



*PUSHING THE
FRONTIER
OF
GENDER EQUALITY
in Africa*

2019 Report of
Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)
Using Solemn Declaration Index and Scorecard

Olumide Abimbola Ajayi, Ph.D.

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FOREWORD

It all started as an idea that performance can be measured, execution can be assessed and African Governments can be held accountable in ensuring that gender equality becomes a development agenda for the 21st century as envisioned in the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA). This position came at a time when the Member States have recognised the importance of implementation and the fact that without appropriate indicators, progress will be difficult to measure

The design and the application of the Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC) and Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) came out of the firm belief that the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Network cannot engage in meaningful advocacy if progress cannot be measured, gaps identified and good practices celebrated. The SDI was developed in 2012 with technical and financial support from United Nations Economic Commission of Africa (UNECA). After a series of validation exercises, it was applied to generate an Africa-wide assessment report titled “From Adoption to Measurement” which was launched in Kigali, Rwanda in July, 2016 at the margin of the 27th Summit of the African Union (AU).

Since the introduction of the SDSC and SDI, a number of positive developments relating to performance measurement have occurred. Some of these include:

1. The African Union Women, Gender and Development Directorate (AUWGDD) had adopted the score card component to assess and reward Member States (MS) performance on the annual theme of the African Union;
2. The Summit of Heads of State has adopted the SDI as a measurement and evaluation tool for the implementation of Agenda 2063;
3. The SDI has also led to the introduction of evidence-based reporting format for MS on the SDGEA which has motivated some MS to produce better and smarter reports;
4. The SDI report has provided new advocacy platform for members of GIMAC working on the various thematic focus of the SDGEA;
5. The SDI, for the first time, assisted GIMAC in conducting

evidence based selection of the winner and recipient of the African Gender Forum Award (AGFA) which went to the Government and people of Namibia in 2018.

All these positive developments connote SDI as an instrument that can be used to push the frontier of gender equality within the Continent. Continuous engagement with stakeholders, especially African Leaders and Heads of State, has been a rewarding experience for African Women in the last fifteen years. While there are more grounds to cover, I am very optimistic that progress will not stop.

I wish to thank AUWGDD, UNWOMEN, UNECA, and our other partners listed in the appendix and members of the Steering Committee of GIMAC who have been using their expertise, knowledge and commitment to promote gender equality. I also thank Dr. Olumide Abimbola Ajayi who continues to lead the task of producing these reports.

I hope that the report will help African Women, Policy Makers, Gender Activists and Women's Movements to continue the good work and ensure that the frontier of progress continues to move until women's participation and leadership are actualised.

Ms Binta Diop

Founder and Chairperson, Board of Femmes Africa Solidarite (FAS)
Coordinator, Gender is My Agenda (GIMAC) Network,
AU Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACHPR	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
AfDB	Africa Development Bank
AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
ALPC	African Land Policy Centre
ART	Anti-Retroviral Treatment
AU	Africa Union
AU/CIEFFA	African Union International Centre for Girls and Women Education in Africa
AUC	Africa Union Commission
AWLN	African Women Leaders Network
CEDAW	Convention and Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of Child
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DD	Demographic Dividend
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EMTCT	Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission
FAWE	Forum for African Women Educationists
GADIA	Gender and Development Initiative for Africa
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GEI	Girls' Education Index
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
GIMAC	Gender is my Agenda Campaign
GPI	Gender Parity Index
HI	HIV Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLP	Housing, Land and Properties
HR	Human Rights
HT	Human Trafficking
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IDPs	Internally Displaced Person
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
LR	Land Rights
MS	Member State
NAP	National Action Plan
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council

PLWHAs	People Living with HIV/AIDS
REC	Regional Economic Communities
SDGEA	Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa
SDI	Solemn Declaration Index
SDSC	Solemn Declaration Score Card
STEM	Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNMONUSCO	United Nations Organisation Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies Pour la Stabilization en Republique Democratique du Congo)
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolutions
WGDD	Women Gender Development Directorate
WHO	World Health Organisation
WLWHAs	Women Living with HIV/AIDS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is the 2nd report on the deployment of the Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) for the performance assessment of the Member States (MS) of the African Union (AU) in the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA). The first report was launched in July, 2016 in Kigali at the margin of the 27th Ordinary Summit of the African Union. In this report, the SDI still focused on the generation of three thematic indices on HIV/AIDs, Gender Parity and Girls Education as it was in the first report. The complimentary Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC) was used to assess the SDGEA report of 30 Member States whose reports were available to GIMAC at the end of November, 2018. The Grand Index (GI) was also calculated as the geometric mean of SDI and SDSC which assisted in throwing up the high performing countries in this second cycle of the SDI report. The leading countries based on our evaluation are Namibia, Kenya, Zambia, Senegal and Rwanda in that order. Paucity of data and non-availability of some MS reports limited the scope and depth of the report.

One major innovation in this report is the isolation and documentation of some selected good practices that MS have deployed in the implementation of the SDGEA which has produced or are producing gender sensitive impact in favour of women in those countries. The study also accommodated an advocacy document on article 8 of the SDGEA produced by a GIMAC partner; Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC). The objective behind this is to provide advocacy opportunities for GIMAC members, activists and other stakeholders to engage and encourage their Heads of State to adopt these good practices to drive gender equality and rights of women. The good practices are documented in chapter four of this report.

Various analyses carried out in this report showed that progress are being recorded in some areas, however concerted efforts are required in protecting women against the upsurge in Gender Based Violence (GBV), Human Trafficking, Slavery and lack of access to productive resources. The decision-making structures and space both at the AUC and MS level are still heavily skewed in favour of men except in some few cases where legal and policy support had helped African women to climb the ladder of equality in a rapid manner. The post-election reversal in the women representation status in Seychelles calls for the use of appropriate legal

instruments in ensuring sustainability in the promotion of gender equality in Africa.

Giant strides were made in the reduction of prevalence rates of HIV/AIDs in some countries but anti-retroviral treatment coverage for Women Living with HIV/AIDs (WLWHA) is still low when compared to that of men. The girls' enrollment in schools and progression rates have improved but efforts at retaining and integrating pregnant girls back to school system need acceleration and spread across the continent. The preponderance of early child marriage in some countries continue to hinder the collective efforts being deployed to increase access for girls in both primary and secondary schools. Although AU/CIEFFA had developed some programmes to encourage and raise the interest of girls in STEM, a more holistic and continent wide commitment and childhood awareness creation and attention will be required to achieve the desired results.

The report made some recommendations but key ones are summarised below:

1. A joint GIMAC-AUWGDD Advocacy Mission should be raised to:
 - a. Undertake a visit to countries whose response to the commitments made under the SDGEA has been very weak to build their capacity and persuade them to develop appropriate strategies, policies and laws required for the implementation of the SDGEA;
 - b. Engage government and stakeholders of countries serving as source, route and recipients of trafficked women with the aim of developing a legal framework for the rights protection and rehabilitation of female victims;
2. In order for women to enjoy their full rights and be in a position to pursue these rights, it is proposed that a separate Women Rights Commission (WRC) be established as distinct legal entity from the existing Human Rights Commissions (HRCs) because many of them do not focus much on the rights of women.'
3. Convening of a Special Session of the Heads of State of the African Union (AU) on Acceleration of Political Participation of Women through active interventions that will compel Political Parties and Electoral Commissions across the continent to fund and integrate women to the electoral system from the national to local government level.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0. Introductory Background.

Following the emergence of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) in 2004, the Africa Union Commission's Women and Gender and Development Directorate (AUCWGDD) under the guidance of the ministers responsible for women and gender developed a reporting framework to assist member states to meet the obligations within the declaration.

The Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) was developed in 2012, by the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Network with the support of United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), to measure progress being made in the implementation of the SDGEA. This was in response to the fact that the AU's reporting guidelines are weak and need to be strengthened with clear indicators that will make evaluation of both quantitative and qualitative performance possible. Also, the difficult computation process, paucity of data and questionable sources of data makes it difficult for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to use many of the indices whose variables are not within the context of SDGEA. As observed in the SDI framework¹, *“no number of existing targets and indicators can capture the rich diversity and complexity of the issues underpinning the SDGEA, having a specialized and specific index focusing on this will help both government and other stakeholders to monitor the fulfillment of the commitments, as well as mobilize support for stronger efforts in this regard. A Solemn Declaration Index is also needed as a tool to enable better planning and actions”*.

The SDI framework was first used to produce the 2016 report of Gender is my Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Network. That report was presented to stakeholders, in July 2016 during the 27th Summit of the African Union in Kigali, Rwanda, with the following major recommendations (see 2016 SDI Report for all the recommendations):

- I. The African Union Commission (AUC) through the Women, Gender and Development Directorate should adopt the SDI framework for effective performance monitoring of the implementation of the SDGEA in AU Member States.
- ii. The African Union Commission (AUC) and the Regional

¹The Solemn Declaration Index: Framework of the performance Monitoring Index for the Implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA)

Economic Communities (RECS) need to demonstrate their commitment to gender parity principle in the appointment and promotion of staff into key positions within these institutions. The AUC was enjoined to organize African Gender Parity Conference where strategies and Action Plans can be developed for the expansion of decision making space for African women.

- iii. The conduct of the SDI survey and report generation should take place every three years beginning from 2016 so as to give room for the implementation of recommendations and design of relevant programs based on identified areas of advocacy from previous report.

Since the launch of the SDI Framework, the Assembly of Heads of State had formally adopted Solemn Declaration Index (SDI), as a monitoring tool, through a declaration made during their 25th Ordinary Session, 14-15 June, 2015, Johannesburg, South Africa (Assembly/AU/Decl.1 (XXV, Page 6). The Declaration states inter-alia:

“We commit to systematic data gathering, regular review and progress monitoring of the implementation of Agenda 2063 and its 10-year Action Plan using the Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) developed by GIMAC and United Nations Economic Commission (UNECA).”

As demonstrated later in this report, the new Chairperson of AUC, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, had launched and supported initiatives that will promote the ascendancy of women in decision making structures that will be backed up with relevant resources and empowerment programmes.

The GIMAC has also agreed to produce the SDI report once in three years as recommended in the first report and also align her activities with the current AU reform programmes.

As it can be seen therefore, the SDI is gradually becoming a source of inputs for policy changes and reorientation within the continent. One value addition to the current SDI report is the introduction of a chapter on Good Practices for Emulation which is a compilation of successful projects, programmes, policies and strategies that have been adopted by MS in the implementation of the SDGEA. The objective is to provide

an advocacy direction for GIMAC and other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working on any of the operational articles of the SDGEA and to spread such good practices across the continent

1.1. The SDI Methodology

The construction of the SDI was originally based on three thematic dimensions of Health, Education and Gender Parity. The solemn declaration index is a composite index that measures progress being made in the implementation of the SDGEA.

Other basic features of the SDI methodology are summarized below:

1. An index was generated for each of the three thematic dimensions based on the values of the operative indicators in relation to the obligations and commitments made under each operative article of the SDGEA. The dimension index is calculated and rescaled as the geometric mean of the indicators with a value ranging from 0 (lowest ratio) and 1(highest ratio).
2. Geometric mean was used as against arithmetic mean because different items constitute the components (indicators) being used for the calculations of the dimension index. Same treatment was extended to the computation of the composite index (SDI). The higher the level of implementation of the SDGEA at country level, the higher the dimension index, and the higher the level of implementation as it relates to the thematic focus. It is important to mention that not all the operative articles can be subjected to quantitative estimation although the new reporting format developed by AUWGDD may create room for the use of more quantitative indicators in the nearest future.
3. The indicators selected for the computation of the SDI were based first on the thematic index with high advocacy utility value and opportunity for effective engagement of the MS by the civil society. The second is dearth of data which can be resolved when countries provide their own data.
4. The mathematical expression of the SDI as used in the framework is as shown below:

$$SDI = \sqrt[3]{D1 \times D2 \times D3} \dots\dots\dots \text{(Equation 1)}$$

Where:

D1=HIV Index

D2 = Education Index

D3=Gender Parity Index

$$D_i = \sqrt[n]{P_1 \times P_2 \times \dots \times P_n} \dots\dots\dots \text{(Equation 2)}$$

Where:

I=1, 2, 3;

n ≤3

P=Operative Indicators

5. Complimentary to the Solemn Declaration Index is the Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC) which deals with qualitative aspect of the SDGEA and captures the legislative, policy and institutional commitments made by the Heads of State of the AU within the solemn declaration. The SDSC, unlike the index, covers all the 10 country level operative articles as shown in Table 3.
6. The SDSC will be generated as a table showing the performance of Member States in the implementation of the SDGEA. The columns and rows of the score card will carry either 0 Or 1 depending on whether the required action has been undertaken or not as indicated in each of the operative articles of the SDGEA. The score for each country will then be converted into an index based on the expected total score which in this case is 12 as shown below:

Table 1: Template for Solemn Declaration Score Card

Thematic Focus	HIV/AIDS	SCR 1325	CHILD SOLDIERS	GBV	HIIMTRAF	GENDER PARITY	HUMAN RIGHTS	LAND RIGHTS	HOUSING RIGHTS	EDUCATION	PROTOCOL	Report	Total Score	Score Card	Index
	1	2	3	4(G BV)	4 (HT)	5	6	7(LR)	7 (HR)	8	9	12	12	1	

Code: GBV=Gender Based Violence, HT=Human Trafficking, LR=Land Rights, HR=Housing Rights

The breakdown and definitions of indicators used in the SDSC and SDI framework are as follows:

Table 2: Definition of Indicators Used for the Computation of SDSC and SDI Framework

S/N	THEMATIC FOCUS	INDICATORS
1	Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Proportion of Women living with HIV/AIDS (WLWHAs) with access to ARV in the population of women who are living with HIV/AIDs (WLWHAs) (SDI). 2. The proportion of women living with HIV/AIDS (WLWHAs) with access to ARV in the population of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs) with access to ARV(SDI) 3. Existence of law that criminalizes the stigmatization of PLWHAs (SDSC)
2	Peace and Security	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation of National Legislation and Plan of Action for the promotion of and participation of women in conflict resolution and peace building (UNSCR 1325+1820) (SDSC)
3	Peace and Security	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ratification and domestication of the Optional Protocol to the convention on the Rights of Child and/or Domestic Laws on Protection and Involvement of Children in Armed Conflicts (SDSC)
4	Women's rights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of laws to protect women and girls from rape and all forms of Gender-Based Violence (SDSC) 2. Existence of Law or Legal Instruments Against Trafficking of Women and Girls (SDSC)
5	Gender Parity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of laws that promote Affirmative Action/Parity in decision making structures of government (SDSC) 2. Proportion of women in the parliament (SDI) 3. Percentage of women in ministerial positions (SDI)
6	Women's Rights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of functional national mechanisms for the protection of all human rights of women and girls (Legislations, Policies, Programs, access to court and legal services etc. (SDSC)
7	Land and Housing Rights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of functional National legislation that guarantee the rights of women to land, property ownership and inheritance (SDSC) 2. Existence of National housing law or policy and programs that promote gender equality in terms of access to housing facilities (SDSC)
8	Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existence of national legislation/policy that guarantee the equal access to education by girls and women (SDSC) 2. Girls Progression Ratio from primary to Secondary School (SDI) 3. Young Female (15 -24) Literacy Rate (SDI) 4. Female enrolment ratio (SDI)
9	Women's Rights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratification and Domestication of the Protocol (SDSC)

10	Reporting	1. Submission of Report Since Inception (SDSC)
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Source: The Solemn Declaration Index: Framework of the performance Monitoring Index for the Implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA) with slight modification

1.2. Report Overview

This 2019 SDI will be divided into five (5) chapters as follows:

Chapter One deals with the introduction and provides background information on the SDI methodology as well as definition of all indicators used in its computation.

Chapter Two shows the various performances of the Member States using the Score Card and it also gives a summary of various activities embarked upon by the AUC in the year 2017.

Chapter Three analyses three thematic indices that constitute the SDI which are HIV/AIDS Index, Gender Parity Index and Girls' Education Index. It also focuses on the composite SDI and the grand index which is the geometric mean of the SDSC and the SDI.

Chapter Four contains a synoptic description of good practices isolated from the review of MS reports on the implementation of the SDGEA.

Chapter Five details the summary of the outcomes of this study, various recommendations for the stakeholders and a conclusion.

CHAPTER TWO

PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS OF MEMBER STATES OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON SDGEA

2.0. Overview

This performance analysis is essentially based on the 13th report of the AUC Chairperson on the implementation status of the SDGEA within the AUC and the SGEA reports of thirty (30) Member States (MS) whose reports were available and accessed by GIMAC as at November 2018 excluding the report of Algeria whose layout did not follow the articles of the SDGEA.

This chapter is divided into three sections;

- i. Report on the implementation of SDGEA by African Union Commission (AUC)
- ii. Analysis of the Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC)
- iii. Status of African Women based on Member States Implementation of SDGEA

2.1. 2017/2018 Report of the African Union Commission on the implementation of SDGEA.

A critical review of the report showed that several strategic measures have been in place to advance the implementation of the SDGEA within the AUC and member states. The success recorded by the AUC was driven by the strategy of gender-balanced politics and leadership through advocacy for women's rights and women's empowerment adopted by the AUC Chairperson, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat. Other factors include constant advocacy for gender parity in the continent, presentation of the gender scorecard awards during the 29th AU Summit and hosting the High Level Debate on ending violence against women in Africa.

The major highlights of the report are summarised below:

1. In order to strengthen the institutional capacity of the AU to deliver on its commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE), the WGDD launched the formulation of the gender strategy for the organization and the evaluation of the 2009 gender policy which was based on extensive consultations and document review. This strategy is expected to

give a roadmap for the effective operationalisation of Aspiration 6 of Agenda 2063.

2. The African Union Commission in partnership with UN Women and the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations conducted a high level solidarity mission which took place in the framework of the Action Plan of the “African Women Leaders Network (AWLN)” initiative. The objective of AWLN is to create space for African Women to share leadership experiences and lessons learned in various areas, as well as to establish a fund focusing on accelerating the growth of African women-led businesses
3. During the reporting period the AUCWGDD led an initiative focused on raising awareness on violence against women and girls, and its negative consequences on individuals and community. This is to help AU Member States develop and implement legislation and policies to combat gender based violence and support the efforts of networks, public and private institutions that work to eradicate violence against women and girls.
4. The Chairperson of AUC initiated a positive step towards the institutionalisation of gender parity through the appointment of a Cabinet of Advisors that consists of 56% of Women. In spite of this however, there has not been a major shift in the overall gender representation from the 2016 situation which is 35% women and 65% men. Table 3 below gives further breakdown of the ratio of representation within the AUC:

Table 3: 2017 Ratio of Male and Female Composition in AU Organs

AU Organs/Institutions	Number of Men	Number of Women	Total	% Men	%Women
Assembly	54	1	55	98.8	1.8
Executive Council	45	10	55	81.81	18.18
PRC	44	11	55	80	20
Peace and Security Council	11	4	15	73.33	26.67
African Union Commission on International law	7	4	11	63.63	36.37
PAP Bureau	3	2	5	60.00	40.00
ECOSOCC Bureau	4	1	5	80.00	20.00
The Court on Human and Peoples Rights (AfCHPR)	6	5	11	54.55	45.45

African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR)	5	6	11		
African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)	4	7	11	36.37	63.63

5. To promote Women Human Rights, the WGDD convened different multi-stakeholder policy platforms on GEWE. These include, the 9th AU Gender Pre-Summit held in January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on the margins of the 28th African Union (AU) Summit with the objective of defining critical priority areas of investment in young people, especially young women, to harness Africa's Demographic Dividend (DD) through leadership and civic participation for social and economic development.
6. Since girls' education is very critical to the growth of the African nation, measures have been in place by the AU/CIEFFA to retain more girls in school. One of such was developing strategies and networks with AU Ministries from different portfolios (beyond the Education field), CSO's, traditional and religious leaders, development partners, private sectors, media and young girls, men and women who are the key players in making sure girls in school especially STEM not just remain but also perform well in school.
7. On issues of Gender Equality, H.E. President Nana Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana was appointed as the first African Union Champion on Gender and Development to provide leadership and political support to the Chairpersons of the AU and African Union Commission (AUC) to deliver on their mandate to accelerate gender equality and women's empowerment in Africa.
8. The AU Leader on Gender and Development launched the Gender and Development Initiative for Africa (GADIA), which seeks to promote women's economic empowerment and political participation. Different forums on GEWE have been organized by the Commission in 2017 and MS which have not ratified the Protocol have been requested to do so.
9. Commitment of Member States to Annual Reporting of their

SDGEA implementation Status dropped from 52.83% in 2016 to 20.00% in 2017. The most consistent Member State which is up to date with its reporting, having submitted all its annual reports is Senegal, followed by Mauritius and Ethiopia. See table 4 below for reporting cycle performance of member states.

Table 4: Reporting Cycle Performance of Member States

Year of Submission	Reporting Year	Reporting Cycle	Number Of Countries	Percentage of Total (%)
2006	2007	1 st	1	1.85
2007	2008	2 nd	8	14.81
2008	2009	3 rd	7	12.96
2009	2010	4 th	3	5.55
2010	2011	5 th	24	44.44
2011	2012	6 th	3	5.55
2012	2013	7 th	8	14.81
2013	2014	8 th	14	25.92
2014	2015	9 th	15	27.77
2015	2016	10 th	13	24.07
2016	2017	11 th	28	52.83
2017	2018	12 th	11	20

2.2. Analysis of the Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC)

To generate the score card for each country, each article addressed in the country's SDGEA report was reviewed and a state that has either a policy or ratified law that addresses the article under review gets a score of 1 while a state that lacks a policy or ratified law is scored 0 even if they have programs and activities developed to address issues related to the article. The scoring was based on the template in table 1 which gives a total score of 12. The complete score card is analysed in Appendix V of this report. The highest score recorded is 11 which was attained by four countries namely; Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Namibia and Senegal. This achievement represent 91.66% implementation performance by these countries. The outstanding article against each country is indicated in table 5 below.

Two states, Mauritius and Somalia have the least score of 3 or 25% implementation performance (See table 6). Member States like these ones required high modicum of advocacy focus and capacity building by AUWGDD and GIMAC to improve their performance

Table 5: Countries with the Highest SDSC and Outstanding Articles

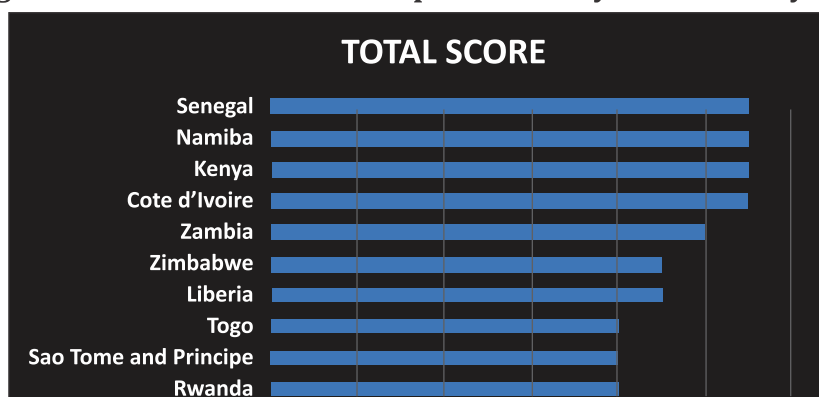
S/N	COUNTRIES WITH HIGHEST SDSC 11	OUTSTANDING OPERATIVE ARTICLE
1	Cote D'Ivoire	Housing Rights
2	Kenya	Housing Rights
3	Namibia	Gender Parity
4	Senegal	Human Trafficking

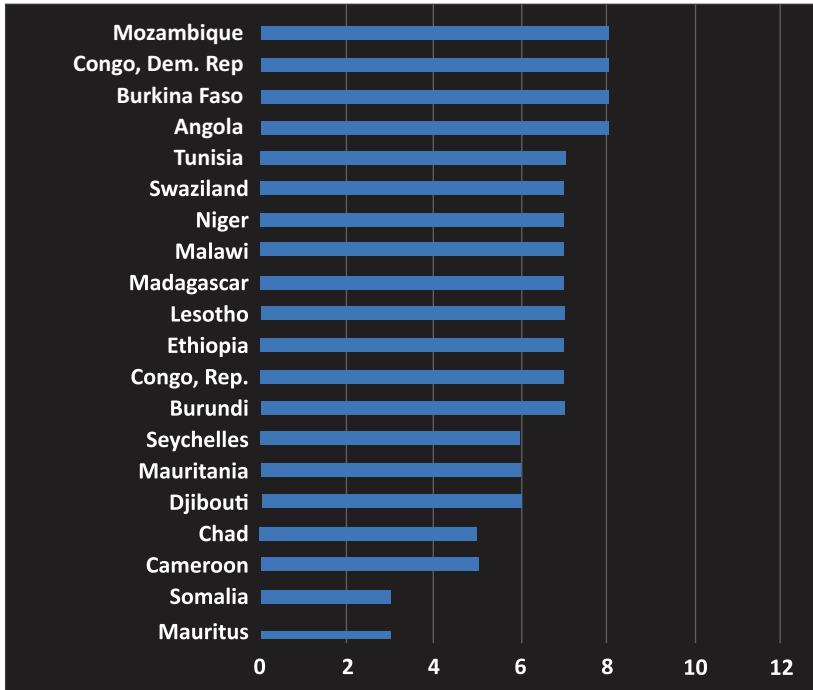
Table 1: Countries with the Lowest SDSC and Main Articles of Focus

Country	Mauritius	Somalia
ARTICLES OF FOCUS	HIV/AIDS	Child Soldiers
	GBV	GBV
	SDGEA Reports	SDGEA Report

Figure 1 below gives a graphical representation of the number of operative articles ratified by each country.

Figure 1: Number of Articles Implemented by Each Country

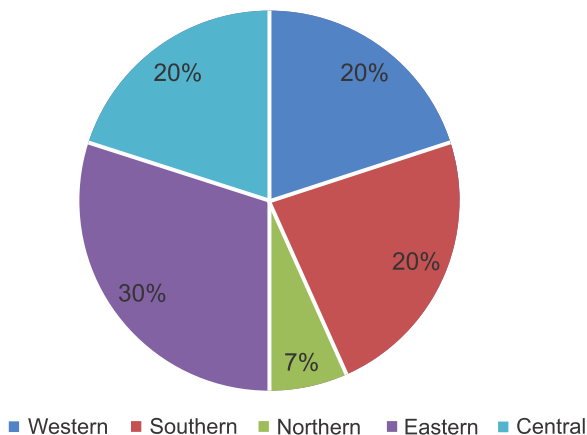




2.2.1. Regional Reporting Trend

The distribution of available SDGEA reports showed that 30% of them came from the East Africa region while 20% each came from West and Central Africa regions. The remaining 30% was shared between Southern and North Africa regions at the rate of 23% and 7% respectively. The trend is shown in figure 2 below:

Figure 2: Percentage of Regional Reporting Trend



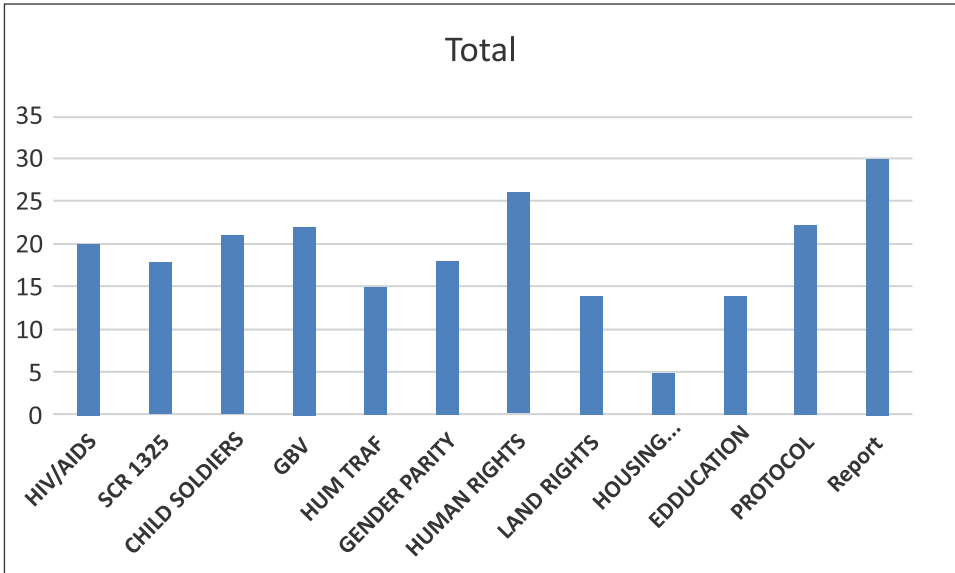
2.2.2. Overall Performance

Table 1: Regional Performance Distribution of the SDGEA Operative Articles

NUM BER	ARTICLE	REGION					TOTAL	PERCENT AGE	PERCENTA GE OF AU MEMBER STATES
		CENT RAL	EAST ERN	NORTH ERN	SOUTH ERN	WEST ERN			
1	HIV	6	4	1	3	6	20	66.67	36.36
2	SCR1325	3	5	1	3	6	18	60.00	32.73
3	CHILD SOLDIERS	5	5	1	5	5	21	70.00	38.18
4(GBV)	GENDER VIOLENCE	5	5	1	6	5	22	73.33	40.00
4(HT)	HUMAN TRAFFICKI NG	1	6	0	6	2	15	50.00	27.27
5	GENDER PARITY	3	4	1	4	6	18	60.00	32.73
6	HUMAN RIGHTS	6	7	2	6	5	26	86.67	47.27
7(LR)	LAND RIGHTS	0	4	1	6	3	14	46.67	25.45
7(HR)	HOUSING RIGHTS	0	1	2	1	1	5	16.67	9.09
8	EDUCATION	2	5	0	4	3	14	46.67	25.45
9	PROTOCOL	3	5	1	7	6	22	73.33	40.00
12	REPORT	6	9	2	7	6	30	100.00	54.55

Looking at the trend of implementation among the 30 MS, it is very obvious that the following operative articles received greater attention than others. These include:

1. Human Rights of women
2. Gender based Violence
3. Ratification and domestication of Maputo Protocol
4. Adoption of Child Protection laws
5. Adoption of Anti-Stigmatisation laws on PLWHAs

Figure 3: Implementation Trend of the SDGEA Operative Articles

2.3. Status of African Women based on Member States Implementation of SDGEA

The overview of the status of Africa Women and girls based on the implementation of the SDGEA is given below:

ARTICLE 1: The Thematic Focus of this Article is HIV/AIDS backed up with legislative commitment that will end discrimination against women living with HIV/AIDS

As at 2015, in sub-Saharan Africa, adolescent girls and young women account for 25% of new HIV infections among adults, and women account for 56% of new HIV infections among adults. Harmful gender norms and inequalities, insufficient access to education, sexual and reproductive health services, poverty, food insecurity and violence, are at the root of the increased HIV risk of young women and adolescent girls².

When Parents are sick and die as a result of HIV/AIDS, the female child

² Karim A., Sengeziwe S., Cheryl B., 2016 *Preventing HIV Infection in Women – a Global Health Imperative! Clinical infectious diseases* : an official publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. 2010;50 (Supply 3):S122-S129. doi:10.1086/651483

bears most of the brunt; she is likely to withdraw from school particularly when the mother is sick. Due to lack of support, children lose the opportunity for education and for the maximum development of their potential.

This report showed that 20 out of 30 countries representing 66.67% of the available reports have put in place legislation that protect people living with HIV/AIDs (PLWHAs) and guarantee their rights like any other citizen without any form of discrimination. The African governments should therefore continue to strengthen initiatives that increase capacities of individuals, especially women and children, to protect themselves. Empowerment of women must move to the next level of well targeted, time-bound and well-funded programmes with measurable results³.

ARTICLE 2: The Thematic Focus of this Article is peace and security with focus on production of national Plan of Actions or other forms of legislative backing for the implementation of UNSCR1325.

The content of the UNSCR 1325 envisages full and effective participation and representation of women in processes including the prevention, resolution, management of conflicts and post-conflicts in Africa. Women and children are mostly affected by conflicts and disputes. And often times, there are no legislatures that promote their interests and protection at such times, and they are less involved in conflict resolutions and decision-making as obtainable in the 12 countries that are yet to comply with article 2. Sixty Percent (60%) of the reporting countries which represents 32.73% of the AU Member States have met this requirement as against 52.1% in 2016.

Africa continued to experience various kinds of conflicts; civil war in Somali, Sudan (Darfur Region), Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria, Cameroon, Niger and Chad, civil war in Libya and Sinai insurgency in Egypt. The emerging complex nature of conflicts in the continent is such that terrorists now target young women for abduction, indoctrinate them and use them as suicide bombers against their wish. Those who refuse are often made to suffer sexual violence of varying degrees. The inability of the Nigerian Government and the international community to fully rescue or even account for the remaining Chibok girls remains a

³ Elizabeth N., 2015 *HIV and AIDS in Africa and its impact on women and children*, United Nations Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for HIV/AIDS in Africa.

https://www.unicef.org/sowc08/docs/sowc08_panel_2_8.pdf

scar on the conscience of Africa. Rape continues to be a dominant weapon and recurrent decimal in Cameroon, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), South Sudan and Sudan, among others. The 2016 Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security observed that the Women, Peace and Security agenda is a critical, yet under-utilized tool for preventing conflict and shaping more effective responses to today's complex crises. The global study conducted on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) provided evidence that women's participation contributed decisively to peace processes, justice and security, economic recovery and humanitarian assistance⁴. In spite of this, women are still largely side tracked in the implementation and resolution of conflicts and crisis in Africa. They also remain the victim and objects of attack in many conflict zones in Africa. Many experts believe that leaving women out of peace and security processes hinders communities from finding long-lasting peace. In times of conflict, women's vulnerabilities and unique needs are often forgotten during negotiations, which in turn limits the effectiveness of both peace and security agreements, and humanitarian responses⁵. It is for this reason that the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325 has become an important platform for countries to fully integrate women into conflict prevention and resolution. However the response and commitment of AU MS remained abysmally low. In this report 18 out of the 30 countries analysed indicated that they have developed and are implementing a National Action Plan (NAP) for 1325. When taken within the context of those who have reported so far on 1325, this figure is low meaning many MS has no framework to engage and integrate women to their Peace and Security platform⁶ which further opens up women to impunity and all forms of violation and abuse during and after conflict. After seventeen years of its adoption, Africa should have posted a better result on 1325, and the time has come for more action on the part of MS to increase their level of engagement with the Office of Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security (OSE/WPS) in building their capacity to effectively respond to the demands of 1325.

⁴ 2016 Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security, UNSC, S/2016/822 , September 2016, Page 2

⁵ <http://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/december-2015/women-peace-security>

⁶ From Adoption to Measurement, 2016 Report of Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC)

ARTICLE 3: The Thematic Focus of this Article is recruitment of Child Soldiers with emphasis on the use of Optional Protocol to the convention on the Rights of a Child on involvement of children in armed conflicts.

About 40% of all child soldiers globally are active on the African continent, Africa has become the epicenter of the problem since 1975, providing the largest concentration of both conflicts and child soldiers.

In most situations, abduction is the most common method by which child soldier are recruited but for several other reasons some children voluntarily join the Armed Forces. Their choice to choose violence over peace was driven by “poverty, unemployment, vengeance, avoiding violence from the rival group, and the allure of the military life”⁷.

When a child soldier is female, they experience sexual assaults such as rape during conflicts. Statistics from West Africa indicate that 32% of girl child soldiers have been raped. Most of these girls contract sexually transmitted infections, are forced into abortion and are mostly anemic during pregnancy. In the case of eventual release of victims, upon return to their homes, girl child soldiers are often rejected, excluded and harassed. When her male counterpart returns to school, the girl child soldier will have to stay at home and baby sit children⁸. The Member States (MS) have a major role to play in ensuring these girls are rehabilitated and integrated back to the society with good education. Being a war victim should not preclude these girls from the school system.

Some countries in their SDGEA report explained that since there is no war or major conflict within the country, there hasn't been reason for recruitment of child soldiers. Hence, no cause to actively put in places a policy that speaks to a non-existent issue such as child soldiers. The critical issue however here is not about conflict situation alone but the need to proactively put in place laws that protect children especially the girl child from all forms of exploitation including early child marriage, sexual harassment, slavery and unwarranted use as soldiers. In all 21

⁷ Achvarina V., and Reich S., 2010 *No Place to Hide: Refugees, Displaced Persons, and Child Soldier Recruits*. In Gates, Scott and Reich, Simon (eds) *Child Soldiers in the Age of Fractured States*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, p. 56.

⁸ Snowden, Laura, 2016 "Girl Child Soldiers: The relevance of gender in preventing and responding to the use of child soldiers". Essay Contest 2016. Book 1. <http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/essay-contest-2016/1>

countries or 70% of the reports assessed stated in their reports to have adopted the optional protocol to the Convention on the Right of the Child or have laws protecting and promoting the Rights of the Child.

ARTICLE 4: The Thematic Focus of this article is Gender Based Violence with focus on the use of appropriate legal instruments against GBV and trafficking of women and girls.

The issue of violence against women is obtainable everywhere across the globe. Violence against women is the violation of women's rights, and has both economic and social implications.⁹ According to the World Health Organization (WHO), violence affects millions of women in Africa. Although violence against women has begun to receive more attention globally over the last two decades, the scourge of violence against women in Africa particularly is still largely hidden.¹⁰ This is due to under-reporting because of the associated stigma which largely continues to indirectly fuel its spread across the continent. A vicious cycle that needs urgent attack is emerging which needs political and judicial attention of MS.

Violence against women goes beyond beatings. It includes forced marriage, dowry-related violence, marital rape, sexual harassment, intimidation at work and in educational institutions, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, forced sterilization, trafficking and forced prostitution.¹¹

It is reported that in Africa, there is a significant relationship between HIV infection and IPV, studies have shown that violence against female partners increases when a female partner is known to be HIV positive. Other factors influencing gender violence are; Low level of education, Low socio-economic status, Young age, History of violence and Alcohol

⁹ Alesina A., Benedetta B., and Eliana LF., 2016, "*Violence against Women: A Cross-cultural Analysis for Africa*," January 2016

¹⁰ United Nations Economic Commission for Africa; African Centre for Gender and Social Development (ACGSD), *Violence Against Women in Africa: A Situational Analysis*. September 2010, <http://www1.uneca.org/Portals/awro/Publications/21VAW%20in%20Africa-A%20situational%20analysis.pdf>

¹¹ Mary Kimni., 2007, Taking on Violence against Women in Africa. AfricaRenewal Online Magazine, July 2007

use by the perpetrator.¹²

In the last decade, Gender Based Violence (GBV) has been a major cause for concern within the Member States. This could explain why GBV ranked 2nd most adopted operative article among the countries whose reports were analysed for this article. Pointedly, 73.3% of the reporting countries have at least a policy that addresses violence against women. Four (4) countries; Burundi, Seychelles, Tunisia and Zambia who did not have a policy on GBV as at 2016 now have a policy. The Member States in Southern Africa have the highest number of states that have adopted this operative article.

Human Trafficking, which is a sub-set of article 4 posted a lower result compared to GBV, with exactly 50% of reporting states stating that they have a legislation that addresses protecting women from trafficking.

The attention being given by the MS is also a pointer to its endemic nature which requires the engagement of both gender, young and old in finding a lasting solution to this problem. Effective mobilisation of the traditional, conventional and religious institutions across the continent may be imperative as part of the community based solution to GBV.

ARTICLE 5: The Thematic Focus of this Article is Gender Parity Principle with focus on its adoption by government and other regional institutions using legislative and policy instrument to ensure ascendancy of women and representation in various decision making structures.

The decision of the AU Heads of State to adopt Gender Parity Principle in all the decision-making structures at the continental, regional and national level has been seen by some as a very great task that may be difficult to attain. It is a lofty ideal and going by the momentum this has gathered in the last ten years, it's obvious that it is a possibility.

Like the UN Women recently observed, African women's political leadership is on the rise. Increasingly visible in public life, African women continue to challenge long-held perceptions that decision-making is the preserve of men. Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) data

¹²Shamu S., Abrahams N., Temmerman M., Musekiwa A., Zarowsky C., (2011) *A Systematic Review of African Studies on Intimate Partner Violence Against Pregnant Women: Prevalence and Risk Factors*. PLoS ONE 6(3): e17591. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0017591>

shows that women's representation in parliaments across Sub-Saharan Africa (23.8%) has outpaced that of Asia, Pacific and the Arab States.¹³ However these regions are not Africa's standard. The desire is to ensure and promote, in a sustainable manner, equitable representation of women which the AU has set at 50%.

In this report, about 20 out of the 30 analysed countries are putting or have put policy and legislative measures in place to promote gender parity in decision-making structures but the data analysed in the next chapter under Gender Parity Index showed the journey to parity is still far in many MS.

As Observed by the Chairperson of AUC in the 2017 SDGEA report:

“One critical inhibition is lack of alignment between constitutional aspirations, governance structures and the internal management practices of political parties in Africa. There is a huge disconnect between the internal operations of the parties and the desire to liberalise the political space for women's participation. So in a way women are still being denied the opportunity to exercise their rights in the political and electoral sphere in Africa. It thus appears that there are limited opportunities to enforce and create a conducive environment for effective political participation of women.”

What should therefore follow this kind of observation is for the AUC to actively engage the HOS on how to reverse the situation and get them committed to promoting gender parity in decision making structures at all levels.

ARTICLE 6: The Thematic Focus of this Article is on Human Rights of Women with emphasis on mechanisms that give women access and opportunity to protect their rights and seek redress when necessary.

The Universal Declaration on Human Rights emphasizes the freedom of humans irrespective of their gender. Africa has been involved in almost all the activities of the UN, which has made it understand the complexities and dimensions of women empowerment.

One instrument that preceded the Maputo Protocol is the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women CEDAW.

¹³. Sustainable Approaches to Supporting & Monitoring Women's Participation in Political Processes in Africa UN-AU Strategic Meeting, 2 July 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

From the United Nations treaty collections, 47 countries have signed the adoption of CEDAW, 86.7% have signed the ratification of CEDAW.

Twenty six countries or 86.7% of the 30 analysed in this report have been able to develop various legal instruments and policies that guarantee the rights of women in various areas including those relating to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), protection against violence and slavery, early marriage and access to land, especially in the rural areas, etc. In spite of these initiative and legislative actions, the rights of women are still being violated in many countries and patriarchy still weighs heavily on the attitude and bias against women in the implementation and application of these laws.

ARTICLE 7: The Thematic Focus of this Article is Land and Property Rights with focus on land and housing rights of women.

It is reported that globally, more than 400 million women farm¹⁴ while in sub-Sahara Africa 60%¹⁵ of women farm and they contribute to 70% of food production.¹⁶ Although many countries in sub-Saharan Africa recognize equal rights and non-discriminatory provisions in their Constitutions, women are still not accorded the same rights as men. Various factors, such discriminatory customary practices, marginalization in land governance, and gaps between national and regional policies that aspire to gender equality and the implementation of laws at the local level contributed to the sidelining of African women.¹⁷

This observation is largely reflected in the low number of 14 countries that reported positively on this article. This continues to be a challenge to African Women especially those in agriculture, as it would continue to aggravate women's poverty level and lesser opportunities to increase their farm income. Just as it was reflected in the 2016 SDI report, housing rights is the least adopted operative article in this 2019 report. Only 5 countries out of 30 that reported the existence of a law or policy that promotes the rights of women to housing facilities.

ARTICLE 8: The Thematic Focus of this Article is Girls Education

¹⁴ International Labour Organization's Key Indicators 2015

¹⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization 2016

¹⁶ Mary Kimni., 2012, *Women Struggle to Secure Land Rights*. AfricaRenewal Online Magazing, 2012

¹⁷ Godfrey Massay 2017, Africa's women are still waiting for equal inheritance rights. Women

Deliverance online June 21 2017. www.womendeliverance.org

with special emphasis on progression and extension of educational opportunities to those who are out of school system, as well as commitment of Government to EFA.

The attention given to Girl Child Education in terms of target or specific policy and legislative actions is still very low and weak in many African countries. Only 14 out of 30 countries developed girls-focused education programmes that are making impact and encouraging female education, reducing school drop-outs and retaining girls in school, especially girls in STEM. Due to these active programs, these countries do not see a need to put in place legislatures that address or promote girls' education thus putting sustainability at risk.

There are four dimensions of Women Empowerment: Economic, Political, Knowledge, and Psychological. The knowledge dimension is fostered formal education. Yet, structures of institutions in Africa are not safe and friendly for girls; school curriculum emphasizes academic subjects and avoids discussions around 'life skills'. The non-formal education setting has empowered women and girls more because it promotes critical reflections on gendered social norms and encourages corrective responses.¹⁸

The low participation of girls in tertiary education in Africa is attributed to many factors which include social and structural impediments such as sexual harassment and gender-blind institutional structures and leadership. Other factors are parental involvement, schooling cost, female involvement in household chores, school distance, early marriage and teenage pregnancy, and cultural beliefs (parents sometimes use the gender of their children to decide who gets more education so that children can give benefit in the future). For instance in Ethiopia, the higher up the educational ladder in the country the wider the gender disparity in favor of males become.¹⁹

Women's education is therefore a critical tool that brings about gender equality and their upliftment for sustainable development. With limited or no education, the space for women to contribute to development and influence on policies becomes small with little impact. African

¹⁸ Stromquist, N. P. 2015. "Women's Empowerment and Education: Linking Knowledge to Transformative Action." *European Journal of Education* 50 (3): 307–324.

¹⁹ Mergo, Lemessa. n.d. 2017 "Gender Disparity in Higher Education in Ethiopia." *Establishing, Enhancing and Sustaining Quality Practices in Education* 20 (28):

Governments should therefore plan some special policies to improve female education such as making education free for girls and giving them stipends.²⁰

ARTICLE 9: The Thematic focus of this article is on the ratification of the protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the rights of women in Africa.

According to ACHPR, presently, Forty-nine (49) of the African Union Member States have signed the Maputo Protocol and forty one (41) have thus far ratified it and are bound to its provisions. Of these 41 countries, only a small number of States have domesticated the Protocol. Among the 30 countries whose reports were analysed, 22 countries had so far signed and ratified the Protocol. The next stage is to step up advocacy on domestication, awareness among women and performance measurement.

2.2. General Observations on the Quality and Content of SDGEA Reports from Member States

In the process of reviewing and assessing the MS reports on the SDGEA, a number of observations came to light on the quality and content of some of the reports. These are summarised as follows:

- I. We are of the opinion that some of the reports are not true reflection of the efforts of the MS in promoting gender equality and women's rights. Some foundational background relating to existing laws and policies were omitted in some MS reports as well as previous achievements and progress made in pushing for gender equality;
- ii. Some reports mixed up the various articles and did not respond to the demand of each of the articles. The MS need to put more articulation and skillful writers to work in order to produce good reports;
- iii. Non-participation of children in conflicts/war or lack of conflicts is not the response to article two, rather the article is meant to ensure that adequate legislation is put in place, like CRC, to prevent exploitation of young boys and girls during war;

²⁰ Shahidul, S.M. and A.H.M. Zehadul Karim (2015) 'Factors Contributing to School Dropout Among the Girls: A Review of Literature', *European Journal of Research and Reflection in Educational Sciences* 3.2: 25–36.

- iv. Policy and programmes are not same as and cannot be used to replace legislative actions and laws that are meant to drive the implementation of SDGEA;
- v. Some Member States presented bills in progress or waiting for presidential ascension as laws which should not be and cannot be used to earn a score under the Solemn Declaration Score Card (SDSC);
- vi. Some MS also used their constitutional provisions in place of laws that were meant to be enacted for specific women related issues. For example, almost all the constitutions in Africa are egalitarian and recognised equality of gender, race and religion yet the rights of women are violated in various degrees and dimensions in these countries;
- vii. It was generally observed that where MS did not engage in any activity relating to a particular article, they go general and tend to report on what is being done in gender neutral manner. It is important that MS state in direct and specific manner their responses to the articles of the SDGEA;

CHAPTER THREE

ANALYSIS OF THE THEMATIC INDEX AND THE SOLEMN DECLARATION INDEX (SDI)

3.0. Introduction:

The thematic indices utilized in this report put into recognition the framework of the SDI. Three indices were used in the calculating the SDI. When compared to the 2016 report, the indicators used were slightly different. All indicators were gender specific and were also a good measure of the country's performance selected in the thematic areas.

The following indicators were used:

- i. **HIV INDEX:** the two indicators selected are; the proportion of women living with HIV/AIDS (WLWHAs) with access to ARV in the population of women who are HIV positive, the second indicator being the proportion of women living with HIV/AIDS (WLWHAs) with access to ARV in the population of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHAs). Values of these indicators were extracted from the 2016 WHO HIV Country profiles (Source: <http://www.who.int/hiv/data/profiles/en/>). In addition to this, few other indicators which were not directly used in deriving the HIV Index were assessed to show trends in prevalence and access to ARV in Africa.
- ii. **GENDER PARITY INDEX:** The indicators used were same as those used in the SDI framework and 2016 SDI report. The two indicators used are; the proportion of women in lower parliament in case of Bi-Camera Legislature, the second one is percentage of women in ministerial or cabinet positions. (Source: 2017 Inter-Parliamentary Union Data.)
- iii. **EDUCATION INDEX:** All indicators used in analysing the educational index of 2016 SDI report were maintained in 2019 report. Female enrolment ratio, girls progression ratio from primary to secondary school and female (15-24 years) literacy rate. (Source: UIS 2018)

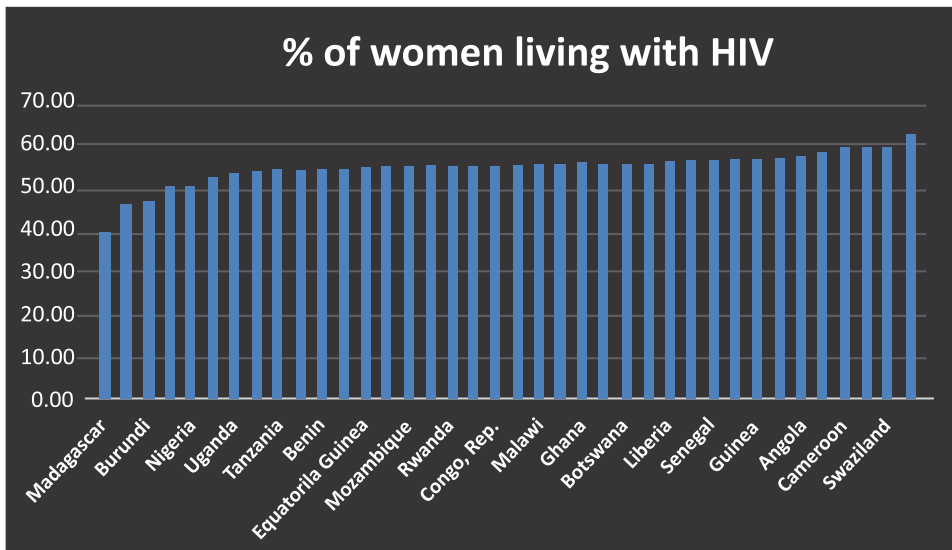
3.1. HIVINDEX:

From the analysis of the two indicators, the following were

concluded:

- i. There has been a drastic drop in HIV prevalence in African countries, with 15 countries having prevalence rate less than 1% and 20 countries with prevalence less than 10.00%.
- ii. Swaziland has the highest prevalence of 16.92%. Studies have also shown that despite the small population of Swaziland it has the highest prevalence in the world. This is followed by Botswana (15.65%), Lesotho (15.00%), while South Africa has prevalence of 12.68%. It is a relief to know that these countries with high prevalence have antiretroviral coverage well above 50% except for Lesotho with exact 50.00% coverage.
- iii. This analysis also shows that anti-retroviral coverage among PLWHAs in African countries though still low, it's quite higher than what was previously obtainable. For instance, Botswana has the highest coverage of 82.78%, Rwanda has 81.36%. while Swaziland has 77.73%.
- iv. At least 22 countries have ARV coverage higher than 50% among PLWHAs though none has been able to achieve the UNAID's target of 90% ARV coverage. Countries with the least coverage are Madagascar (5.48%), South-Sudan (9.70%) and Liberia (18.84).

Figure 4: Percentage of WLWHAs in Total PLWHAs



- v. Also, ARV coverage among women with HIV is high. Thirty four (34) countries have coverage above 50.00%. Benin, Uganda, Botswana, Cape Verde, South Africa, Swaziland have coverage as high as 95.00%. These are followed by Zimbabwe (93.00%) and Equatorial Guinea (90.00%).
- vi. Seventeen (17) countries have ARV Coverage among women less than 50%, for instance, Madagascar scored lowest with 3% coverage only. Madagascar also has the lowest ARV coverage among PLWHAs in Africa.
- vii. In spite of the observation in (vi) above, the analysis of the HI showed that the proportion of ARV coverage amongst PLWHAs on the whole is still skewed in favour of men meaning that the many African governments have not been able to achieve parity in the delivery of HIV treatment. None of the African countries has 50% equal representation of women and men among PLWHAs on ARV. For instance Swaziland only had 6.08% among WLWHAs on treatment despite its high ARV coverage among PLWHAs.
- i. The average score for HIV Index was generally low for all the regions. This index is really low because the percentage of WLWHAs among the population of PLWHAs on ARV was assessed. It became obvious that despite the fact that the proportion of HIV positive women among the population of PLWHAs is very high, percentage of WLWHAs on treatment among the population of PLWHAs on ARV is very low.
- ii. Western African has the highest index of 0.25, while North Africa has the least average of 0.14. The continental average is 0.21.

Figure 4: Africa HIV Index Average

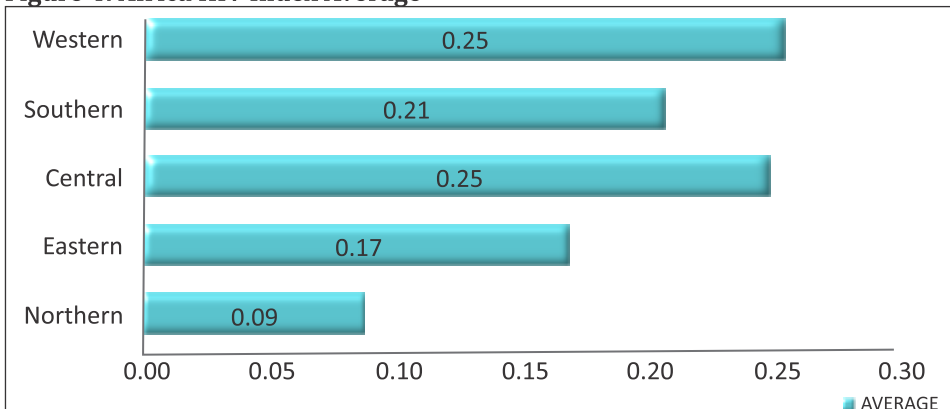


Table 8: Regional Analysis

REGION	AVERAGE	NUMBER OF STATES With Complete Data	NUMBER OF STATES
Northern	0.09	4	6
Eastern	0.17	12	14
Central	0.25	8	9
Southern	0.21	9	9
Western	0.25	15	15
AU States	0.19	48	53

3.2. GENDER PARITY

- I. Six (6) countries representing 11.10% of AU membership met CEDAW target at cabinet position level. No country met gender parity target set by AU in the SDGEA at the cabinet level. This is in contrast with the 2016 report where eight (8) Countries met the CEDAW target.
- II. AU Member States that met the CEDAW target of minimum of 30% had low women representation in the parliament; seventeen (17) countries led by Swaziland (87.50%) met and surpassed the CEDAW target. Nigeria has the lowest value of 5.60% followed by Comoros with 6.10% and Benin with 7.2% representation.
- III. Egypt which had the lowest level of representation of 2% in 2016 now has 14.90% representation of women in the parliament which is a major improvement and perhaps an indication that the decision making space are being liberalised in that country for the ascendancy of more women.
- IV. Fourteen (14) countries representing 25.50% of the African countries have achieved 50% of their journey to Gender Parity in the parliament. The highest achiever is Rwanda at 107.81% followed by Uganda 99.09%, then Swaziland with 95.94%. The implication of this data is that Rwanda has gone beyond parity and representation in parliament is now skewed in favour of women
- V. Fifteen (15) countries, that is 27.27%, achieved less than 30% of the Gender Parity target with Nigeria turning the lowest figure of 16.40% of the Gender Parity target.
- VI. Countries with less than 10% representation in ministerial level

are Djibouti (5.6%), Somalia (6.70%) and Equatorial Guinea (9.7%) as against six (6) countries in 2016.

VII. Southern African region has the best Gender Parity Index (GPI) with 0.57 average followed by 0.56 of Eastern Africa.

Table 9: Regional Distribution of Gender Parity Index (GPI)

REGION	AVERAGE	NUMBER OF STATES WITH COMPLETE DATA	NUMBER OF STATES
Central	0.34	9	9
Eastern	0.56	11	15
Northern	0.55	3	6
Southern	0.57	9	9
Western	0.34	13	15
AU States	0.47	45	54

VIII. Unlike the 2016 report where Central African region had the least average of 0.32, West Africa has the least score with 0.34% in this year report.

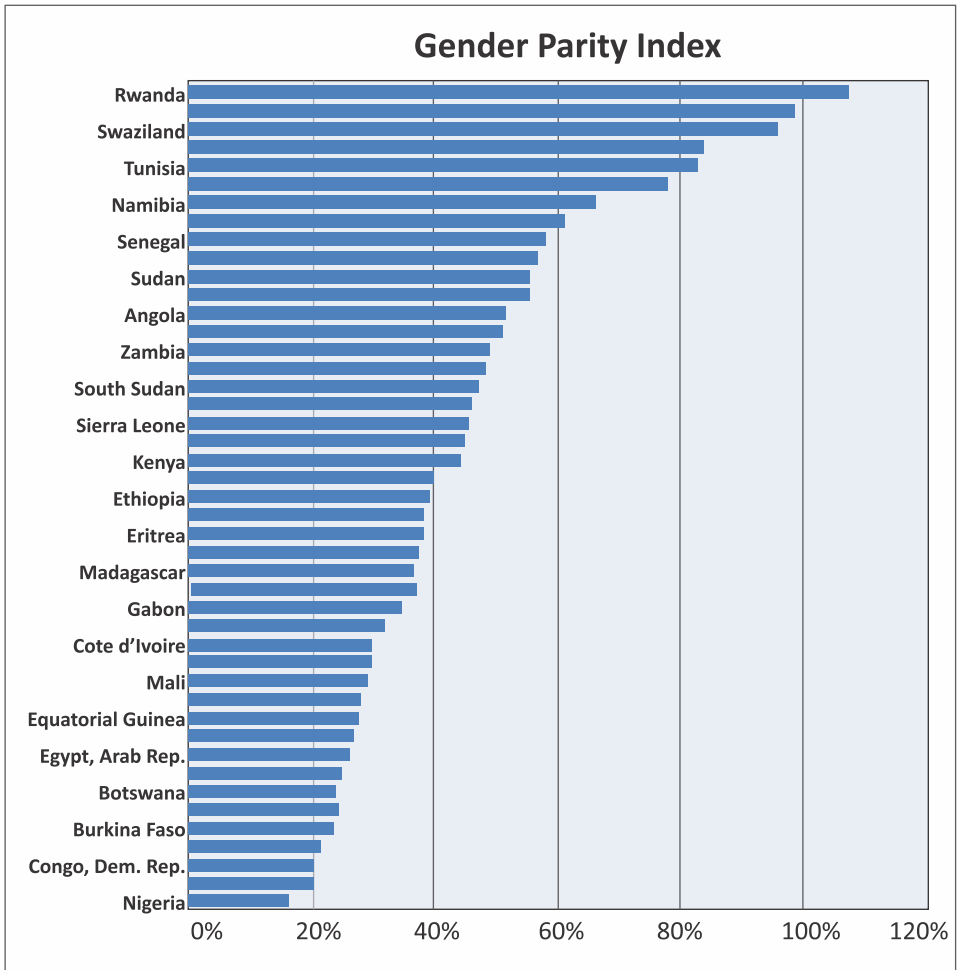
IX. Twenty two (22) countries had a considerable increase in the Gender Parity Index compared to year 2016. Swaziland increased by 70.50% moving from 24.44% to 95.94%. Also, Tunisia moved from 36.28% to 82.82% which is above 50% GPI achievement.

Table 10: LIST OF TOP 10 COUNTRIES WITH INCREASE IN GPI

S/N	COUNTRY	REGION	PROPORTION OF SEATS HELD BY WOMEN IN NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS	PROPORTION OF WOMEN IN MINISTERIAL LEVEL POSITIONS	2016 GPI	2019 GPI
1	Swaziland	Southern	87.5	26.3	0.25	0.96
2	Tunisia	Northern	74.24	23.1	0.36	0.83
3	Uganda	Eastern	66.89	36.7	0.64	0.99
4	Sierra Leone	Western	37.65	13.8	0.18	0.46
5	Zambia	Southern	18.0	33.3	0.32	0.49
6	Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	14.9	11.8	0.10	0.27
7	Congo, Rep.	Central	11.3	22.9	0.18	0.32
8	Sudan	Eastern	68.61	11.4	0.43	0.56
9	Sao Tome and Principe	Central	18.2	18.2	0.24	0.36
10	Malawi	Southern	16.7	22.2	0.27	0.39

These increases in GPI were driven by substantial increase in the proportion of women in the parliament which came from the last cycle of elections in many of these countries.

Figure 5: Country Gender Parity Index



3.3. Girls' Education Index (GEI)

Three (3) major indicators were used to calculate this index, namely; Female Enrolment Ratio, Girls' Progression Rate to Secondary school, Female Literacy Rate (15-24yrs). The current data available were used in the analysis. Outcome of the analysis shows that:

- i. Girls' progression from primary to secondary school is high with

all countries having progression rates higher than 52%. Kenya, Senegal, Sao Tome and Principe top the list with 100.00% while Uganda has the least progression of 52%. Only two (2) countries have progression rates below 60% compared to one (1) country in 2016 report;

- ii. Though countries such as Central Africa Republic, Chad and Niger have the least percentage of female literacy rates, girls' progression rate in these countries are still above 52%;
- iii. Countries that achieved 100% progression rate also achieved high literacy rate (among women 15 – 24 years) posting figures as high as 80%. Eight countries, with Niger being the least (15.6%), have literacy rates below 50% with Sao Tome and Principe, South Africa, Kenya and 12 other countries having literacy rates above 80%;
- iv. Sixty (60%) of West African countries have female literacy rate less than 60% while 47% are below 50% literacy rate. Of the 8 countries with literacy rates below 50%, West Africa accounts for 87.5% representing 7 of the 8 countries;
- v. The primary school female enrolment is generally poor; fifteen (15) countries which include Malawi, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Liberia and Senegal have enrolment rates above 50%. Guinea-Bissau has the least enrolment rate of 37.61%. This is in contrast with 2016 SDI report where 27 countries have enrolment rates above 50%;
- vi. Countries such as Seychelles and Kenya with really high Girls' Progression Rate and Literacy Rate have GEI below 80% because of their low enrollment of girls in Primary School;
- vii. From the GEI analysis, Namibia and Botswana have the best Girls' Education Index with 0.95 and 0.93 score respectively;
- viii. In summary South African Countries had the highest GEI average of 0.75, followed by East African Countries with 0.71 average, while North Africa scored 0.68 GEI average.

Table 11 : REGIONAL ANALYSIS OF GIRLS' EDUCATION INDEX

REGION	AVERAGE	NUMBER OF STATES WITH COMPLETE DATA	NUMBER OF STATES
Northern	0.68	4	6
Eastern	0.71	12	15

Central	0.65	8	9
Southern	0.75	8	9
Western	0.58	13	15
AU States	0.67	45	54

Table 12: Countries with GEI Above 60%

Country	Region	Girls Progression from Primary School to Secondary School (%)	Literacy Rate (Female 15+, %)	Primary School Enrolment (Enrolment to Grade 1 of Primary School, Female %)	GEI
Sierra Leone	Western	91.42	50.860	50.430	0.62
Madagascar	Eastern	72.62	75.300	49.400	0.65
Gambia	Western	94.92	56.120	50.920	0.65
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	71.08	79.710	47.940	0.65
Rwanda	Eastern	70.97	83.490	48.010	0.66
Malawi	Southern	84.39	73.390	50.240	0.68
Togo	Western	81.89	78.370	48.540	0.68
Burundi	Central	85.63	74.960	48.870	0.68
Lesotho	Southern	88.48	93.970	46.570	0.73
Kenya	Eastern	100	86.120	48.480	0.75
Tunisia	Northern	91.58	95.800	48.900	0.75
Mauritius	Eastern	90.28	98.560	49.940	0.76
South Africa	Southern	94.61	99.230	47.410	0.76
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	100	96.350	49.200	0.78
Cape Verde	Western	98.88	98.730	49.030	0.78

3.4. Composite Solemn Declaration Index

The composite SDI is a derivative of three (3) thematic focuses which are; HIV Index, Education Index and Gender Parity Index. The SDI is calculated by finding the geometric mean of these three thematic focuses for each country. This gives a composite indication of the SDI status of each country and region.

- I. The higher the value of the SDI, the better the performance of the countries in moving towards gender equality in the areas of these thematic focuses;
- II. Uganda emerged with the highest SDI score of 0.587, which is followed by Swaziland with 0.554. Table 13 below shows the SDI of the best 10 countries of the 54 AU Member States;
- III. Only 39 countries have complete data to generate an SDI value, other countries could not generate their own SDI values due to

data paucity;

- IV. On regional performance, the average composite SDI for Southern Africa region is 0.449 which turns out to be the highest of the 5 regions. The region with the least composite SDI average is North Africa with 0.28;

Table 13: 10 Countries with highest SDI Scores and their Regions

S/N	COUNTRY	REGION	EDUCATION	HEALTH	GENDER PARITY	SDI	CATEGORY
1	Uganda	Eastern	0.599	0.341	0.99	0.587	0.41-0.60
2	Swaziland	Southern	0.738	0.240	0.96	0.554	0.41-0.60
3	South Africa	Southern	0.764	0.248	0.84	0.542	0.41-0.60
4	Tanzania	Eastern	0.718	0.277	0.78	0.537	0.41-0.60
5	Rwanda	Eastern	0.658	0.202	1.08	0.523	0.41-0.60
6	Sierra Leone	Western	0.617	0.419	0.46	0.490	0.41-0.60
7	Namibia	Southern	0.953	0.181	0.67	0.486	0.41-0.60
8	Burundi	Central	0.679	0.266	0.57	0.469	0.41-0.60
9	Mozambique	Southern	0.527	0.278	0.61	0.448	0.41-0.60
10	Zambia	Southern	0.675	0.267	0.49	0.445	0.41-0.60

Table 14: REGIONAL COMPOSITE SDI AVERAGE.

REGION	AVERAGE	NUMBER OF STATES WITH COMPLETE DATA	PERCENTAGE OF AU STATES	NUMBER OF STATES
Northern	28.93%	3	50.0%	6
Eastern	37.63%	9	60.0%	15
Central	36.31%	7	77.8%	9
Southern	44.99%	8	88.9%	9
Western	36.30%	12	80.0%	15
AU States	37.83%	39	72.2%	54

3.5. GRAND INDEX

To generate the Grand Index, two (2) critical values were put into

consideration. These are; the composite SDI as seen above and the SDSC as seen in chapter two. As explained in chapter one, the geometric mean of the values of these indices were calculated for each country. Countries that have any or both of the values missing do not have a Grand Index with which they can be assessed or ranked. The following observations can be deduced from the Grand Index:

- I. Due to paucity of data, especially with the SDSC where only 30 countries have their data available as at the time of this study, only 24 countries have the complete data to generate their Grand Index;
- II. Of these 24 countries, Namibia has the highest Grand Index of 0.688;
- III. Namibia is closely followed by Kenya with 0.636. The list of the best ten performing countries can be found in Table 15 below;
- IV. Namibia recorded a very high SDSC score of 0.917 alongside Kenya, Senegal and Cote D'Ivoire and also a considerable high score of composite SDI thereby emerging as the best performing country based on the indicators used in this report;
- V. Just as it is with the composite SDI, the Southern Region is the best performing region with 55.08% of SDGEA covered in the region;
- VI. The overall performance of the countries assessed in this report and based on the selected indicators is 48.53%.

Table 15: 10 Best Performing Countries

COUNTRY	REGION	GRAND INDEX	RANK
Namibia	Southern	0.668	1
Kenya	Eastern	0.636	2
Zambia	Southern	0.609	3
Senegal	Western	0.606	4
Rwanda	Eastern	0.591	5
Cote D'Ivoire	Western	0.570	6
Swaziland	Southern	0.568	7
Mozambique	Southern	0.547	8
Togo	Western	0.528	9
Burundi	Central	0.523	10

Table 16: Regional Performance on the Grand Index

REGION	AVERAGE	NUMBER OF STATES WITH COMPLETE DATA	PERCENTAGE OF STATES	NUMBER OF STATES
Northern	42.25%	2	33.3%	6
Eastern	44.65%	5	33.3%	15
Central	43.55%	5	55.6%	9
Southern	55.08%	6	66.7%	9
Western	51.45%	6	40.0%	15
AU States	48.53%	24	44.4%	54

CHAPTER FOUR

GOOD PRACTICES FOR EMULATION

4.0. Introduction

Women's emancipation and gender equality are the results of a complex process of eliminating obstacles, which often require deliberate practice of positive discrimination in favour of women.

This chapter on Best Practices is designed to provide a snapshot of the good practices as demonstrated in the implementation of commitment to gender equality, and as reported in the SDGEA syntheses on progress made in support of gender mainstreaming by Member States. Although this guide does not capture all the good practices being employed by Member States, it is however a useful tool for raising awareness on different approaches and will hopefully contribute to a common understanding on how to integrate gender equality and human rights in evaluation practice within the AU system and beyond – particularly important in the context of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Selection is based on basic applicable instruments (legal/policy briefs) deployed by Member States in the implementation process and adapted to ensure participation of women and the most marginalized and discriminated-against groups.

It is hoped that readers will commit to ensuring that these steps are implemented in every African State, such that it represents the new minimum standard on offer in the future.

4.1. Selected Best Practices on Legal and Policy Measures

4.1.1. Good Practices from Article 1:

i. MALAWI

The remarkable achievement by the government of Malawi is a case study. The scaling up of HIV and AIDS services, and the decline of HIV prevalence from 14 % in 2004 to 9.1% in 2016 is a good practice.

This feat was achieved through the Government effort which spearheaded mainstreaming of HIV and AIDS in national policies and

programmes. Government adopted the Elimination of Mother to Child Transmission (EMTCT) through the adoption of the Option B+ where pregnant mothers, upon being diagnosed HIV positive, are put on lifelong ARV Treatment (ART).

In response to disparity, the government introduced 'moonlight' testing for couples at night in order to encourage men to access HTC, 'Door-to-door' testing, community based HIV services and Voluntary Male Medical Circumcision (VMMC) which was found to be favourable towards encouraging men to go for testing.

Through an HIV and AIDS Prevention and Management Bill, a legislation that prohibits certain cultural practices that make people vulnerable to HIV infection was enacted. This helped to reduce women and girls' vulnerability as it is this group of the population that is more impacted by these cultural practices than men and boys. Malawi's rapid and successful ART scale-up critically influenced the HIV epidemic, reducing mortality, morbidity, and transmission.

Currently, 1 out of every 20 Malawi HIV-infected adults are now on ART; 275,000 deaths have been averted; and 1.4 million life-years have been gained, primarily among young adults in their peak productive life period.

In terms of health awareness, the government and civil society partners intensified efforts promoting youth friendly health services to provide sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services such as contraceptives, treatment for STI's, etc to girls and boys in a more friendly and conducive environment. A comprehensive condom strategy was formulated and popularized for both male and female condoms.

The Government has put in place and expanded programmes aimed at improving the maternal and child health of its population such as: Antenatal Health Services; Under 5 Clinics; Expanded Programme of Immunization (EPI); Malaria Control Programme including provision of treated mosquito bed nets with special focus on pregnant women and under 5 children (free) and reducing cost of mosquito nets for rural people. In 2016 alone the government procured and distributed over 3 million mosquito nets.

4.1.2. Good Practices from Article 2:

i. RWANDA

In 2015, Rwanda became the world's second highest contributor of female police peacekeepers, including 85 women and 75 men who make up a supporting team including; doctors and mechanics. Women also represent 44.3% of the community mediators and 48% in access to Justice Bureau.

In the wake of the post-genocide era, Rwanda made this possible through the development of a second generation National Action Plan to implement UNSCR 1325 (2018-2020), which boosted the role of women in post-conflict reconciliation and peacebuilding.

This initiative has strengthened women's role in peace and security processes within and outside Rwanda, and under the leadership of the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion.

This also came in the wake of the adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, a 7-year government programme and National Strategy for Transformation as a practical step to sustain and expand the registered gain from the first action plan, and set precedence in the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Rwanda women are playing a key role in promoting peace, unity and reconciliation throughout the process of nation building in Rwanda. At the grass roots level women play a visible role in the conflict management and justice structure.

ii. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

In the DRC, adoption of the Law on the organization and functioning of the Congolese National Police, which includes gender mainstreaming in the criteria for recruitment into the police force., has made it possible for women to be promoted to the rank of general in the National Army and Police

In the DRC, women participate on an equal basis with men in the process for peace and security in the country, within the framework of various peace processes implemented in the country. Their participation is also ensured through their integration into the security forces, as well as in the public and private structures responsible for the implementation of peace and reconciliation programmes.

4.1.3. Good Practices from Article 3:

I. CHAD

In 2012, a total of 1174 minors were rescued from the armed forces and other security groups. A total of 938 minors of the demobilized groups were regularly cared for in transit and orientation centres, 48 others were directly reintegrated in their families and communities by the Ministry of Women, Social Action and National Solidarity.

Chad legislated to put an end to the recruitment and use of children by armed forces, and to ensure that the released children benefit from rehabilitation programmes in their communities. The implementation of this agreement mobilized several child protection agencies (Care International, JRS, ICRC, CCF, etc.).

A Presidential Directive **N°8/PR/EMP/2013** was adopted with the objective of preventing and putting an end to the recruitment of children by armed forces and groups (Article 2). It recalls Law N°011/PR/2006 on the general status of military personnel which in its Article 44 stipulates that the recruitment of soldiers, cadets in the gendarmerie, and nomadic guards shall be carried out through conscription, competitive examinations or by direct recruitment for Chadians aged 18 years and above (Article 2).

The Presidential Directive also provides for measures on the verification of age during recruitment as well as disciplinary and penal sanctions against any person guilty of recruiting and using children in the ranks of the armed and security forces of Chad (Article 4).

With the collaboration of other international agencies, a roadmap for Zero Tolerance Initiative for Children Associated with Armed Forces and Groups was signed in 2013. The success of the campaign ensured the removal of the country from the black list of countries with children in their army in 2015.

ii. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

From 4 October 2012 to 30 June 2013, the Government of the DRC removed from the armed forces and from armed groups a total of 2894 children, comprising 365 girls and 2 529 boys, among whom 1 538 were verified according to the observation and documentation mechanism and UN Security Council Resolution 612.

In the context of combatting the recruitment of child soldiers and the exploitation of girls as wives and sex slaves in violation of their rights, as

enshrined in the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the DRC created legal arsenal provisions, as well as ministerial provisions and national mechanisms to protect children against the consequences of armed conflicts. These include:

- Law N° 09/01 of 10 January 2009 on the protection of children, which defines the child as any person below the age of 18, raises the age of marriage from 14 to 18 for girls, and condemns the recruitment of children into armed groups;
- The appointment of the Personal Representative of the Head of State charged with combatting Sexual Violence and the Recruitment of Child Soldiers into armed groups;
- The publication and implementation in 2014 of the Action Plan to end the recruitment and use of children in armed forces, signed by the Congolese Government and the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).

These minors all received medical assistance and psycho-social support, followed by reintegration into school. During the process, 4 817, including 713 girls, were reunited with their families or legal guardians. Within the context of multi-sectoral assistance, 1 806 child victims of sexual violence, comprising 1 768 girls and 38 boys, received assistance from the Government of the DRC and its partners. 61% of the victims were given medical care within 72 hours of the sexual assault.

4.1.4. Good Practices from Article 4:

i. SEYCHELLES

The Government of Seychelles achieved critical feat in 2 major areas namely:

- Enactment of Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons Act 2014- which criminalizes all forms of trafficking of adults and children, with a minimum sentence of 14 years' incarceration, while the sentence increase to a maximum of 25 years in case the victims are children.
- 2017 creation of a stand-alone piece of legislature that criminalises domestic violence in all its forms.

An outcome survey conducted by The Gender Secretariat, in collaboration with Genderlinks (South Africa) and the National Bureau of Statistics, presented most striking findings; over 40% of men confirmed that they had been victims of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) at least once during their lifetime compared to 58% women.

To ensure compliance to sustained public campaign, a number of advocacy programmes were organised. They include:

- Launch of Orange Day awareness campaign with Posters, Poems, and Essay Competition
- Promotion of Orange Day campaign in various government institutions and schools
- Presentation of Orange Day banners to the Judiciary, the National Library and Secondary Schools
- Male Empowerment Programme
- Public sensitization programme with captions such as “Unite for Peace: End Gender-Based Violence”.
- Development and introduction of a GBV Curriculum in post-secondary learning institutions in 2017

ii. LIBERIA

Liberia has established Criminal Court “E” specifically for the prosecution of sexual offences including rape. The Act that established Criminal Court “E” also provides that in every city there is established a Court 'E' hearing sexual violence cases. This provision gives right to Circuit Courts across the country to hear SGBV cases at the county level. Specialized training in SGBV case management, care, prevention, as well as, proper reporting on SGBV cases have been provided for County Attorneys, Magistrates and Judges, City Solicitors, Prosecutors, Law Enforcement Officers, Health and Social Workers and Community Members across the country. Amidst the limited resource allocation, inadequate logistical support and lack of forensic laboratory, additional staff were hired to assist fast track SGBV cases at Criminal Court “E”. This has increased the number of indictment of rape cases from 9 in August term of court in 2014 to 121 during the May 2015 term of court. Discussions are ongoing for the establishment of at least one central forensic laboratory and training of national pathologists. The number of Judges in the Criminal Court E has also been increased from one to two. It is the anticipation of the Government that S/GBV prosecution will increase.

iii. BURUNDI

The promulgation of Law N° 1/13 of 22/09/2016 on the Prevention, Protection of Victims and Abolition of Gender-Based Violence was a welcome development in Burundi. This revolutionary law goes to support the Criminal Procedure Code of 2009 and broaden the scope of

application of gender-based violence in all its forms. The Criminal Procedure Code revised in 2014 also conforms to the new Penal Code.

- i. The establishment of two GBSV focal points within the Judicial Police in High Courts has culminated in an exceptional classification and an expeditious processing of files relating to GBSV.
- ii. Public campaigns have been organised each year by the Government in conjunction with its partners; the following are worth mentioning among others:
 - The ***"16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women"*** Campaign since 2000;
 - The ***"Zero Tolerance"*** Campaign launched by His Excellency the President of the Republic in 2010;
 - The ***"We Can"*** Campaign organised in 2010;
 - The ***"Africa Unite"*** Campaign to put an end to violence against women launched by the United Nations Secretary General, that started at the national level on 10 March 2012 on Mount Heha which is the highest mountain in Burundi;
 - The ***"Tabara Tamar"*** Campaign to sensitize the population to combat violence against women with the help of biblical verses

4.1.5. Good Practices from Article 5:

I. ETHIOPIA

To effectively promote gender parity and ensure that women are empowered in decision making, Ethiopia's National Election Board mandated in its Political Party's Registration Proclamation that support shall be granted to political parties on the basis of the number of women candidates nominated by the political party among other factors.

In addition, the most recent proclamation (2015) added that 15% of the total budget for political parties that meet the threshold of 30% women representation). This is an increment from the previous support allocated for the same purpose.

Another advantage granted to women by the Board is the special media time on Radio or Television for campaign by any female candidate. A 10% of total media time in all media/print coverage is exclusively to women candidates.

This opportunity was strongly seized by the women candidates such that women's representation in the House of Representatives grew from 21.4% in 2005 to 27.9% by 2010. In the current parliament, the representation of women has grown to 38%, while women representation among electoral officials rose up to 40%. Representation in regional councils also grew with different variations reaching 40.2% in average and 50% in Woreda and Kebele councils. In all, a total of 1270 women candidates indicated interest to run for office in 2015 showing a sharp rise to the total of 927 women candidate in 2010.

Women in the executive and judicial branches also showed progress. Within the judiciary, women account for 43.4% of the judges; 21.3% in Federal High Court and 17.5% at the Supreme Court. Within the Federal Executive branches, women representation stood at 15.5%, while 22% account for women at the middle level.

ii. KENYA

In Kenya, Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) which is anchored in law by the Preference and Reservation Regulation 2011 was originally introduced in 2012, when it set aside 10% of government contracts to be awarded to disadvantaged groups, i.e. young people, women or persons with a disability. These groups have the rights to own enterprises without competition from established firms. This percentage was increased to 30% in 2013. The AGPO policy also covers micro and small enterprises, citizen contractors and citizen contractors in joint ventures with foreign suppliers. This policy aimed at empowering women, young people and persons with disability, and has given them the opportunity to participate in government procurement.

4.1.6. Good Practices from Article 6

i. ETHIOPIA

Over 12,000 vulnerable section of the society have benefitted from free legal aid scheme since 2010. Over 111 free legal aid centres were also created across the country. A number of higher educational institutions and the civil society also assist the legal aid centres to deliver free legal aid support. Organs of justice administration systems like the police and judiciary also serve as vanguards of women's rights. Each one of these bodies have dedicated gender directorate that are responsible for ensuring that women equitably utilize the services of these organs towards the protection of their human rights.

Ethiopia was able to achieve this feat by first ratifying and domesticating major international and regional instruments, including major women-specific laws like CEDAW without reservation, DEVAW and SGDEA. Ethiopia developed a national human rights action plan 4.1. with a special section on women and children.

Efforts were made to sensitize all major stakeholders at various levels with the content of CEDAW. The legal instruments were also translated into five local languages and made accessible to justice administration bodies in the country. With the law in place, national laws including constitutional documents and several subsidiary legislations prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender in every sphere of life in Ethiopia.

Extensive law reviews were also undertaken to ensure conformity of national laws with the commitment to gender equality as enshrined in international and regional treaties to which Ethiopia is a party to. These laws include family law, criminal law, pension law, inheritance law, land law, national laws and employment-related laws.

Operationalising this law, Ethiopia has taken measures to improve women's access to justice through free and low cost legal services as well as legal literacy programmes. The 111 free legal aid centres established across the country target vulnerable groups in society such as women who cannot afford legal counsel and hence cannot have fair access to justice.

4.1.7. Good Practices from Article 7

i. ETHIOPIA

Recognizing that women's disadvantage in the economic arena emanates from women's limited access to economic resources and others, the government reserved 30% of Federal Housing Scheme for women, while the remaining 70% is distributed equally between men and women. This resulted in 54% of women becoming beneficiaries of housing programmes in the capital city, while 47% of women own houses in regional states and 66% of women in rural areas own houses either alone or jointly with their husbands. To date, 60% of rural women own arable land for farming purposes.

To ensure its implementation, various legislative measures were put in place to guarantee women's equal

access to economic resources. Some of these laws include Rural Land Administration and Use Proclamation, and the Revised Family Law (2000).

In addition, the national Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) strategy has a core goal of increasing the participation and benefit of women from the sector through the following process: job creation, training, access to finance, operational and market place services, market access (local and international), technology provisions, information and counselling services, etc. So far, result has shown the following:

- a. 41.2% of the over ten million jobs created in the sector were for women;
- b. 40.6% of training opportunities went to women, out of over three million trainees;
- c. Access to finance saw similar progress with 46.5% of overall beneficiaries being women;
- d. In regards to premises for operation and marketing products, 40.8% and 40% respectively of beneficiaries were women.

ii. ZIMBABWE

The land reform programme introduced at the turn of the century sought, among other things, to mitigate the limited access to resources by women, through introduction of quotas in the access to land by women. The policy position is that women should constitute 20% of all those allocated large scale farming land also known as the A2 farming land. In addition, women were also entitled to apply for agricultural land in their own right under the A1 village schemes, a departure from the traditional norm wherein women only accessed land through their husbands, fathers or other male relative. This has empowered women to have control over land as a means of production.

ZIMBABWE WIA: To ensure full participation of women in the agriculture sector, the Government is promoting contract farming, cropping, animal husbandry, agro-dealership, and value addition by women farmers. Capacity development is also being carried out. The Government through the Ministry of Women Affairs, Gender and Community Development facilitated the formation of the Women in Agriculture Apex Board to help in coordinating women farmers' activities and mobilising women to participate in agriculture. The Apex

Board has structures from national down to ward levels. Approximately 18 000 women farmers are members of the Apex Board. Approximately 15 200 women farmers were mobilised and taken through a Master Farmer Training Programme which was jointly conducted by Agritex and Women in Agriculture Apex Board. The training resulted in improved farm management by women farmers and most of them have increased their targeted land size. More than 24 337 women farmers were trained in value addition of locally available resources such as fruits and agricultural products.

Women's Development Fund: A Women's Development Fund was established in 2010 as a means of addressing the lack of collateral for loans amongst women and the high interest rates being charged by banks. To date \$3 213 597.94 has been disbursed to 2 145 women's groups. The projects funded were from the following sectors: mining, cropping, bakeries, goat rearing, indigenous chickens, agro-dealership, honey production processing, garment making, leather products, crafts, beneficiation, cattle buying and selling, fruit vending and value addition. Nine vehicles were purchased for purposes of monitoring and evaluation of projects funded.

iii. WOMEN IN DISPLACEMENT: PROTECTING AND PROMOTING HOUSING, LAND AND PROPERTY RIGHTS (Advocacy Activity of Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) on Article 7 of the SDGEA)²¹

Twelve African countries experienced armed conflicts in 2014. Three additional countries -Burundi, Niger and Chad - were added to the list in 2015. And by 2018, new report by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) and the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) revealed that since the beginning of 2017, about 2.7 million people have been displaced by conflict, violence or disasters, but have not crossed an international border.

In the first half of the year 2017, about 997,000 new internal displacements due to conflict were reported in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), more than recorded in the whole of 2016, and 206,000 in the Central African Republic, four times the figure for the previous year. In all of these crises of displacement,

²¹ The Full advocacy document from Norwegian Refugee Council is in the appendix viii of this report.

omen will continue to be the direct victims of violence and humanitarian crisis as they become sole caretakers and burden bearer of children and elders as well exposed to sexual and gender based violence. This dire and clearly worsening situation demands a new approach that goes beyond humanitarian action to address the causes and long-term implications of internal displacement.

AU's 2019 agenda and theme “Year for Refugees, Returnees and IDPs in Africa: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement” creates renewed opportunity to advocate for increased respect for displaced women's rights. The fulfillment of women's socio-economic rights particularly in the context of displacement increases their resilience, coping capacity and ability to break the cycle of poverty.

Concerted advocacy efforts are needed to ensure that displaced women fully enjoy their rights, beyond the provision of assistance and protection to guarantee their empowerment and economic independence.

In the light of this, the NRC has come with some recommendations which she desires to push with GIMAC and other stakeholders within the context of HLP rights of women in displacement. The key ones are listed below:

- Establish a comprehensive strategy to ensure women have access to justice and particularly to legal documents pertaining to housing, land and property. Displaced women should be provided with other legal identity documents including residence documents to allow access to services and justice in response to the violations they face;
- Strengthen women's land tenure security by accelerating the provision of legal documents on land, housing and property and provide economic opportunities for women to strengthen their resilience and contribute to sustainable livelihoods through establishment of women's cooperatives among others;
- Monitor gender indicators and gather timely and accurate data on the displacement of women and the effects on their HLP rights and access to justice;
- Ratify, domesticate and implement key legal and policy frameworks, specifically the Kampala Convention and Maputo Protocol to advance the protection of women's rights and

eliminate harmful practices exacerbating the vulnerability of displaced women.

4.1.8. Good Practices from Article 8

i. MALAWI

The Government of Malawi continued implementing the Re-admission Policy for teen mothers to give them an opportunity to return to school upon delivery. This policy has helped over 25,000 teen mothers to go back to school since its formulation in 2011. The implementation of the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act 2015 facilitated the withdrawal of school going girls below the age of 18 from early marriages. Some of these girls were among the 2,465 girls who went back to school with the support of the mother groups in 2016.

NGOs such as Forum for African Women Educationists (FAWE), Malawi Chapter, are directly supporting the girl child in ensuring that their rights are promoted and protected, and also ensuring that girls retention in schools is enhanced. In addition, admission in Teacher Training Colleges has been raised for female students to a minimum of 50% to raise role models for girls especially in rural primary schools where there are no female teachers.

ii. ZAMBIA

Government has formulated and is implementing the Re-Entry Policy that allows pregnant girls to go back to school after delivery. This is in an effort to reduce the gender gap between girls and boys in education. Other programmes implemented by Zambia to promote girl child education include:

- Establishment and continued implementation of a special bursaries scheme for female students at the public universities and technical colleges; and
- Implementation of a revised curricular which aims at eliminating gender stereotyping and encourages boys and girls to progress in education.

iii. COTE D'IVOIRE

Cote D'Ivoire launched Strategic Plan for Acceleration of Girls' Education: 2016-2018 which is giving more access to young girls to go to school. This has increased girls admission and more are being

encouraged to go to school.

iv. SWAZILAND

The “Take Your Daughter to Work” initiative aims to expose girls to different career options available. The Ministry of Education, through the Guidance and Counseling unit, partners with different organisations to facilitate this programme. The in-schools girls are brought on camp and different speakers, mainly females in male dominated fields deliver motivational speeches to them. Companies also give presentations about what the companies are about, the career options within the companies and what subjects are needed as prerequisites to have opportunities in those fields of work. After that, the girls select the companies they prefer to be attached to. The final stage is a feedback session from both the girls and the company representatives. Continuous follow up is provided by the Career Guidance officer at regional level and the school guidance teachers.

4.1.9. Good Practices from Article 9

i. MALAWI

The Malawi Government ratified the African Union Women's Protocol in 2005. Since then, the protocol has helped in the review of the Malawi National Gender Policy, the development and enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act 2015; Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act 2015; and the Gender Equality Act 2013. The protocol also informed the formulation of the National Plan of Action to combat Gender Based Violence (2015-2020) and various campaigns and programmes on women and children's rights.

The Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare in collaboration with development partners and donors has disseminated the AU Women's Protocol to various stakeholders such as Policy Makers; Parliamentary Committees of Legal Affairs, Women's Caucus, and Social and Community Services; heads of NGOs; members of the media fraternity; and community leaders. The main objective for dissemination is to build capacity of key stakeholders in understanding the protocol and solicit political will and commitment from policy makers towards the provisions of the protocol. These disseminations have taken opportunity of the commemoration of international days.

The government of Malawi presented the report on the implementation of the African Union Women's Protocol in Banjul, the Gambia in April 2015 and was commended for following reporting guidelines and also for domesticating the Protocol.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5. SUMMARY

This is the 2nd report on the deployment of the Solemn Declaration Index (SDI) for the performance assessment of the MS in the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA). One major innovation in this report is the isolation and documentation of some selected good practices that MS have deployed in the implementation of the SDGEA which have produced or are producing gender sensitive impact in favour of women in those countries. The leading countries, based on our evaluation, are Namibia, Kenya, Zambia, Senegal and Rwanda in that order. Paucity of data and non-availability of some MS reports limited the scope and depth of the report beyond what is being presented.

Various analyses carried out in this study showed progress are being recorded in some areas. However, concerted efforts are required in protecting women against the upsurge in gender based violence, human trafficking, slavery and lack of access to productive resources by women. The decision making structures and space both at the AUC and MS level are still heavily skewed in favour of men except in some few cases where legal and policy support has helped African women to climb the ladder of equality in ascendancy manner.

Giant strides have been made in the reduction of prevalence rates of HIV/AIDs in some countries, but anti-retroviral treatment coverage for Women Living with HIV/AIDs (WLWHA) is still low when compared to that of men. The girls enrollment and progression rates have improved but efforts at retaining and integrating pregnant girls back to school system need acceleration and spread across the continent. The preponderance of early child marriage in some countries continue to hinder the collective efforts being deployed to increase access for girls in both primary and secondary schools.

5.1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The study made some recommendations. These include:

- i. The Member States should be encouraged to start using the new

AUWGDD reporting format because it provides opportunity for a greater display and evaluation of the activities of the MS in the implementation of SDGEA, including access to authentic data generated at National level;

- ii. In line with (i) above, MS should also update and ensure that appropriate data concerning their countries are published by the United Nations Agencies and other inter-governmental organisations;
- iii. In order to improve the quality of SDGEA report, a better inter-agency coordination will be required in some countries to give a good account of their activities as well encourage the engagement of skillful and professional writers;
- iv. A joint GIMAC-AUWGDD Advocacy Mission should be raised to:
 - a. Undertake a visit to countries whose response to the commitments made under the SDGEA has been very weak; to build their capacity and persuade them to develop appropriate strategies, policies and laws required for the implementation of the SDGEA;
 - b. Engage government and stakeholders of countries serving as source, route and recipients of trafficked women with the aim of developing a legal framework for the rights protection and rehabilitation of victims;
- v. In order for women to enjoy their full rights and be in a position to pursue these rights, it might be necessary to establish a separate Women's Rights Commission as distinct from the existing Human Rights Commission in many countries, which does not focus much on the rights of women;
- vi. Convening of a Special Session of the Heads of State of the African Union (AU) on Acceleration of Political Participation of Women through active interventions that compel political parties and Electoral Commissions across the continent to give room and ensure women are encouraged and well-resourced to be part and parcel of the electoral system from the national to local government level.

5.2. CONCLUSIONS

The Solemn Declaration Index continues to be a veritable tool in demanding for performance on the part of MS in the implementation of the SDGEA. It has also proved that it can

provide new advocacy and programmatic insight and focus for the GIMAC in her quest to push the frontier of gender equality in Africa. This report not only identified some high performing countries but also provided a new learning platform through the documentation of some good practices in the implementation of the of SDGEA by some MS. The AUWGDD needs to continue its collaboration with the GIMAC in ensuring that empowerment of women remain relevant in the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

APPENDIX I: Health Index

Country	Region	Total Antiretroviral therapy Coverage (%)	Data Year	ARV Coverage Among Women with HIV (%)	Data Year	HI	Categories
Algeria	Northern	3.79	2017	49.00	2017	0.1363	0.10-0.20
Angola	Southern	0.34	2017	44.00	2017	0.0386	0.10-0.20
Benin	Western	11.05	2017	95.00	2017	0.3240	0.21-0.40
Botswana	Southern	3.79	2017	95.00	2017	0.1898	0.10-0.20
Burkina Faso	Western	8.39	2017	83.00	2017	0.2639	0.21-0.40
Burundi	Central	8.40	2017	84.00	2017	0.2656	0.21-0.40
Cape Verde	Western	3.75	2017	95.00	2017	0.1887	0.10-0.20
Cameroon	Central	11.22	2017	74.00	2017	0.2881	0.21-0.40
Central African Republic	Central	12.34	2017	81.00	2017	0.3162	0.21-0.40
Chad	Central	9.95	2017	63.00	2017	0.2504	0.21-0.40
Comoros	Eastern	0.00		-		ICD	ICD
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	9.81	2017	70.00	2017	0.2620	0.21-0.40
Congo, Rep.	Central	3.22	2017	16.00	2017	0.0718	0.10-0.20
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	8.89	2017	73.00	2017	0.2548	0.21-0.40
Djibouti	Eastern	6.09	2015	19.00	2014	0.1076	0.10-0.20
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	1.30	2015	15.00	2014	0.0442	0.10-0.20
Equatorial Guinea	Central	10.75	2017	90.00	2017	0.3111	0.21-0.40
Eritrea	Eastern	2.41	2017	37.00	2017	0.0945	0.10-0.20
Ethiopia	Eastern	3.98	2017	69.00	2017	0.1656	0.10-0.20
Gabon	Central	6.67	2017	76.00	2017	0.2251	0.21-0.40
Gambia	Western	12.30	2017	69.00	2017	0.2913	0.21-0.40
Ghana	Western	9.60	2017	56.00	2017	0.2319	0.21-0.40
Guinea	Western	6.41	2017	43.00	2017	0.1660	0.10-0.20
Guinea-Bissau	Western	12.61	2017	85.00	2017	0.3273	0.21-0.40
Kenya	Eastern	8.40	2015	80.00	2018	0.2593	0.21-0.40
Lesotho	Southern	4.91	2017	66.00	2017	0.1801	0.10-0.20
Liberia	Western	17.28	2017	70.00	2017	0.3478	0.21-0.40
Libya	Northern	#DIV/0!		-		ND	ND
Madagascar	Eastern	1.76	2017	3.00	2017	0.0230	0.10-0.20
Malawi	Southern	6.83	2017	84.00	2017	0.2396	0.21-0.40
Mali	Western	6.92	2015	35.00	2016	0.1556	0.10-0.20
Mauritania	Northern	3.08	2015	15.00	2013	0.0679	0.10-0.20
Mauritius	Eastern	3.60	2015	20.00	2014	0.0849	0.10-0.20
Mozambique	Southern	9.63	2017	80.00	2017	0.2775	0.21-0.40
Namibia	Southern	5.76	2015	57.00	2014	0.1812	0.10-0.20
Niger	Western	9.80	2017	52.00	2017	0.2258	0.21-0.40
Nigeria	Western	5.71	2017	32.00	2017	0.1352	0.10-0.20
Rwanda	Eastern	4.97	2017	82.00	2017	0.2019	0.21-0.40

Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic	Northern	#DIV/0!		-		ND	ND
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	#DIV/0!		71.00		ICD	ICD
Senegal	Western	6.60	2017	55.00	2017	0.1906	0.10-0.20
Seychelles	Eastern	0.00	2017	-	2017	ICD	ICD
Sierra Leone	Western	20.22	2017	87.00	2017	0.4195	0.41-0.60
Somalia	Eastern	3.37	2015	7.00	2013	0.0485	0.10-0.20
South Africa	Southern	6.49	2017	95.00	2017	0.2483	0.21-0.40
South Sudan	Eastern	14.95	2015	29.00	2017	0.2082	0.21-0.40
Sudan	Eastern	2.85	2015	7.00	2014	0.0447	0.10-0.20
Swaziland	Southern	6.08	2017	95.00	2017	0.2404	0.21-0.40
Tanzania	Eastern	9.11	2017	84.00	2017	0.2767	0.21-0.40
Togo	Western	9.57	2017	86.00	2017	0.2869	0.21-0.40
Tunisia	Northern	2.52	2015	38.00	2014	0.0979	0.10-0.20
Uganda	Eastern	12.23	2017	95.00	2017	0.3409	0.21-0.40
Zambia	Southern	8.61	2017	83.00	2017	0.2673	0.21-0.40
Zimbabwe	Eastern	6.11	2017	93.00	2017	0.2384	0.21-0.40

APPENDIX II: Girls' Education Index

Country	Region	Girls Progression from Primary School to Secondary school		Literacy Rate (Female 15+)		Primary School Enrollment (Enrollment to Grade 1 of Primary School, Female %)		GEI	Categories
		Value	Data Year	Value	Data Year	Value	Data Year		
Algeria	Northern	97.810	2015	73.134	2015	48.430	2016	0.702	0.61-0.80
Angola	Southern			70.590	2014	73.047	2011	ICD	ICD
Benin	Western	87.430	2014	40.940	2012	47.850	2015	0.555	0.41-0.60
Botswana	Southern	99.690	2013	88.931	2015	91.607	2013	0.933	0.81-1.00
Burkina Faso	Western	76.720	2015	43.990	2014	47.650	2016	0.544	0.41-0.60
Burundi	Central	85.630	2015	74.960	2014	48.870	2016	0.679	0.61-0.80
Cape Verde	Western	98.880	2015	98.730	2015	49.030	2016	0.782	0.61-0.80
Cameroon	Central	69.360	2015	68.881	2015	46.690	2016	0.606	0.61-0.80
Central African Republic	Central	67.582	2011	24.355	2010	45.200	2016	0.421	0.41-0.60
Chad	Central	86.844	2012	22.390	2016	74.048	2013	0.524	0.41-0.60
Comoros	Eastern	85.230	2013	69.600	2012	80.850	2013	0.783	0.61-0.80
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	71.080	2012	79.710	2016	47.940	2015	0.648	0.61-0.80
Congo, Rep.	Central	74.794	2011	76.950	2011	95.212	2015	0.818	0.81-1.00
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	89.340	2015	47.040	2014	47.670	2016	0.585	0.41-0.60
Djibouti	Eastern	81.130	2016	ND		46.370	2016	ICD	ICD
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	95.696	2012	90.330	2013	48.630	2016	0.749	0.61-0.80
Equatorial Guinea	Central	92.343	2011	92.995	2015	47.890	2015	0.744	0.61-0.80
Eritrea	Eastern	91.280	2014	65.452	2015	45.190	2015	0.646	0.61-0.80
Ethiopia	Eastern	90.920	2014	41.092	2015	45.190	2015	0.553	0.41-0.60
Gabon	Central			89.430	2012			ICD	ICD
Gambia	Western	94.920	2013	56.120	2013	50.920	2016	0.647	0.61-0.80
Ghana	Western	93.440	2016	71.354	2015	49.720	2016	0.692	0.61-0.80
Guinea	Western	62.440	2013	37.210	2014	70.098	2014	0.546	0.41-0.60
Guinea Bissau	Western			49.760	2014	37.608	2010	ICD	ICD
Kenya	Eastern	100.000	2015	86.120	2016	48.480	2016	0.747	0.61-0.80
Lesotho	Southern	88.480	2015	93.970	2014	46.570	2016	0.729	0.61-0.80
Liberia	Western	77.350	2014	32.815	2015	51.000	2015	0.506	0.41-0.60
Libya	Northern			85.589	2015	ND		ICD	ICD
Madagascar	Eastern	72.620	2015	75.300	2012	49.400	2016	0.646	0.61-0.80
Malawi	Southern	84.388	2011	73.390	2015	50.240	2015	0.678	0.61-0.80
Mali	Western	68.060	2015	39.210	2015	45.440	2016	0.495	0.41-0.60
Mauritania	Northern	62.770	2015	41.573	2015	49.880	2016	0.507	0.41-0.60
Mauritius	Eastern	90.280	2015	98.560	2011	49.940	2016	0.763	0.61-0.80
Mozambique	Southern	66.790	2014	45.371	2015	48.320	2015	0.527	0.41-0.60
Namibia	Southern	96.750	2012	98.350	2011	91.000	2013	0.953	0.81-1.00
Niger	Western	56.040	2015	15.060	2015	45.380	2016	0.337	0.21-0.40
Nigeria	Western			49.680	2015			ICD	ICD
Rwanda	Eastern	70.970	2015	83.490	2012	48.010	2016	0.658	0.61-0.80

Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic	Northern								
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	100.000	2016	96.350	2012	49.200	2016	0.780	0.61-0.80
Senegal	Western	74.720	2015	50.970	2013	51.700	2016	0.582	0.41-0.60
Seychelles	Eastern	100.000	2015	95.680	2015	49.540	2016	0.780	0.61-0.80
Sierra Leone	Western	91.420	2015	50.860	2013	50.430	2016	0.617	0.61-0.80
Somalia	Eastern			ND				ICD	ICD
South Africa	Southern	94.610	2014	99.230	2015	47.410	2015	0.764	0.61-0.80
South Sudan	Eastern			25.339	2015	41.310	2015	ICD	ICD
Sudan	Eastern	97.350	2012	87.498	2015	47.190	2015	0.738	0.61-0.80
Swaziland	Southern	98.280	2012	87.498	2015	46.740	2015	0.738	0.61-0.80
Tanzania	Eastern	53.900	2012	84.640	2015	81.160	2013	0.718	0.61-0.80
Togo	Western	81.890	2015	78.370	2015	48.540	2016	0.678	0.61-0.80
Tunisia	Northern	91.580	2014	95.800	2014	48.900	2016	0.754	0.61-0.80
Uganda	Eastern	52.800	2014	81.650	2012	49.740	2016	0.599	0.41-0.60
Zambia	Southern	62.220	2012	55.956	2015	88.323	2013	0.675	0.61-0.80
Zimbabwe	Eastern	79.060	2012	93.190	2015	89.472	2012	0.870	0.81-1.00

Appendix III: Gender Parity Index

Country	Region	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (%)	Year	Proportion of women in ministerial level positions (%)	Year	GEOM EAN	GPI (GEOME AN/0.5)	Categories
		Value		Value			ICD	
Algeria	Northern	31.60	2015	13.30	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Angola	Southern	30.50	2018	22.20	2015	0.2602	52.04%	0.41-0.60
Benin	Western	7.20	2018	14.30	2015	0.1015	20.29%	0.21-0.40
Botswana	Southern	9.50	2018	15.80	2015	0.1225	24.50%	0.21-0.40
Burkina Faso	Western	11.00	2018	13.00	2015	0.1196	23.92%	0.21-0.40
Burundi	Central	36.00	2018	22.70	2015	0.2859	57.17%	0.41-0.60
Cape Verde	Western	23.60	2018	25.00	2015	0.2429	48.58%	0.41-0.60
Cameroon	Central	31.10	2018	17.10	2015	0.2306	46.12%	0.41-0.60
Central African Republic	Central	8.60	2018	17.40	2015	0.1223	24.47%	0.21-0.40
Chad	Central	12.80	2018	14.30	2015	0.1353	27.06%	0.21-0.40
Comoros	Eastern	6.10	2018	0.00	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	8.90	2018	11.60	2015	0.1016	20.32%	0.21-0.40
Congo, Rep.	Central	11.30	2018	22.90	2015	0.1609	32.17%	0.21-0.40
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	10.60	2018	20.90	2015	0.1488	29.77%	0.21-0.40

Djibouti	Eastern	ND	2015	5.60	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	14.90	2018	11.80	2015	0.1326	26.52%	0.21-0.40
Equatorial Guinea	Central	20.00	2018	9.70	2015	0.1393	27.86%	0.21-0.40
Eritrea	Eastern	22.00	2018	16.70	2015	0.1917	38.34%	0.21-0.40
Ethiopia	Eastern	38.80	2018	10.00	2015	0.1970	39.40%	0.21-0.40
Gabon	Central	17.10	2018	17.90	2015	0.1750	34.99%	0.21-0.40
Gambia	Western	10.30	2018	0.00	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Ghana	Western	12.70	2018	17.40	2015	0.1487	29.73%	0.21-0.40
Guinea	Western	21.90	2018	23.30	2015	0.2259	45.18%	0.41-0.60
Guinea-Bissau	Western	13.70	2018	0.00	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Kenya	Eastern	21.80	2018	22.70	2015	0.2225	44.49%	0.41-0.60
Lesotho	Southern	22.10	2018	18.20	2015	0.2006	40.11%	0.41-0.60
Liberia	Western	9.90	2018	15.80	2015	0.1251	25.01%	0.21-0.40
Libya	Northern	85.59	2015	ND	2014	ICD	ICD	ICD
Madagascar	Eastern	19.20	2018	17.90	2015	0.1854	37.08%	0.21-0.40
Malawi	Southern	16.70	2018	22.20	2015	0.1925	38.51%	0.21-0.40
Mali	Western	8.80	2018	24.20	2015	0.1459	29.19%	0.21-0.40
Mauritania	Northern	25.20	2018	30.80	2015	0.2786	55.72%	0.41-0.60
Mauritius	Eastern	11.60	2018	10.00	2015	0.1077	21.54%	0.21-0.40
Mozambique	Southern	39.60	2018	23.80	2015	0.3070	61.40%	0.61-0.80
Namibia	Southern	46.20	2018	24.00	2015	0.3330	66.60%	0.61-0.80
Niger	Western	17.00	2018	12.00	2015	0.1428	28.57%	0.21-0.40
Nigeria	Western	5.60	2018	12.00	2015	0.0820	16.40%	0.10-0.20
Rwanda	Eastern	61.30	2018	47.40	2015	0.5390	107.81%	0.81-1.00
Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic	Northern	ND	ND	0.00	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	18.20	2018	18.20	2015	0.1820	36.40%	0.21-0.40
Senegal	Western	41.80	2018	20.00	2015	0.2891	57.83%	0.41-0.60
Seychelles	Eastern	21.20	2018	30.80	2015	0.2555	51.11%	0.41-0.60
Sierra Leone	Western	37.65	2015	13.80	2015	0.2279	45.59%	0.41-0.60
Somalia	Eastern	ND	2015	6.70	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD
South Africa	Southern	42.40	2018	41.70	2015	0.4205	84.10%	0.81-1.00
South Sudan	Eastern	28.50	2018	20.00	2015	0.2387	47.75%	0.41-0.60
Sudan	Eastern	68.61	2015	11.40	2015	0.2797	55.93%	0.41-0.60
Swaziland	Southern	87.50	2015	26.30	2015	0.4797	95.94%	0.81-1.00
Tanzania	Eastern	75.87	2011	20.00	2015	0.3895	77.91%	0.61-0.80
Togo	Western	17.60	2018	20.00	2015	0.1876	37.52%	0.21-0.40
Tunisia	Northern	74.24	2018	23.10	2015	0.4141	82.82%	0.81-1.00
Uganda	Eastern	66.89	2015	36.70	2015	0.4955	99.09%	0.81-1.00
Zambia	Southern	18.00	2018	33.30	2015	0.2448	48.97%	0.41-0.60
Zimbabwe	Eastern	ND	2015	16.10	2015	ICD	ICD	ICD

Appendix IV: Composite SDI

Country	Region	Education	Health	Gender Parity	SDI	Category
Algeria	Northern	0.702	0.136	ICD	ICD	ICD
Angola	Southern	ICD	0.039	0.52	ICD	ICD
Benin	Western	0.555	0.324	0.20	0.332	0.21-0.40
Botswana	Southern	0.933	0.190	0.25	0.351	0.21-0.40
Burkina Faso	Western	0.544	0.264	0.24	0.325	0.21-0.40
Burundi	Central	0.679	0.266	0.57	0.469	0.41-0.60
Cape Verde	Western	0.782	0.189	0.49	0.415	0.41-0.60
Cameroon	Central	0.606	0.288	0.46	0.432	0.41-0.60
Central African Republic	Central	0.421	0.316	0.24	0.319	0.21-0.40
Chad	Central	0.524	0.250	0.27	0.329	0.21-0.40
Comoros	Eastern	0.783	ICD	ICD	ICD	ICD
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	0.648	0.262	0.20	0.325	0.21-0.40
Congo, Rep.	Central	0.818	0.072	0.32	0.266	0.21-0.40
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	0.585	0.255	0.30	0.354	0.21-0.40
Djibouti	Eastern	ICD	0.108	ICD	ICD	ICD
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	0.749	0.044	0.27	0.206	0.21-0.40
Equatorial Guinea	Central	0.744	0.311	0.28	0.401	0.41-0.60
Eritrea	Eastern	0.646	0.095	0.38	0.286	0.21-0.40
Ethiopia	Eastern	0.553	0.166	0.39	0.330	0.21-0.40
Gabon	Central	ICD	0.225	0.35	ICD	ICD
Gambia	Western	0.647	0.291	ICD	ICD	ICD
Ghana	Western	0.692	0.232	0.30	0.363	0.21-0.40
Guinea	Western	0.546	0.166	0.45	0.345	0.21-0.40
Guinea-Bissau	Western	ICD	0.327	ICD	ICD	ICD
Kenya	Eastern	0.747	0.259	0.44	0.442	0.41-0.60
Lesotho	Southern	0.729	0.180	0.40	0.375	0.21-0.40
Liberia	Western	0.506	0.348	0.25	0.353	0.21-0.40
Libya	Northern	ICD	ND	ICD	ICD	ICD
Madagascar	Eastern	0.646	0.023	0.37	0.177	0.10-0.20
Malawi	Southern	0.678	0.240	0.39	0.397	0.21-0.40
Mali	Western	0.495	0.156	0.29	0.282	0.21-0.40
Mauritania	Northern	0.507	0.068	0.56	0.268	0.21-0.40

Mauritius	Eastern	0.763	0.085	0.22	0.241	0.21-0.40
Mozambique	Southern	0.527	0.278	0.61	0.448	0.41-0.60
Namibia	Southern	0.953	0.181	0.67	0.486	0.41-0.60
Niger	Western	0.337	0.226	0.29	0.279	0.21-0.40
Nigeria	Western	ICD	0.135	0.16	ICD	ICD
Rwanda	Eastern	0.658	0.202	1.08	0.523	0.41-0.60
Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic	Northern	ICD	ND	ICD	ICD	ICD
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	0.780	ICD	0.36	ICD	ICD
Senegal	Western	0.582	0.191	0.58	0.400	0.41-0.60
Seychelles	Eastern	0.780	ICD	0.51	ICD	ICD
Sierra Leone	Western	0.617	0.419	0.46	0.490	0.41-0.60
Somalia	Eastern	ICD	0.049	ICD	ICD	ICD
South Africa	Southern	0.764	0.248	0.84	0.542	0.41-0.60
South Sudan	Eastern	ICD	0.208	0.48	ICD	ICD
Sudan	Eastern	0.738	0.045	0.56	0.264	0.21-0.40
Swaziland	Southern	0.738	0.240	0.96	0.554	0.41-0.60
Tanzania	Eastern	0.718	0.277	0.78	0.537	0.41-0.60
Togo	Western	0.678	0.287	0.38	0.418	0.41-0.60
Tunisia	Northern	0.754	0.098	0.83	0.394	0.21-0.40
Uganda	Eastern	0.599	0.341	0.99	0.587	0.41-0.60
Zambia	Southern	0.675	0.267	0.49	0.445	0.41-0.60
Zimbabwe	Eastern	0.870	0.238	ICD	ICD	ICD
Number of Countries with Data		45	49	45.00	39	54

Appendix V: Solemn Declaration Score Card

COUNTRY	REGION	HIV/AIDS	SCR 1325	CHILD SOLDIERS	GBV	HUM TRAF	GENDER PARITY	HUMAN RIGHTS	LAND RIGHTS	HOUSING RIGHTS	EDUCATION	PROTOCOL	Report	TOTAL SCORE	Score Card Index	Range
		1	2	3	4G	4H T	5	6	7L R	7(H R)	8	9	12			
Algeria	Northern	The Report did not follow the articles of The SDGEA, it was done haphazardly														
Mauritius	Eastern	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0.250	0.21-0.40
Somalia	Eastern	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0.250	0.21-0.40
Cameroon	Central	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	5	0.417	0.41-0.60
Chad	Central	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	5	0.417	0.41-0.60
Djibouti	Eastern	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	6	0.500	0.41-0.60
Mauritania	Northern	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	6	0.500	0.41-0.60
Seychelles	Eastern	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	6	0.500	0.41-0.60
Burundi	Central	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Congo, Rep.	Central	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Ethiopia	Eastern	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Lesotho	Southern	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Madagascar	Eastern	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Malawi	Southern	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Niger	Western	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Swaziland	Southern	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Tunisia	Northern		1		1	0	1	1	1	1		0	1	7	0.583	0.41-0.60
Angola	Southern	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Burkina Faso	Western	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0			1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Mozambique	Southern	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Rwanda	Eastern	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
São Tomé and Príncipe	Central	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Togo	Western	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	8	0.667	0.61-0.80
Liberia	Western	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	9	0.750	0.61-0.80
Zimbabwe	Eastern	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	9	0.750	0.61-0.80
Zambia	Southern	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	10	0.833	0.81-1.00

Côte d'Ivoire	Western	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{1}$	0.917	$\frac{0.81}{1.00}$
Kenya	Eastern	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{1}$	0.917	$\frac{0.81}{1.00}$
Namibia	Southern	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{1}$	0.917	$\frac{0.81}{1.00}$
Senegal	Western	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	$\frac{1}{1}$	0.917	$\frac{0.81}{1.00}$

Appendix VI: Grand Index

Country	Region	SDI	SCORE CARD	GRAND INDEX	Category
Algeria	Northern	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Angola	Southern	ICD	0.667	ICD	ICD
Benin	Western	0.332	ND	ICD	ICD
Botswana	Southern	0.351	ND	ICD	ICD
Namibia	Southern	0.486	0.917	0.668	0.61 -0.80
Kenya	Eastern	0.442	0.917	0.636	0.61 -0.80
Cape Verde	Western	0.415	ND	ICD	ICD
Zambia	Southern	0.445	0.833	0.609	0.61 -0.80
Central African Republic	Central	0.319	ND	ICD	ICD
Senegal	Western	0.400	0.917	0.606	0.61 -0.80
Comoros	Eastern	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Rwanda	Eastern	0.523	0.667	0.591	0.41 -0.60
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	0.354	0.917	0.570	0.41-0.60
Swaziland	Southern	0.554	0.583	0.568	0.41-0.60
Djibouti	Eastern	ICD	0.500	ICD	ICD
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Northern	0.206	ND	ICD	ICD
Equatorial Guinea	Central	0.401	ND	ICD	ICD
Eritrea	Eastern	0.286	ND	ICD	ICD
Mozambique	Southern	0.448	0.667	0.547	0.41-0.60
Gabon	Central	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Gambia	Western	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Ghana	Western	0.363	ND	ICD	ICD
Guinea	Western	0.345	ND	ICD	ICD
Guinea-Bissau	Western	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Togo	Western	0.418	0.667	0.528	0.41-0.60

Burundi	Central	0.469	0.583	0.523	0.41 -0.60
Liberia	Western	0.353	0.750	0.515	0.41 -0.60
Libya	Northern	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Tunisia	Northern	0.394	0.583	0.479	0.41 -0.60
Lesotho	Southern	0.375	0.583	0.467	0.41 -0.60
Mali	Western	0.282	ND	ICD	ICD
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	0.325	0.667	0.466	0.41 -0.60
Burkina Faso	Western	0.325	0.667	0.466	0.41 -0.60
Malawi	Southern	0.397	0.500	0.445	0.41 -0.60
Ethiopia	Eastern	0.330	0.583	0.439	0.41 -0.60
Cameroon	Central	0.432	0.417	0.424	0.41 -0.60
Nigeria	Western	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Niger	Western	0.279	0.583	0.403	0.41 -0.60
Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic	Northern	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Sao Tome and Principe	Central	ICD	0.667	ICD	ICD
Congo, Rep.	Central	0.266	0.583	0.394	0.21 -0.40
Seychelles	Eastern	ICD	0.500	ICD	ICD
Sierra Leone	Western	0.490	ND	ICD	ICD
Somalia	Eastern	ICD	0.250	ICD	ICD
South Africa	Southern	0.542	ND	ICD	ICD
South Sudan	Eastern	ICD	ND	ND	ND
Sudan	Eastern	0.264	ND	ICD	ICD
Tanzania	Eastern	0.537	ND	ICD	ICD
Mauritania	Northern	0.268	0.500	0.366	0.21 -0.40

Madagascar	Eastern	0.177	0.583	0.321	0.21 -0.40
Uganda	Eastern	0.587	ND	ICD	ICD
Mauritius	Eastern	0.241	0.250	0.245	0.21 -0.40
Zimbabwe	Eastern	ICD	0.750	ICD	ICD
Number of Countries with Data		39	30	24	54

Appendix VII: Gender Index Rank

Country	Region	GRAND INDEX	RANK
Namibia	Southern	0.668	1
Kenya	Eastern	0.636	2
Zambia	Southern	0.609	3
Senegal	Western	0.606	4
Rwanda	Eastern	0.591	5
Cote d'Ivoire	Western	0.570	6
Swaziland	Southern	0.568	7
Mozambique	Southern	0.547	8
Togo	Western	0.528	9
Burundi	Central	0.523	10
Liberia	Western	0.515	11
Tunisia	Northern	0.479	12
Lesotho	Southern	0.467	13
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Central	0.466	14
Burkina Faso	Western	0.466	15
Mauritius	Eastern	0.458	16
Malawi	Southern	0.445	17
Ethiopia	Eastern	0.439	18
Cameroon	Central	0.424	19
Niger	Western	0.403	20
Congo, Rep.	Central	0.394	21
Chad	Central	0.370	22
Mauritania	Northern	0.366	23
Madagascar	Eastern	0.321	24
Number of Countries with complete Data		24	

Appendix VIII



**NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL**

Women in Displacement: Protecting and Promoting Housing, Land and Property Rights

African Normative Frameworks

Forced displacement in Africa is a crisis that continues to reverse the socio-economic advances made over the years. Conflict is the primary driver of mass displacement across the continent. In the absence of a global protection instrument, the African Union has adopted the Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons, also known as the Kampala Convention as the primary legal instrument that caters for the needs of internally displaced persons. The Kampala Convention is anchored on strengthening state responsibility in preventing, managing and responding to forced displacement. The legal framework, which was adopted in 2009, has made advances in recognizing the special needs of vulnerable groups including displaced women. The Convention addresses the safety and security needs of marginalized and discriminated groups by urging governments to take the necessary steps for special protection and assistance. The Convention makes particular reference for the protection of sexual and reproductive health rights of women and their access to psychosocial services and documentation.

The AU has adopted progressive landmark frameworks and policies including the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) and the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality that put emphasis on women's right to development and economic advancement. Both instruments call for member states to guarantee women's strengthened access to land and property rights. International and regional development policies are also cognizant of the importance of women's socio-

economic rights. The Sustainable Development Goals have a standalone goal on gender equality and women empowerment and Africa's Agenda 2063 envisions a future where women are able to fulfill their potential as drivers of change.

Displaced Women's Right to Housing, Land and Property

The efforts towards the protection and promotion of women's rights should also be an opportunity to create a conducive environment for them to exercise their agency. Women play a major role in contributing to economic growth and development of their societies. In humanitarian context, which forms the reality of millions of displaced persons in Africa, and increased instances of return and reintegration efforts, the violation of women's socio economic rights, including Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) rights that are all central to their coping capacity, continue to be overlooked.

HLP rights mainly center on the need to have a home, free from the fear of forced eviction; a place that offers shelter, safety, stability and the ability to secure a livelihood. Given that these rights are closely linked to access to livelihoods, safety, security and an adequate standard of living, failure to uphold them constitutes a serious impediment to displaced women's prospects for return, local integration or settlement elsewhere. Disputes over land and housing are prevalent especially during crisis and increasingly difficult to resolve due to instability and weak institutions. Land disputes often times are caused due to secondary occupation and tension between displaced people, returnees and host communities. Land tenure situations are often weakened during conflict, which lead to dispute and contested land claims.

Further to this, Women and girls continue to bear an unequal burden of the hardships occasioned by poverty, conflict and clan-based culture, which promotes strict male hierarchy and authority. Further exacerbated by religious and cultural limitations on the role and status of women, consequences include deeply rooted gender inequality. Women are either excluded from formal decision-making and asset ownership or can only access these through a patriarchal filter. Women's access to justice is restricted both within the formal, clan based and sharia-based judicial systems. Women face limited access to economic resources and assets, which is compounded by women's low participation in politics and decision-making spheres.

In post-conflict context, land rights management becomes particularly challenging and a hurdle to economic recovery and peacebuilding. A gender analysis that examines women's HLP rights has been a neglected part of women's experience of conflict. In circumstances where land and property records are destroyed, vulnerable groups such as women are often the most affected. Even in the case of existing documentation, women are still marginalized due to the fact that marital property and land registration is done only in the name of the husband and some women are even obliged to register their own property in the name of their husbands. Hence, many women do not enjoy their land and property rights particularly when the family plots are sold. During the sale of land and property, husbands initiate the transaction and the sale contract is established in their names. In the event of death of the husband, women are excluded and have no access to the sale documents. Widowed and single women are particularly vulnerable to forced eviction and confiscation of house and property. Most of the time, women have no access to land for farming. In the case of displacement, women are invariably considered as appreciated labor to work in the host community fields rather than being owners of the land.

Displaced women continue to be the primary victims of violence and humanitarian crisis as they become sole caretakers of children and elders as well exposed to sexual and gender based violence. In addition to their economic marginalization, they continue to be excluded from the various decision-making structures. The practice in different countries across the continent identify many gaps in the implementation of the provisions enshrined in the numerous legal and policy frameworks. The vulnerability of displaced women is particularly acute given harmful practices, repressive social norms, poverty and laws that discriminate against women. In addition, limited access to justice for violations of HLP rights are widespread among women in Africa and become even more acute in displacement contexts.

In addition, access to and control of land determines displaced women's access to livelihood assets such as physical capital, natural capital, human capital, financial capital and social capital. Access and control are limited by their lack of resource rights and ownership of land (Wengi, 1998; World Bank, 2000; Verma, 2001). Paradoxically, women through their labour are the major contributors to household

livelihoods especially in refugee situations (Mulumba, 2002). Women and men negotiate access and maintain control over land as a productive and material resource differently and inequitably within local relations of power (Verma, 2001:79).

Hence, the need for early and sustained engagement with women is a priority to identify and address root causes of conflict. The active and sustained women's involvement on land and property dispute resolutions is vital to address their marginalization, to ensure equitable distribution of land and resources and accelerate peace building and economic recovery efforts. There is an urgent need to address the pressing and continued discrimination against women and shift towards a true recognition of women as agents of change.

Evidence suggests that women obtaining and maintaining land tenure security can lead to a range of improvements in women's lives including economic empowerment. These can include choices in investing in livelihoods practices; greater household decision making; access to and decisions on credit; control over income and spending; food security outcomes (including income, consumption, meeting basic needs and avoiding negative coping strategies); voice, recognition, participation in community governance; participation in peace building; job opportunities - support business development; reduction in negative coping mechanisms; membership in influential groups or unions; and respect among household members. Generating evidence on improvements to women's lives requires a longer-term approach so that the links between women's land tenure security and women's economic empowerment can be identified and contributing factors from women's Housing Land and Property rights are defined.

Progress and Opportunities

Member states are tasked with the primary responsibility of addressing the needs of displaced population by paying particular attention to the condition of vulnerable groups. However, existing policy and legal frameworks, which state have committed to, have not been fully implemented. As of now, the Kampala Convention has only been ratified by 27 member states and domesticated by even fewer states. The AU has undertaken initiatives to promote the implementation of the Convention, including the adoption of the Model Law in January 2018, which provides guidance to member states on

domesticating the provisions of the Convention in national laws. The AU also organized the Harare Conference of State Parties on the Kampala Convention in which member states adopted a plan of action towards the realization of the Convention to effectively protect and promote the rights of displaced population.

Since 2015 during AU's year of 'Women's Empowerment Towards Africa's Agenda 2063', followed by the 2016 year of 'Human Rights with Particular Focus on the Rights of Women, the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Maputo Protocol a momentum was generated for the advancement of women's rights. In 2019 in the framework of the AU's agenda and theme "Year for Refugees, Returnees and IDPs in Africa: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement" creates renewed opportunity to advocate for the increased respect of displaced women's rights. The fulfillment of women's socio-economic rights particularly in the context of displacement increases their resilience, coping capacity and ability of breaking the cycle of poverty. Concerted advocacy efforts are needed to ensure that displaced women fully enjoy their rights, beyond the provision of assistance and protection to guarantee their empowerment and economic independence. This should be evidence based and influenced by detailed research, studies and analyses.

Key Recommendations

Cognizant of the multifaceted challenges faced by displaced women and within the context of 2019 AU theme, member states should take concrete steps towards the fulfillment of their fundamental rights. Governments, as the primary mandate holders should:

- Establish a comprehensive strategy to ensure women have access to justice and particularly to legal documents pertaining to housing, land and property. Displaced women should be provided with other legal identity documents including residence documents to allow access to services and justice in response to the violations they face
- Provide all options of durable solutions to displaced women including local integration to those who wish to stay and assistance to those who want to voluntarily return
- Build social cohesion and harmony between the host community and the IDPs by integrating both groups in program designing,

implementation, monitoring and evaluation and by creating space for social cohesion dialogues between all parties.

- Involve displaced women in all phases of programming, including during the situational analysis, planning, implementation and evaluation to ensure that the success indicators are jointly defined with concerned women through their active participation in decision making processes and in the allocation of resources
- Strengthen Women's land tenure security by accelerating the provision of legal documents on land, housing and property and provide economic opportunities for women to strengthen their resilience and contribute to sustainable livelihoods through establishment of women's cooperatives among others.
- Address the root causes of internal displacement and the issues facing displaced women, including working towards the elimination of discriminatory and harmful practices, repealing laws that discriminate against women; end practices that exclude women from obtaining inheritance and marital property and removing barriers that displaced women face to access justice, specifically for HLP rights
- Monitor gender indicators and gather timely and accurate data on the displacement of women and the effect on their HLP rights and access to justice;
- Ratify, domesticate and implement key legal and policy frameworks, specifically the Kampala Convention and Maputo Protocol to advance the protection of women's rights and eliminate harmful practices exacerbating the vulnerability of displaced women

CLUSTER	Governance	Peace and Security	Human Rights	Health	Education	Economic Empowerment
SDGEA ARTICLE	Art. 5	Art. 2	Art. 3,4,9	Art. 1,10	Art. 8	Art. 6,7,11
GIMAC FOCAL POINTS	Africa Leadership Forum	Femmes Africa Solidarite; ACCORD; ISIS-WICCE; African Artists Peace Initiative	Women in Law and Development in Africa; African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies	Ipas Africa Alliance	Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE)	Egyptian Business Women Association
YOUTH	Rozaria Memorial Trust World Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) African Youth Initiative (AYI)					
RURAL	Institute for Social Transformation (ISF)					
ELDERS	Pan - African Women Organization (PAWO)					
CHAMPIONS	Mme Nkosazana Dlamini - Zuma H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf					
REGIONAL FOCAL POINTS	Western Africa: Association des Femmes de l'Afrique l'Ouest- AFAO-WAWA Northern Africa: Association of Tunisian Mothers - ATM Southern Africa: Foundation for Community Development - FDC Eastern Africa: Advocacy for Women in Africa Central Africa: Congolese Association to Fight Women Based Violence - ACOLVF					
KEY MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS	AWORD; ABANTU for Development; Akina Mama Wa Africa; ANSEDI; CAFOB; Center For Human Rights (CHR); Commission for Gender Equality (CGE); Equality Now; FEMNET; International Federation of Woman Lawyers (FIDA); MARWOPNET; Nairobi Peace Initiative (NPI); Pan African					

	<p>Movement; ProFemmes, SSWC; Tunisian Mothers Association (ATM); Association Congolaise de Lutte contre les Violence faites aux Femmes (ACOLVF); Advocacy for Women Africa (AWA); Foundation for Development Community (FDC); WREPA Kenya, ROOTS, SWOFON, Fondation Internationale de la Femme Africaine pour le Développement; Pro-Femmes / Twese Hamwe; Girls Not Brides; SOFEPADI/Bunia. Le Centre KARIBUNI WA MAMA; Women International League for Peace and Freedom; COCAFEM/GL; Jeunesse Africaine pour le Développement (JADE); African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe; Women's Rights and Empowerment Partnership in Kenya; African Women's Rights Caucus; Pan African Centre for Social Development and Accountability; Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa; Planète Femmes pour la Paix et la Solidarité; Fonds pour les Femmes Congolaises; Borno Women; Burundi Women and Girls' Movement for Peace and Security; South Sudan Women's Network for Peace Alliance Citoyenne pour la Démocratie et le Développement; IGAD Women and Peace Forum; Peace Journalism Foundation of East Africa; Mano River Women's Peace Network; Voice for Libyan Women; Somali Women's Studies Centre</p>
STRATEGIC PARTNERS	<p>AU Commission; AUC Women, Gender and Development Directorate (WGDD); AU organs; UN Women; United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR); African Development Bank (ADB), AUC Office of Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security</p>
KEY PARTNERS	<p>United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); United Nations Development Program (UNDP); Training for Peace; African Women's Development Fund (AWDF); Urgent Action Fund-Africa; African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF); Mo Ibrahim Foundation; Rockefeller Foundation; Nobel Women's Initiative; Mary Robinson Foundation for Climate Justice; Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); Government of Norway; Government of Finland; United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID); Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA); Training for Peace, Action Aid International; Oxfam; Plan International</p>

SECRETARIAT	Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) hosted by ECA in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
STAFF	With the support of UN Women and FAS