

## Press Release

### Zambia: Euphoria characterizes the 2016 Summit

Lusaka 9 December 2016: The Zambia SADC Protocol @ Work Summit held under the theme ***50/50 by 2030! Empower Women, End Violence*** ended in euphoria as seventeen women entrepreneurs took to the stage as they received their certificates of participation in the Gender Links Entrepreneurship Training programme for survivors of gender based violence.

Seven winners and six runners up received awards from 50 entries in eight categories (see Annex A). Gender Links Zambia, in partnership with Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ) and the Zambia SADC Gender Protocol Alliance members organised the 2016 SADC Gender Protocol @ Work Summit and Awards that brought together about 100 participants from 15 councils from eight out of 10 provinces of Zambia. The summit was also attended by Non-Governmental Organisations, Community Based Organisations and other institutions that took part in different categories, showcasing their best practices.

In her key note address to the gathering, Minister of Gender Honourable Victoria Kalima MP, applauded GL for mainstreaming gender in local government through the 43 Centres of Excellence that are spread across all the 10 provinces of Zambia. She said this through her Assistant Director – Gender Rights Protection, Mr. Simonn Kapilima who read her speech to the summit participants. The Minister called upon all stakeholders in the fight for gender equality to stand together and raise money to end the scourge of gender based violence which has become a global pandemic. “We need to empower women and girls with survival skills as a way of breaking the vicious cycle of violence. It is irrefutable that a woman who is economically empowered is less susceptible to gender based violence.” she remarked.

On governance, the Minister bemoaned the low numbers of women representation especially at Local Government level where out of total of about 1, 625 councillors only 132 are women, which represents 8.1% of the total membership, compared to 6% female representation recorded in the period of 2011-2015 and adding that for Mayors and Council Chairpersons, only (8) are females out of the total 106 positions, which represents (8%). Honourable Victoria Kalima appealed to all political parties in Zambia to adopt more female candidates in future elections.

Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA) Programme Manager, Ms. Womba Mayondi, made a statement on behalf of other partners that GL Zambia works with. Ms. Womba gave a brief on how GL and the Alliance partners have been collaborating on matters of gender and development. In her remarks Ms. Mayondi lauded government for, among other notable achievements, the enactment of Gender Equality and Equity Act and the criminalization of child marriage. Further, Ms. Mayondi gave an overview of the Post 2015 SADC Gender Protocol, SDGs and key findings of the 2016 Regional Barometer. She highlighted that Zambia had the most progress versus the set out target per sector from 41% in 2011 to 74% in 2016, a 33% percentage point improvement.

The Assistant Director in the Ministry of Gender, Mr. Simon Kapilima, launched the 2016 SADC Gender Protocol Barometer, on behalf of the Minister of Gender on the first day of the

two day summit. In his brief Kapilima underscored the importance of measuring progress of SADC countries in attaining the commitments and targets of the SADC Gender Protocol. He further commended GL for facilitating Zambia’s input into the regional barometer.

On the second day of the summit, Gender Links launched the Gender and Media Progress Study (GMPS). A summary of the findings was presented to the gathering by the GL Media Consultant, Ms. Perpetual Sichikwenkwe. The study showed that Zambia had recorded a marginal increase in proportion of women sources from 13% in 2003 to 14% in 2010 and has now increased to 19% in 2015. Further, the gathering learnt that there was a significant improvement in the proportion of women in management in media institutions from 28% recorded in 2009 to 36% in 2015. However, the summit delegates were unanimous on the fact that voices of the majority of women in Zambia were not heard.

The Gender Links Board Member Ms. Sara Longwe launched the Sunrise-End Violence, Empower Campaign following a testimony by one of the emerging entrepreneurs from Livingstone City Council, Christine Mutema who said, “I never knew how to use a computer but now I am able to make my own flyers to advertise my business. This is all because of GL. I now run my own business and I no longer spend money to pay others to type for me.” In launching the Sunrise Campaign Longwe urged all participants and cooperating partners to support the economic empowerment of women by raising money to sustain the entrepreneurship trainings for women in Zambia. In her remarks, Ms. Longwe echoed the Gender Minister’s remarks that when women are economically empowered they become less susceptible to gender based violence. The Sunrise is a public giving campaign that aspires to raise awareness and resources on the link between economic empowerment and ending violence. At the end of the launch 17 survivors of gender based violence who have reclaimed their lives through entrepreneurship training with the support of their respective Local Authorities received certificates of participation.

During the summit a parallel workshop for the media was held with various media houses to facilitate feedback to the GMPS study and action planning on taking forward the recommendations. Media Centres of Excellence for gender mainstreaming in Zambia are Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC), Times of Zambia Newspaper, Zambia Daily Mail Newspaper, Radio Christian Voice, Yatsani Radio and New Vision Newspaper.

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### **Annex A: Zambia National Summit Participants**

	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>WINNER</b>	<b>RUNNER UP</b>
1	Gender Drivers of Change – Leadership	<b>Paul Chinyimba</b> (Youth Advocates for Change)	<b>Theresa Katai Mpande</b> (Chingola Municipal Council)
2	Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)	<b>Katete Town Council</b> (Fridah Musukuma)	

	<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>WINNER</b>	<b>RUNNER UP</b>
3	Gender Based Violence	<b>Zambia Bridge To Inclusive Living</b> (Percos Sinkamba)	<b>Chingola Central Police –VSU</b> (Foster Mubanga Kahanji)
4	Climate Change and Sustainable Development.	<b>Rural Women Assembly Zambia</b> (Docus Mupwaya Shonga)	<b>Katete Town Council</b> (Maureen Zulu)
5	Local Government COE – Urban overall best performance	<b>Kitwe City Council</b> (Christine Changu Banda)	<b>Kabwe Municipal Council</b> (Martha Chibambula)
6	Local Government COE – Rural overall best performance	<b>Monze Town Council</b> (Mazuba Kalyabantu)	<b>Chibombo Town Council</b> (Florence Katunansa)
7	Emerging Entrepreneur best performance – winner	<b>Agness Bwembya</b> (Kasama Municipal Council)	<b>Juliet Fungamwango</b> (Lusaka City Council)