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ZIMBABWE WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

"Justice & Equality For All"

Our lessons on the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women Reporting Mechanism



United Nations



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Introduction and background

The CEDAW convention came into force in 1981 and it obliges countries that have accepted to be bound by it to take necessary steps to promote women's rights. Zimbabwe ratified CEDAW in 1991 and submitted its first report in 1997. In 2012 Zimbabwe's combined 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th reports were being reviewed by the CEDAW committee of experts in the form of a constructive dialogue. 28 Civil Society Organizations produced and submitted a Shadow report to the government one. The Gays and Lesbians Association of Zimbabwe (GALZ) submitted their own separate shadow report. 6 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) representatives went to Geneva to participate in the constructive dialogue on Zimbabwe

Background to the Cedaw Shadow reporting process

Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA) took the initiative to lead the compilation of the Cedaw Shadow Report. In early 2010, ZWLA went on a learning visit to WILDAF Ghana to learn about the Cedaw Shadow reporting process. Wildaf had also participated in the Cedaw Shadow reporting process and ZWLA took advantage of Wildaf's participation in the shadow reporting process to draw important lessons that shaped ZWLA's initiative in Zimbabwe ahead of the consideration of Zimbabwe's 2nd to the 5th combined reports by the Cedaw Committee in February 2012.

The early trainings

Having drawn lessons from Wildaf Ghana's experience in the shadow reporting process, ZWLA conducted a training in November 2010 for shadow reporting in Harare drawing key players from gender and

women's rights CSOs in which the participants were taken through the provisions of the Convention itself and the human rights reporting mechanisms under the Convention. The training was aimed at building the knowledge base of CSOs on the Cedaw reporting process so as to enable them to fully participate in the Shadow reporting process. One outcome of this training was the consensus by CSOs on the need to collect specific data that will then be compiled by ZWLA and consolidated into a Cedaw Shadow report. To this end, the organizations that had participated were constituted into thematic groups with each organization collecting data that feeds into the thematic area within its expertise.

The initial attempt to compile a Shadow report

Having constituted the working groups, ZWLA's attempt to compile a shadow report was not successful owing to capacity gaps. It emerged that whilst the training had building the capacity of organizations to appreciate the theoretical concepts around shadow reporting, it was not sufficient to build their capacity to then carry out the data compilation and analysis that was going to produce the shadow report. As a result, the few groups that met in their thematic group meetings produced either data that was too shallow or that did not carry much weight in terms of the information that could assist the Cedaw Committee in appreciating the actual women's rights situation in Zimbabwe.

ZWLA's second attempt to produce a report was through a desk study by two ZWLA members who also produced two theoretical reports that were not speaking much to the lived reality of the Zimbabwean women, which is what the Cedaw Committee was more interested in knowing as it is that which was useful for it to make Recommendations for Zimbabwe.

The second attempt: ZWLA's partnership with International Women's Action Rights Watch (IWRAP-Asia Pacific) and Wildaf Ghana

Having faced the challenges above, ZWLA then partnered with IWRAP Asia Pacific and conduct a more comprehensive advanced training for CEDAW shadow reporting. Consultants were drawn from countries that had prepared Shadow Reports in the past, Ghana and Malaysia.

The three day training workshop was attended by a total of 42 participants, 39 female and 3 male drawn from the Civil Society Organizations based in Harare, Bulawayo and Gweru.

The training attracted an overwhelming number of participants to the extent that some of the participants could not fit in the conference room. One important outcome of the training was again a general consensus by the participants to constitute working groups that would collect data, analyse it and forward it to ZWLA for consolidation.



Some of the participants that attended the ZWLA training in collaboration with IWRAP-Asia-Pacific and Wildaf Ghana

The participants thus agreed to work on the following thematic areas:-

AREA	ORGANISATIONS
ARTICLE 1-5	SearchwI-UZ(Dr Amy Tsanga and Professor Stewart)-Lead organization ZWLA ZLHR NGO Forum DWSO REPA
Health	MASO-Leading(Veronica Nhemachena) WASN WAG
Marriage and Family life	ZWLA-Lead organization WLSA LFR MISA ACLJ
Rural Women	YWCA(Leading) IYWD Bindura Kunzwana Jekesa Pfungwa Plan International

Economic and Social benefits	REPA(Leading)-Otilia Chikosha ZCTU SKITHI
Law	Searcwl (Dr Amy Tsanga and Professor Stewart) leading
	ZWLA ZLHR NGO Forum Envision-Leo
VAW	Musasa Padare Sexual Rights Centre NGO Forum RAU SWRGN
Political and Public Life	WISPU Women's Trust Action Aid NANGO WCoZ
Compilation	ZWLA and Searcwl, NGO Forum
Editing, Proof reading	Women's Writers

Whilst the 42 participants that had attended the training pledged to collect the relevant data , analyse it and send it to ZWLA for consolidation, in the course of the compilations, some of the organizations however did

not send any information nor actively participate in the group meetings. Hence, at the end of the process, 28 out of the 42 organizations that had participated submitted information that was later consolidated into

the shadow report that ZWLA later presented to the Cedaw Committee.

Covering the Information Gap

In order to cover up for the information gap, ZWLA staff and members also relooked at the sessions that had been allocated to the participating organizations. The information that came from the organizations and the members and staff was later consolidated by one of the ZWLA members to come up with a 98 page documents that was later send to IWRAW Asia-Pacific for their technical assistance in polishing it up. Whilst ZWLA had worked tirelessly in polishing the 98 page documents, again it emerged that the final document that was to be submitted to the Cedaw Committee ought to be 32-35 pages. For ZWLA the challenge was in prioritizing which information to take and to discard without watering down the substance of the report. However, ZWLA successfully submitted the Cedaw Report to the Committee two (2) weeks before the deadline of the Cedaw Committee.

PARTICIPATION AT CEDAW 51ST SESSION IN GENEVA BY ZIMBABWE'S CSOs

1. From Global to Local Mentoring Programme organised parallel to the CEDAW 51st Session by IWRAW ASIA –PACIFIC

The mentoring programme that was attended by Zimbabwe's CSO also comprised other partners from Jordan and Isreal whose countries were also reporting at the CEDAW 51st session.

The sessions introduced an overview of the nine international human rights treaties which are monitored by the human rights treaty bodies. CSOs developed a greater understanding of the pertinent United

Nations bodies and mechanisms, including human rights treaties, their inter-relationships and ways by which they can be used in advocacy for human rights of women. The emphasis was mainly on understanding how the periodic reporting by state party is useful in monitoring implementation of treaties and the role of NGOs in lobbying for implementation of treaties through shadow reporting .

IWRAW Asia Pacific shares with CSOs a profile of the 23 CEDAW experts , their backgrounds and special interests which will help in targeted lobbying as they interact with them in the UN corridors. One of the key tips was information on the **country report task force set up by the committee** which meet during the session preceding the one which the State's report will be examined. Most committees appoint one of their members as **country rapporteur** to take the lead in drawing up the list of issues for a specific country.

Country report task forces consist of a country rapporteur and four to six other members of the committee nominated by its chairperson.

During the 51st CEDAW session the Task force to review Zimbabwe has Violet Awori from Kenya as the Rapportuer, Ameline Nicole (France), Barbra Bailey (Jamaica), Bareiro Bobadilla (Paraguay) , Gabr Naela (Egypt), Hayashi Yoko (Japan)Patten Pramila Mauritius), Pires Maria (Timor). IWRAW shows photographs of these individuals for easy identification .

This enabled CSOs to have a greater appreciation of how women's human rights activism is strengthened and enhanced through interventions in relevant UN bodies and other international mechanisms



*PARTICIPATION AT CEDAW 51ST SESSION IN GENEVA BY ZIMBABWE'S CSOs
From Global to Local Mentoring Programme organised parallel to the CEDAW 51st Session by IWRAW ASIA –PACIFIC*



ZWLA Director Emilia Muchawa at the U.N offices in Geneva attending the 51ST CEDAW Session.

Other Sources of information

In addition to the state party report, human rights institutions, NGOs , UN Agencies, Academic institutions amongst other groups also send information to the treaty bodies.

Consideration of State parties reports Lobbying of CEDAW Committee by CSOs Attending sessions

State party reports are considered at public meetings which CSOs may attend as observers. State parties are invited to the committees sessions to present their reports , to respond to the committee member's questions and to provide the committee with additional information. In light of all the information available the committee examines the report together with Government representatives. The aim is to engage in a constructive dialogue in order to assist the state in its efforts to implement a treaty as fully and effectively as possible .Treaty bodies are not judicial bodies, they monitor implementation and provide encouragement and advise to states.

The constructive dialogue is a very interactive process between the state and the Experts .The experts ask questions with the state responding. We were quite impressed by most of the responses given by the state delegation that showed they had really prepared and took the whole process seriously. However some of the members of the state delegation occasionally gave bizarre responses to questions because they are so divorced from reality . The committee would seek clarity on such responses with follow up questions often referring to the shadow report.

Attending the sessions enables CSOs to

1. Brief the committee as a whole or its individual members
2. Observe the dialogue between the committee and the state and
3. Learn first hand about the issues raised and the recommendations made by the committee

Contribution to the sessions

CSOs including individual experts , academics may have an active role in committee sessions . While they do not participate in the dialogue between state party and the committee, they may make presentations to the committee members on the issues contained in their written submissions.

The committee sets aside time for oral submissions by the CSOs.



Zimbabwe CSOs making Oral Submissions to the CEDAW Committee

Written submissions are provided to the interpreters before the session. Language that is deemed abusive or offensive will not be accepted and anyone using such language will be excluded from the sessions.

The CSOs are given ten minute to be shared amongst them. CSOs are also supposed to contact the secretariat in advance to inform it officially of their planned participation.

At the 51st CEDAW Session Emilia Muchawa(ZWLA),Fadzai Muparutsa(GALZ) and Rumbidzai Dube(RAU) were able to make the oral statements before the committee see Annexure A a copy of the Oral Statements and Annexure B list of questions to CSO by the CEDAW committee. This was followed by a list of questions from the CEDAW Committee. They sought clarity on progress made to address Violence Against women including politically motivated violence, harmful cultural practices, marriage law reform and the involvement of CSOs in the constitution making process.



Zimbabwe CSOs with Minister Olivia Muchena and Nyaradzai Gumbondzvanda after presenting the state report at the 51ST CEDAW Session in Geneva.

Informal Briefings/ Lunch Briefings



Some of the CEDAW Committee members during a lunch briefing with Zimbabwe CSOs

Committee Sessions normally provide opportunities for CSOs to meet with the committee members'. These are arranged by the CSOs as side events during lunch break between 1-3pm. These take place on the day preceding or on the day of the consideration of the State report of the relevant country. Well organized and coordinated briefings are more likely to be attended by committee members and will be more effective than numerous briefings on many different issues. The secretariat provides a room for such briefings. Strategic Partners also help in the lobbying. Zimbabwe CSOs benefited much from the role of Nyaradzai Gumbodzvanda, Secretary General of YWCA, also a ZWLA member. She also hosted a dinner the previous night for the 23 CEDAW Committee members, thus laying a good foundation for the lunch briefing meeting with CSOs. She was therefore able to lobby

a good representation of the experts to attend the Zimbabwe lunch briefing meeting.

During the 51ST CEDAW Session Fadzai Chatiza (ZWLA) was moderator whilst Patience Mandishona gave an oral statement. Emilia Muchawa, Rumbidzai Dube and Sian Maseko And Fadzai Muparutsa were able to respond to a list of questions from the Committee members. Nyaradzai Gumbodzvanda also made a statement on behalf of YWCA. See Annexure C a list of questions and responses during this session. The Committee is very friendly, humble and willing to receive information from CSOs to assist them in the constructive dialogue. The CEDAW experts were more interested in the progress around the Constitution making process especially women and CSOs involvement in the process. They also enquired about problems faced by women with current laws of citizenship, human trafficking, homophobia, marriage laws, political participation, violence against women and the escalation of poverty in Zimbabwe.

In the spirit of non discrimination and inclusivity, we sought to work and assist each other as Zimbabwean CSO despite our interests in order to represent a united front. However this did not work out well as there was a major fall out at the end as one of the interest group felt their issues were being watered down and not being articulated well by the rest of the delegation. Other contentious issues was the involvement of Zimbabweans living in the diaspora in the lunch briefing meeting. Some of the local CSOs had strong objections against this whilst others felt it would be improper to muffle the voices of those in the diaspora as they had a right to be heard.



Zimbabwe Lunch briefing with CEDAW Committee

Advocacy Tips!!!

- During breaks we had an opportunity to meet with the Office of the Human Rights Commissioner and Secretariat to the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women. We learnt of other UN Special procedures beyond the treaty bodies such as Special Rapporteur and Working groups that the CSOs can also engage with. Zimbabwe Women NGOs are not really doing much in engaging them , there is a gap in information on women's lived realities in Zimbabwe.

- Advocacy is about changing attitudes and getting a platform to be heard this can only be achieved effectively through building and keeping relationships with key stakeholders especially the duty bearers . One of the key meetings was building relationships with the Minister Muchena and Minister Holland by wining and dining with them. We learnt of the history of the women's movement in Zimbabwe and how they have continued to soldier on for the greater good of women. This set a good tone for the courtesy visit at the Zimbabwean Embassy .We were warmly received and were able to share the purpose of CSOs participation in UN process mainly to encourage implementation of CEDAW and not to name and shame the state. It is unfortunate that some of CSO members were not comfortable in participating in such a process due to the polarisation in our society. Engaging with government is skewed upon as "dining with the enemy".

Lessons learnt

- The constructive dialogue process is an effective way of incorporating CSO perspectives and is indeed constructive
- It is part of our ongoing lobbying and advocacy
- There is need to raise awareness on CEDAW with government

departments and in general

- Zimbabwe can lobby now to have an expert on the committee of experts as we have a lot to contribute
- Producing a shadow report gives you a voice
- The experts commended our Shadow report as informative and a useful tool for the constructive dialogue and for their other future trainings

Conclusion

"We are all contributing to writing the narrative of Zimbabwean women. We may be sitting in different chairs and using different tools. Ultimately we want a Zimbabwe where all girls and women are able to realise their full potential."

51st Session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women

ZIMBABWE NGO Statement and Delegation

Presented by:

Zimbabwe Civil Society Report
Emilia Muchawa, Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association
Rumbidzai Dube, Research and Advocacy Unit
LGBTI Report
FadzaiMuparutsa, Gays and Lesbians Association of Zimbabwe

Emilia Muchawa

Madame Chair, my colleagues and I are speaking on behalf of the 28 Zimbabwean Civil Society Organisations that participated in the preparation of the shadow reports before you.

Although the reports cover many issues we will highlight the following three critical areas. First is constitutional and legal rights, second violence against women and third the area of sexual orientation and gender identity.

1. Constitutional and legal rights

a) We note that constitutions provide the foundation of the removal of all forms of discrimination against women in law and practice. However, the grounds for non-discrimination that the Constitution of Zimbabwe sets out in Section 23 (1) are inadequate. Section 23 only addresses discrimination perpetrated by public agencies and does not cover situations where women face discrimination in the domestic sphere or at the hands of private actors. The Constitution also does not give a definition to the concepts of discrimination and equality thus leaving it open to various subjective interpretations by different actors impacting negatively on women's rights. Section 23(3) represents a claw back clause which allows discrimination in the area of personal law and in the application of customary

law, areas which impact heavily on the lives of the majority of Zimbabwean women.

We recommend that:

- In light of the ongoing constitutional reform process, a clear and exhaustive definition of equality and non-discrimination be provided for all persons to be equal before and under the law in all spheres of social, political, economic, cultural. civil and in every other respect and that they shall enjoy equal protection and benefit of the law without distinction, restriction or exclusion, directly or indirectly on the basis of their race, colour, tribe, place of birth, ethnic or social origin, religious belief, political or other opinion, sex, gender, marital status, pregnancy, age, disability, culture or other status or a combination of any of these grounds.
- b) Zimbabwe has neither ratified the Optional Protocol to CEDAW nor has it fully incorporated CEDAW and other conventions affecting the rights and status of women into national law. Zimbabwe also has a number of laws that prevent women's easy access to healthcare, sexual reproductive health services and employment.

We recommend that:

- The state should ratify the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and incorporate the provisions in CEDAW, the Optional Protocol to CEDAW and other instruments affecting the rights and status of women into domestic law.

Rumbidzai Dube**2. Violence against women**

- a) Madame Chair, we acknowledge the positive development of the enactment of the Domestic Violence Act which has provided a framework for addressing violence in the private sphere.

However insufficient resources to ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act have been provided. In particular the state has not allocated adequate resources to the effective function of the Domestic Violence Council or for public education and awareness raising. There are only 4 formal shelters in the whole of Zimbabwe to cater for the thousands of victims that seek refuge each year.

We recommend that:

- The state allocate adequate resources to the national gender machinery and the Anti-domestic violence council for the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act
 - Further that the state builds adequate shelters to give women a refuge and safe space when subjected to domestic violence
- b) We also note that violence in the public sphere has been on the increase especially in times of elections. Politically motivated violence plagues Zimbabwean women. In 2008 alone, civil society organisations documented the use of an organised campaign of violence against women in the period towards the Presidential

rerun which violence resulted in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Election Observer Mission deeming the election not free and fair.

Women human rights defenders are persistently targeted, arrested, detained, tortured and subjected to inhumane treatment. In 2012 alone 27 women from the activist organisation Women of Zimbabwe Arise were arrested for demonstrating peacefully.

The state has failed to protect women from sexual violence including politically motivated rape, and targeted rape against sex workers and LBT women. This has also led to increased HIV/AIDS infections where women comprise 56% of people living with HIV/AIDS as these women are forced to have unprotected sex. Social and cultural norms limiting women's control over their sexual and reproductive rights including negotiation of safe sex, also increases women's risk of exposure.

The state has acknowledged the severity of the problem of politically motivated violence by setting up an Organ on National Healing, Reconciliation and Integration and the 3 Principals in the Inclusive Government have also acknowledged this.

However cases of politically motivated violence remain largely uninvestigated and unprosecuted leading to a culture of impunity which feeds the cycle of violence. Existing institutions such as the Organ on National Healing, the Joint Monitoring Committee (JOMIC), and the Human Rights Commission which has a prescriptive mandate are not adequately capacitated to effectively address this form of violence.

We recommend that:

- The state should prioritise the sensitisation of bodies such as the police, the courts and other key bodies facilitating the protection and access to justice of women victims of politically motivated violence with a view to ending impunity in line with UN Resolution 1820 as part of a comprehensive approach to seek sustainable peace, justice, truth and national reconciliation;

- The state should set up a multi-sectoral investigation into politically motivated violence led by the Ministry of Women Affairs in collaboration with the Ministries of Home Affairs and Justice and other stakeholders before the next elections to ensure that politically motivated violence does not recur
- The state should not only condemn but also hold accountable those responsible for the perpetration of politically motivated violence.

Fadzai Muparutsa

c) Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Zimbabwean LBT women are not an homogeneous group, we are rich in diversity. Lesbian, bisexual, transgender persons and gender non-conforming women are subjected to verbal, physical, sexual and psychological abuse. All LBT women experience stigma based on their sexual orientation and gender identity or expression. Such stigma takes the form of violence including rape, sexual assault, harassment, and physical abuse perpetrated by both state and non-state actors.

The media promotes homophobia, hate speech and discrimination against the broader LGBTI community, increasing the vulnerability of LBT women by reinforcing gender and heteronormative stereotypes leading to violence.

LBT women are unable to report cases of violence to law enforcement agents fearing further violence and stigma. Law enforcement agents harass, intimidate and blackmail LBT women.

The law criminalising homosexual acts influences societal perceptions about 'female' sexuality preventing LBT women from living openly and participating in their public life without fear. In addition the concerns and human rights abuses experienced by LBT women are often excluded from campaigns for women's rights.

The reality for LBT women is that many broad rights are denied them on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. This includes access to services. A lack of data and research around health issues affecting LBT women prevents them from accessing key and essential sexual, reproductive health services. In addition, LBT women face challenges accessing education. In February 2003, 45 young women were expelled from Langham High School on suspicion that they were lesbians. In 2010 and 2011 twenty girls from Eveline School in Bulawayo were arrested and questioned by the police for being 'lesbians'. The girls were refused legal representation. These violations extend to areas of employment, access to information, public participation and justice.

We recommend that:

- The State fulfils its obligation to ensure that the law is inclusive of all women and in the application and interpretation of the law, all women are equal and all women have recourse to justice;
- The State should take positive measures to ensure the elimination of all forms of violence against women;
- The State fulfils its obligation to recognise all women as equal with no restrictions and to actively prevent discrimination against groups and individuals of women;
- The State fulfils its obligation to take action against organisations, institutions and individuals that discriminate against all women.

Annexure B

QUESTIONS POSED DURING ORAL STATEMENT:

Pramilla Patten (Mauritius)

Thanked all NGOs for the information they provided

3. Zimbabwe

Constitutional review

- to what extent are NGOs engaged in the process
- Are there NGOs representatives in the thematic committee

The state responded to our questions vaguely

- Please update us on the stats of the constitutional review process

Abortion

- repeal

S.23(1) definition on discrimination against women

- agrees with recommendation
- How are you using the review process to lobby for CEDAW incorporation

Vega (Spain)

3. Zimbabwe

What is the attitude of the government towards violence against women?

- Are they intending to create awareness campaign about violence against women or is there a lack of resources?

Marriage registrations

- How can CEDAW raise a concern on the issue of the various forms of marriage

Rasekh (Afghanistan)

1. Zimbabwe

Politically motivated violence

- not clear that during elections the violence that occurs who targets who

Please explain who the perpetrators of violence and the targets

- is it women voters or candidates?

Shelters

- Security for women, management, locations in the capital, etc
- I need more information

Harmful practices

- In the name of tradition that affects women's health and human rights

Awori (Kenya)

1. Zimbabwe

Four formal shelters in the whole of Zimbabwe

- are these government shelters or operated by NGOs

Annexure C

Summary of Zimbabwe Lunch Briefing

CEDAW Committee Members in attendance:

Onilla Bareiro (Paraguay)

Awori (Kenya)

Schulz (Switzerland)

Gabr (Egypt)

Zou (China)

Vega (Spain)

Pimental (Brazil – Chairwoman)

QUESTIONS:

Gabr:

Nationality - what are the problems for Zimbabwean women to transmit nationality?

Awori:

Constitutional review - what is the government's real commitment to the review - stressed political commitment is important - she wanted to know if the NGOs thought there was government commitment

Section 23(3) of the constitution - Is there enough education and awareness regarding that clause

TSM – can you be a bit more specific about what they should ask?

Bareiro:

Do NGOs have information on definition of discrimination and TSM

REPLIES:

Emilia:

Constitutional review - draft was presented and was rejected - haven't engaged since then.

- Three main parties, inclusive government, indicated there would be a new constitutional reform process - the pace since then has been slow
- at the moment we are at the drafting stage of the Constitution

S.23(3) – Define discrimination CEDAW - recommendations will be made - yet to see how it will come out in the draft document

Awareness campaign - the government has relied on NGOs to raise awareness but they do not have enough resources

TSM -

Rumbadzai:

Nationality - Zimbabwean gov has changed Zimbabwean laws and forced people to choose between Zimbabwean citizenship through descent - changed the ability to pass on their citizenship to their children

- No dual citizenship available

QUESTIONS:

Zou:

- Implementation of allocation of land to women

- Poverty issue

Poverty elevation strategy or national policy

Schulz:

- Marriage law reform** - revision of constitution and extension of grounds on discrimination
- According to the state report revision of the marriage report will align all types of marriage to CEDAW
 - What types of marriage under civil and customary law
 - What types of grounds of discrimination in the constitution - will the constitution mention prohibition to discriminate against someone based on SOGI

TSM – should the issues be addressed as permanent measures

Awori:

- Issue of trafficking does not come out clearly** - in the state report there is an acknowledgement of trafficking - there seems to be a denial of trafficking
- what is the real position* - is trafficking a big issue? Internal or external, women and girls or for labour?
- What is the difference between registered and non-registered marriage/
 - Are most of the customary marriages unregistered?

REPLIES:

Emilia:

- Title to land is under the name of the Husband - allocation to women works in this manner
- Registration is under the husbands name because of basis on gender roles - women work on the property however register under partner's name
- Registration of marriage and non-registration - in terms of the rights of the children the law recognises their rights
- Problem in Zim is through men who mix marriages - the process to fix marriage laws - the promises have been made by the government for a long time

Fadzai:

- Inclusions in the constitution - natural differences language - need specific language in the constitution
- Referendum - SOGI rights may be excluded through the referendum process

Sian:

- Data or statistics - lacking on trafficking - confusion in the reports based on the criminalisation of sex work - makes it very difficult to get information on the extent of trafficking

Emilia:

- TSM should be extended, will take a long time to address the imbalances - still need to engage on the issue

QUESTIONS:

Silvia Pimental:

- Quotas** - TSM - the idea of the quotas is to be temporary, if you don't have parity stay with the quotas as long as it takes
- It is difficult for states to understand the difference between TSM and PSM however the end goal and idea should be parity

Bareiro:

- What are the main issues in political participation?

REPLIES:

Emilia:

- Lack of resources** - main issue for women in political field
- Gender roles** - Many expectations on women to undertake gender specific roles rather than being understood as leaders

Intra-party violence - Around election time violence tends to escalate and keeps women out of that space to change the way things are done

- Difficult choices for women to participate in politics

Fadzai:

- Harassment and violence against LGBT people in the context of the constitutional review process and general political process

- Being able to generally participate

QUESTIONS

Awori:

- How should we approach intergenerational issues within the women's community?

Bareiro:

- Can you give the recommendations to us in short form (summarised)

Notes



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