



CSW59/Beijing+20 - Femmes Africa Solidarité co-organizes high level side events to discuss formulation and implementation of African women's priorities for Agenda 2063 and post-2015 development agenda.

New York, 20 March 2015 – Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) collaborated with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) and the Office of the Special Envoy of the African Union Commission Chairperson on Women, Peace and Security to organize two high-level side events during the CSW 59 at the UN Headquarters in New York. These events aimed at identifying concerns and priorities towards the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, and the empowerment of young women and girls to enable them to achieve the concrete targets set by development frameworks such as the Beijing+20 review, the African Union agenda 2063 and the post-2015 agenda. FAS also chaired the CSW/NGO briefing with the African Women's Caucus, which reiterates the importance of the participation of civil society organizations in shaping the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality. The Caucus prepared a statement on the lack of inclusion of civil society organizations recommendations in the CSW59 political declaration.

High Level Dialogue: "Towards a Continental Results Framework on Women, Peace and Security."

10 March 2015



During the **High Level Dialogue 1: "Towards a Continental Results Framework on Women, Peace and Security"**, African women and advocates of the women, peace and security agenda articulated concerns and priorities as well as exchanged good practices and lessons learned in implementing women, peace and security, towards the proposed African Union Continental Results Framework on Women, Peace and Security and the United Nations Global Study on the implementation of

resolution 1325.

Ms. Bineta Diop delivered the Keynote speech and highlighted the plight of women in camps in the countries she visited during solidarity missions in her role as Special Envoy. She said the only people talking about reconciliation in conflict regions she visited were the women.

Based on her observations during the solidarity missions, the Special Envoy said she presented a report to the Peace and Security Council of the African Union Commission. The outcome of her report was the following decision:

"Council urged the AU Commission, through the coordination of the Office of the Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security to formulate a Continental Results Framework to monitor the implementation by AU Member States and other relevant stakeholders of the various instruments and other commitments on women, peace and security in Africa."

She explained the aim of the proposed continental results framework was to develop clear targets and indicators to measure the status of women in three areas that constitute the pillars of the women, peace and security agenda in Africa.

By the end of the meeting, speakers reviewed progress made in the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 in Africa and assessed existing gaps and challenges to effective implementation. The high level panelists also identified emerging trends and new priority targets for the proposed continental framework and global study, as well as opportunities for mobilizing the means of implementation for the women, peace and security agenda in Africa.

- Visit the side events page [here](#).
- Read the concept note of the High-Level Interactive Dialogue Towards a Continental Results Framework on Women Peace and Security in Africa [here](#).
- Watch the High Level Dialogue [here](#).

Panel: Ensuring the Emerging Leadership of Africa's Young Women & Girls Towards 2063 *11 March 2015*



Harriette Williams Bright, Acting Executive Director of FAS moderated the panel “*Ensuring the Emerging Leadership of Africa's Young Women & Girls Towards 2063*” which was a call to action to Governments and other stakeholders to ensure that Africa's Agenda 2063, and the post-2015 development agenda address the pressing concerns of young African women and girls – both in their formulation and implementation.

In her opening statement Ms. Williams Bright reiterated the Agenda 2063's specific reference to support young people as drivers of Africa's Renaissance through investment in their health, education and access to technology, opportunities and capital and concerted strategies to combat youth unemployment and under employment.

“We say Africa's youth are the future, but constituting about 65% of the continent, Africa's youth are the present” opined Ms. Williams Bright as she invited speakers to highlight concrete proposals to address the priorities of young African women and girls in the first 10-year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063.

The outcome of this meeting was, speakers outlined specific ways in which key means of implementation, including financing, capacity building, technology and trade, could be directed towards young African women and girls to enable them to achieve the concrete targets of these development frameworks.

- Visit the side events page [here](#).
- Read the concept note of the High-Level Side Event on Ensuring the Emerging

- Leadership of Africa's Young Women & Girls Towards 2063 [here](#).
- Watch the Panel [here](#).

CSW/NGO briefing - CSW59

13 March 2015

The active participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) is a critical element in the work of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). NGOs have been influential in shaping the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality: the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. They continue to play an important role in holding international and national leaders accountable for the commitments they made in the Platform for Action.

Harriette Williams Bright chaired this briefing on Friday 13th March. She updated the audience on the activities of CSW/Africa and expressed the disappointment that CSW/Africa and the African Women's Caucus felt about the current [political declaration](#). A statement to specify their challenges with the said political declaration and what they want from member states going forward has been prepared ([read here](#)).

She highlighted FAS's participation in a solidarity mission to Nigeria as well as the GIMAC recommendations that came out of the pre-summit meeting held in Addis Ababa last January. Ms. Williams Bright challenged CSW members to "put a lot of pressure on (their) governments, and ensure that the rights of women and girls are really committed to and implemented."

- Read the CSW59 political declaration in [FR](#) | [EN](#)
- Read the African Women Caucus statement and sign it [here](#).

HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE THE AFRICA WE WANT



BY 2063?

Listen to what African women have to say...

**WOMEN AT THE
PEACE TABLE TO
SILENCE THE
GUNS BY
2020**



2015 Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063

Recognize and amplify the role of women in early warning mechanisms to prevent violence, promote gender equality at the peace table, and invest in centres of excellence to build a critical mass of peacebuilders.

From Words to Action 

#Women4Agenda2063

HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE THE AFRICA WE WANT



BY 2063?

Listen to what African women have to say...

**END VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN AND GIRLS &
PROTECT THEIR SEXUAL
AND REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH AND RIGHTS**

2015 Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063



End impunity for sexual and gender-based violence against women and girls and invest in quality health services and facilities that are accessible to all women and girls, particularly those in rural areas.

From Words to Action 

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