

MAUN VILLAGE LEVEL MEETING WORKSHOP REPORT

14 October 2013



ATTENDANTS AT MAUN VILLAGE WORKSHOP

REPORTED BY PEGGIE RAMAPHANE

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST

- Mrs Chinyepi – Alliance Coordinator
- Peggie Ramaphane – Alliance Member
- Onalenna Rammekwa – BOCONGO staff member
- Kgosi Sedumedi – representing the Paramount chief of Batawana
- Lieutenant Searobi - BDF
- Mrs Segosebi - YWCA
- Joyce Khupe - Botsetse Reproductive Domiciliary Society
- Pearl Maricos – Woman in Business Association
- Moses Tlhalerwa – BOFWA
- Onnuwe Maritintshi – Youth in Business Botswana
- Eva Dambe – Love Botswana Outreach Mission
- Onkagetse Present – Bana Ba Letsatsi
- Vehae Tjiriyange - Queen Esther & Stability Pagents
- Dickson Samaemo – Thuso Rehabilitation Center
- Charity Thipe - NCONGO
- Keswelang Maritintshi - Tebelopele VCTC
- Botlhale Baliki - WAR

1. WELCOME REMARKS _ PEGGIE RAMAPHANE

She welcomed all the audience to the workshop and appreciated their presence to this workshop. She advised them to open up and speak out on issues affecting them in the district as per the SADC Gender and Development articles. She mentioned that their comments will be appreciated and welcomed because they can assist on the country's development agenda.

2. Exercise to answer few questions on gender SADC protocol - ALL

3. VIDEO (A ROADMAP TO EQUALITY) WAS WATCHED BY THE AUDIENCE – MRS CHINYEPI

SUMMARISATION OF THE VIDEO – CHINYEPI

Why Botswana has not signed (comments from the audience)

Because of the:

- financial resources
- the structure
- Politics
- Not ready to implement
- Obstacles that we have
- We have not realised how do we differ as women and men
- There were issues in the protocol that Batswana did not agree with and feels if they sign they will

- Not influence from the higher authorities
- Understanding level of protocol was low
- Botswana does not agree with the protocol but its steel consulting from women and men
- Fear and consultation was not done
- Because of the fear that women will take up the authorities
- Time given to implement is too short

Mrs Chinyepi 's Remarks

In the video Dr Molokomme has not yet convinced the government enough about signing the gender protocol. The major reason for not signing is that the protocol has no reservations clauses in it and has to be adopted in full. The president is also not in support of the affirmative language used in the protocol.

Botswana is however implementing even better than those countries that have long signed.

4. WHY IS THE WORKSHOP DONE?

The structure of the Alliance was handed out to the participants and explained. The main purpose of the workshop is to identify organisations in Ngamiland under each thematic area of the protocol who will lead that thematic area and track its activities and report on it.

GROUP WORK

GROUP 1: CHAPTER 1,2,3,8,11 (Constitutional & Legal Rights, Gender & Governance, Education& Training, Peace Building & conflict Resolution, gender, climate change and sustainable development

MEMBERS

Chair - Chinyepi

- Kgosi Sedumedi
- Vehae
- Eva
- Charity
- Mrs Segosebe
- Lieutenant Searobi

Constitutional & Legal Rights

- The Law must recognise cohabitations since most couple are not married in Botswana – **Agrees with it**
- The law needs to criminalise marital rape – **Agrees with it**
- There needs to be a review on abortion – **agrees with it**
- Legal Aid needs to be available to the poor to increase equality in access to justice – **Agrees**
- Workplace needs to address sexual harassment – **agrees with it**
- Civil society and government need to create awareness about the laws, the amendments and legal – **agrees with it**

- There needs for be education in the rural community involving community leaders to bring customary laws in line with laws of the country – **agrees with it**
- There is need to more education and innovative means of addressing harmful cultural and tradition practices – **agrees with it**
- Implementation remains a challenge; there is a need for costing and budgeting to implement gender related laws and policies – **agrees with it**

GENDER AND GOVERNANCE

- There is a need to advocate for affirmative action to increase women’s participation in all areas of governance - **agrees with it**
- There is a need for debate on the electoral system and advocacy for and electoral system that is more representative - **agrees with it**
- More gender sensitive education for all parties for all parties and the voters is needed -**agrees with it**
- Gender should be mainstreamed in all party structure and policies - **agrees with it**
- Advocacy for affirmative action is needed to increase women’s representation indecision making positions in all spheres - **Agrees with it**

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- More research is needed to assess the extent and nature of sexual violence at schools in the country; and efforts need to continue to make schools safe **separated it to be 2 points**
- There should be a Nation-wide campaign against sexual physical, and emotional abuse in schools targeting teachers and community – **separated it from the 1st one**
- The life skills programme should be revised to address unequal gender power relations. This contributes to sexual abuse, harassment and HIV infection - **Agrees with it**
- The Ministry of Education sector should continue to collaborate with NGOs to strengthen their guidance and counselling programme at all levels – **Agrees with it**
- More initiatives are needed to sensitive girls to take up careers in science and technology through career fairs, career guidance and counselling – **Agrees with it**
- The ministry of education & community leaders to address issues of security, moral standards, substance and drug abuse, Satanism. **Added it**

PEACE BUILDING & CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Review legislation related to police, defence and correctional or prison services to ensure that the Acts are gender sensitive and provide for women’s special needs – **agrees with it**
- The laws must be accompanied by special measures and incentives to attract women to join the security services sector – **agrees with it**

- Record keeping should be gender disaggregated to enable all stakeholders to monitor whether progress has been made towards equal representation and participation all levels of the sector – **agrees with it**
- Gender budgeting and costing is an important tool for assessing commitment to mainstreaming to gender in the sector. **Agrees with it**

GENDER, CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Appoint women to sustainable development decision – making positions through partnership with the women already occupying strategic positions, for example in agriculture and rural development. **Agrees with it**
- Map climate change effects on women through an initial qualitative study that can be developed in to a country specific quantitative framework. **Agrees with it**
- Intensify public awareness campaigns. **Agrees with it**
- Build capacity of women from different contexts on climate change issues; and together with women from communities, develop adaption and mitigation programme that are replicable. **Agrees with it**
- Government to commit to gender concerns I national budget with specific regard to climate change and environmental affairs. **Agrees with it**
- Set clear short and long –term targets for reducing carbon emission that keep average global temperature increases well below 1.5°C, and support a shared vision that enables gender equality and avoids adverse effects on vulnerable groups – especially women. **Agrees with it**

Group 2: Chapter 4, 5,6,7,9 (Economic Justice, GBV, Heath, HIV/AIDS, media, Information& Communication

MEMBERS

Chair: Peggie Ramaphane

- Samaemo
- Moses
- Joyce
- Onkemetse
- Unowe
- Keswelang

ECONOMIC JUSTICE: PRODUCTIVE RESOURCES AND EMPLOYMENT ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT (Corrected and additional points)

- Are the figures noted on the key points of chapter from the population census 2011? Or where did you get them?
- In the first step of chapter 4, nothing was done, it should be taken seriously, and there should be department of an informal sector because according to the figure, there are many in the informal sector. The supporting organisations such as WIBA should be decentralised. It should be across the country.
- The budgeting (gender responsive) should be well specific e.g if you go to health it should not be just round; it should state that a certain amount will be given to women and again to men.
- About care work – the government should do something, as women who do care are not recognised and not even remunerated. The budget should say something, they need to be supported as they are for persons who will develop our country.

- Gender affairs department should be empowered and adequately resourced. They should have impact on their jobs, not only numbered or figured in papers.
- Loans papers should be simplified so that the women especially from informal sectors should fill them easily; they should be accessible loan facilities and also should be mentored when doing business.

Chapter 5 gender based violence (Corrected and additional points)

Violence in our country is still high because of ignorance and it's institutional. Violence should be prevented starting from the high hierarchy. There should be alternative to violence such as beaching.e.g students should be benchmarking on the reinforcement forms on a positive way.

Chapter 6 health (Corrected and additional points)

- On health system has deteriorated in terms of human resources, drugs poor system. The resources are limited in the facilities. The health facilities are also not easily accessible prevention should be taken seriously to avoid abortion Cause of material mortality is not only AIDS but it is bleeding, high blood and infections.
- It should be written that all NGOs, government and private sectors should continue the campaigns on condom use.
- The use of condoms does not necessity need to be classified by gender, e.g female condom. Because it's about behavior? If a man does not want to use a condom, he cannot use a female condom. The naming of condoms is not good.
- The Service provider or points should change their attitudes towards men participation in Sexual and reproductive health issues.

Chapter 7 HIV AIDS (Corrected and additional points)

- The structure of taking or addressing people should change and the appropriate language should be used.
- The campaign Is always about HIV positive, it's like the HIV negative people are not involved. They should be also involved in the campaign of HIV.
- The caretakers at home should be also considered and recognized, so budget wise the government should consider for dare takers at home.

Chapter 9 media, information and communication (corrected and additional points)

- Media should be independent and separate from government so that people can have Freedom of speech and expression
- There should be 100 percent of gender policies

- We want gender responsive workplace, should look At the interest, needs and wants of the female workers.

Noted suggestions

- Mourning for a husband or wife partner who is deceased should be treated equally e.g dress code in the process of bereavement.
- Bogadi should be uniform in Botswana.

5. KEY CAMPAIGNS OVERVIEW : WAR Coordinator - Peggie Ramaphane

16 days of Activism Against Violence on Women

She informed people about 16 Days of activism which starts with Human Rights Defenders Day on the 25th November and ends on Human Rights Day on 10th December. There will be a number of activities led by WAR and other organisations to focus citizens on the plight of women who experience violence in their lives in the district. This is a global campaign that has turned into a 365 Day campaign.

50/50 Women in Politics

The participants were reminded of the importance of having a significant number of women representatives in law making and decision making positions in the country. Women need to be present at the table when decisions and laws are made so that they can present and voice out the woman's perspective and needs to ensure inclusive laws and policies. Hence the 50/50 campaigns and that people should vote 50 % women to 50 % men into positions of political power and decision making. She encouraged all participants to register and vote for the upcoming elections in 2014.

6. CLOSING REMARKS - Kgosi Sedumedi

She thanked the workshop facilitators and organizers for this informative workshop. We have learnt a lot about gender and SADC protocol, she encouraged women in politics to stand up and continue preaching gender issues during their campaigns. She indicated that network is very important and it makes it easy when talking about gender.