained momentum.

Still, the Platform for Action envisioned gender equality in all dimensions of life—and no country has yet finished this agenda. Women earn less than men and are more likely to work in poor-quality jobs. A third suffer physical or sexual violence in their lifetime. Gaps in reproductive rights and health care leave 800 women dying in childbirth each day.

The year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the Beijing PfA, which opens new opportunities to reconnect, regenerate commitment, charge up political will and mobilize the public. Many gender activists and governments from around the world will gather on various platforms in order to review and appraise the Beijing Declaration and PfA. The review will include an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action, including the critical areas as well as celebrate and acknowledge successes in the journey towards gender equality and the empowerment of women.

Source: UN Women:

<https://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about>

<https://www.peacewomen.org/resource/beijing-platform-action-and-its-12-critical-areas-concern>



BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND ITS 12 CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN

The Beijing Platform of Action's **12 Critical Areas of Concerns can be** broken down into the following Strategic Objectives and Actions.

A Women and poverty - Persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women

- A.1: Review, adopt and maintain macroeconomic policies and development strategies that address the needs and efforts of women in poverty
- A.2: Revise laws and administrative practices to ensure women's equal rights and access to economic resources
- A.3: Provide women with access to savings and credit mechanisms and institutions
- A.4: Develop gender-based methodologies and conduct research to address the feminization of poverty

B Education and Training of Women - Inequalities and inadequacies in and unequal access to education and training

- B.1: Ensure equal access to education
- B.2: Eradicate illiteracy among women
- B.3: Improve women's access to vocational training, science and technology, and continuing education
- B.4: Develop non-discriminatory education and training
- B.5: Allocate sufficient resources for and monitor the implementation of educational reforms
- B.6: Promote life-long education and training for girls and women

C Women and health - Inequalities and inadequacies in and unequal access to health care and related services

- C.1: Increase women's access throughout the life cycle to appropriate, affordable and quality health care, information and related services
- C.2: Strengthen preventive programmes that promote women's health
- C.3: Undertake gender-sensitive initiatives that address sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, and sexual and reproductive health issues
- C.4: Promote research and disseminate information on women's health

- C.5: Increase resources and monitor follow-up for women's health

D Violence against women

- D.1: Take integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women
- D.2: Study the causes and consequences of violence against women and the effectiveness of preventive measures
- D.3: Eliminate trafficking in women and assist victims of violence due to prostitution and trafficking

E Women and Armed Conflict - The effects of armed and other types of conflict on women, including those living under foreign occupation

- E.1: Increase the participation of women in conflict resolution at decision-making levels and protect women living in situations of armed and other conflicts or under foreign occupation
- E.2: Reduce excessive military expenditures and control the availability of armaments
- E.3: Promote non-violent forms of conflict resolution and reduce the incidence of human rights abuse in conflict situations
- E.4: Promote women's contribution to fostering a culture of peace
- E.5: Provide protection, assistance and training to refugee women, other displaced women in need of international protection and internally displaced women
- E.6: Provide assistance to the women of the colonies and non-self-governing territories

F Women and the Economy - Inequality in economic structures and policies, in all forms of productive activities and in access to resources

- F.1: Promote women's economic rights and independence, including access to employment, appropriate working conditions and control over economic resources

Source: Women Peace – Women's International League for Peace & Freedom <https://www.peacewomen.org/resource/beijing-platform-action-and-its-12-critical-areas-concern>

USEFUL GREETINGS



FRENCH

Hello
How are you?
Goodbye!
Thank you

Bonjour
Ça va?
Au revoir!
Merci



SPANISH

Hello
How are you?
Goodbye!
Thank you

Hola
Cómo está usted?
Adiós
Gracias



PORTUGUESE

Hello
How are you?
Goodbye!
Thank you

Olá
Como está?
Adeus
Obrigada



KISWAHILI

Hello
How are you?
Goodbye!
Thank you

Jambo / Hujambo / Salama
Habari gani
Kwa heri / Kwa herini
Asante



ARABIC

Hello
How are you?
"Peace be Upon You"
Thank you

Marhaba
Kifak
Salamo Alaykom
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