

# Celebrate 16 Years of 16 Days

## SOUTH AFRICA SIXTEEN DAY 2006 SCORECARD

The following is an assessment of actions taken against the Checklist for Change from the 2005 Sixteen Day cyber dialogues co-ordinated by Gender Links.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2005 CHECKLIST	DONE	NOT DONE
<b>National Action Plan on Gender Violence</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government should convene a meeting of key stakeholders early in the New Year to agree on the action plan.</li> </ul>	May 2006	Action plan still in draft form; to be launched in March 2007.
<b>LEGISLATION</b>		
<b>The Sexual Offences Bill</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sexual Offences Act must be passed in the first quarter of 2006.</li> <li>The Act should establish, as a legislative principle, the need for comprehensive and holistic health and counseling services for rape victims/survivors.</li> <li>The Act should establish inter-sector co-ordinating frameworks</li> </ul>	Provides for an Inter sector committee for the management of Sexual Offences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bill was in its final stages but had not been passed as parliament went into recess in November 2006.</li> <li>Bill provides for Post Exposure Prophylaxis but not other forms of treatment.</li> <li>This structure excludes the Department of Education and NGOs.</li> </ul>
<b>Trafficking</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass comprehensive legislation in line with the UN Protocol Against Trafficking to address the high level of trafficking before the 2006 Sixteen Day campaign.</li> </ul>	There are transitional provisions on trafficking in the Sexual Offences Bill.	The provisions are only in partial compliance with international obligations.
<b>The Domestic Violence Act (DVA)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Justice should cost the Domestic Violence Act properly and ensure that resources are allocated for its implementation.</li> <li>SAPS and the Independent Complaints Directorate (ICD) should adhere to reporting procedures.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Still not costed nor adequately funded.</li> <li>The DVA says that the police and ICD must present reports on complaints twice a year. The ICD has presented two reports since 1999 and the police have yet to report to parliament.</li> </ul>
<b>Courts</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Justice must increase human resources in courts to help people who need to apply for protection orders, maintenance claims, etc.</li> </ul>		Justice system remains slow and inaccessible to the majority of women.
<b>Police</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAPS to train police in how to effectively gather evidence in cases relating to gender violence to ensure higher conviction rates.</li> <li>SAPS to train police in ensuring that they treat survivors of gender violence sensitively.</li> </ul>	Some police have grasped the nettle and formed a Men for Change Forum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A staggering 427 319 police cases remain unresolved many because critical forensic work is not being done.</li> <li>Attitudes of many police, especially in cases where the perpetrator is known to the victim, are dismissive and disheartening.</li> </ul>
<b>Coordination</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need for much tighter coordination of the criminal justice system.</li> </ul>	Better coordination within the Inter Departmental Management Team and an anti-rape strategy is being drafted.	Anti rape strategy has not been circulated for comments by stakeholders.
<b>SERVICES</b>		
<b>Information on services</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all South Africans know where they can access services, how they can access services and who to approach when services delivery is inadequate.</li> </ul>		Lack of access to information remains a serious need.
<b>Places of safety</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DSD should conduct a needs assessment of shelter requirements, to establish how many are needed and where, and to develop realistic targets and indicators for achieving this.</li> <li>Possibilities of funding from other spheres of government than just the Department of Social Development (DSD) eg local government.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shelters are still unevenly distributed and non existent, especially in rural areas.</li> <li>Some local councils would be willing to support places of safety but remain unclear as to whether they can take on this role.</li> </ul>

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<b>Transitional housing</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DSD to conclude and act on its negotiations with the Department of Housing (DOH) on making secondary housing available.</li> </ul>	Study by MRC on Including PEP in Post Sexual Assault Health Services has been concluded.	Women still struggle to find places to stay when they leave shelters.
<b>Treatment and care</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Department of Health (DOH) national audit on the availability of, and adherence to the PEP regimen, must be completed and publicised.</li> <li>The DOH should report on steps taken to implement the National Sexual Assault Policy, as well as how stronger synergies can be developed between this and the establishment of one-stop services for survivors of sexual assault.</li> <li>The DOH and NGOs should jointly mount a public awareness campaign on treatment and care for survivors of gender violence.</li> </ul>		Pending
<b>One stop services</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agencies that provide one stop services should conduct a needs assessment and propose a comprehensive, cost effective strategy for ensuring that every survivor of gender violence is able to access the full set of services they require.</li> </ul>	NPA has designed an audit of all existing facilities with a view to upgrading those that can into one stop centres.	Closure of Family Violence, Child Abuse and Sexual Assault (FSC) units in SAPS and redeployment of officers, without consulting service providers, major source of concern.
<b>Sexual offences courts (SCOs)</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis of SCOs, and establish realistic targets and indicators for achieving this, based on an assessment of cost effective options as well as linkages to one stop centres.</li> </ul>		No clear strategy on establishing special courts versus ensuring that all courts are geared to address sexual offenses.
<b>The Victim empowerment policy</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The VEP Policy should be approved by January 2006 and implemented during the course of next year.</li> </ul>		
<b>SOCIAL, CULTURAL, EDUCATION, TRAINING AND AWARENESS RAISING</b>		
<b>General</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is need for a major shift in focus, and provision of government resources, for prevention of gender violence.</li> </ul>	Victim Charter will be canvassed during the 2006 campaign.	Very limited government resources for prevention.
<b>Culture, tradition, the role of men</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Innovative ways must continue to be found for engaging with traditional authorities and men.</li> <li>There is need for a baseline Opinion Survey so that meaningful comparisons can be made, and targeted campaigns developed.</li> </ul>	NPA has started a programme with Traditional Authorities. Being discussed by the Prevention Cluster of the National Action Plan.	The study by the MRC showing that one in five men say they have raped a woman is a shocking indictment on public awareness campaigns to date.
<b>Same sex relationships</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise awareness around the levels of violence in same sex relationships and on men being abused by women.</li> </ul>	The passing of the Civil Union Act to allow same sex couples to marry is an important land mark	Gender violence against homosexuals, especially black lesbians is very high.
<b>Schools</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Education (DOE) should put forward a clear strategy for ending violence in schools and for the strictest measures to be taken against educators who abuse pupils.</li> </ul>		There has been a shocking increase in gender violence
<b>The media</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring of media coverage of gender violence by NGOs should be sustained and systematic, and be debated with the media on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>Media to commit to adopting gender and HIV/AIDS policies that will ensure sustained commitment to progressive coverage of these issues.</li> </ul>	Media Monitoring Project conducted a study on coverage of the Zuma case. SABC and Independent newspapers have shown an interest.	Monitoring still sporadic and linked mainly to Sixteen Days. SA media lags behind counter parts in the Southern African region.
<b>INTEGRATED APPROACHES AND BUDGETS</b>		
<b>Coordinating Structure</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Action Plan should include the creation of a mechanism that meets regularly to track progress; not just during Sixteen Day campaigns.</li> </ul>	Task Team with five clusters created; Programme Management Unit in the NPA.	Not all clusters have been active.
<b>Costing gender violence</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government to conduct a study on the <b>cost to the economy of gender violence</b> in South Africa, and use this in the formulation of more effective strategies and allocation of resources eg towards prevention.</li> </ul>		Pending
<b>Resource allocations</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Costing of each action, based on an assessment of needs, existing resources, gaps and the most efficient delivery methods. The costing should also indicate existing and possible sources of funds.</li> </ul>		Pending finalization of the National Action Plan.