

CONCEPT NOTE: Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: Key to Ending Violence Against Women.

OVERVIEW.

Women in Africa are operating in a cultural setting where women are to be seen and not heard. They suffer social exclusion, and are denied the right to inheritance, land, and habitat, due to customary laws and traditions, despite United Nations Resolutions and Conventions, African Union Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol), which is one of the most progressive legal instruments providing a comprehensive set of human rights for African women.

Article 14 (2)(h) of the CEDAW encourages Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women, to ensure on a basis of equality of men and women, that they participate in and benefit from development and to ensure that women (h) enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and water supply, transportation and communication.

Violence against women must end if we must achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and leave no woman behind by 2030.

The parallel event will be presenting key issues and strategies towards ending violence against women.

The panel of experts, advocates and practitioners, will highlight cultural and structural barriers to gender equality and steps to tackle them. They will be presenting effective strategies and partnerships needed to dismantle barriers to ending violence against women for the transformational changes we desire. The intersection between Violence Against Women, Gender Inequality and Homelessness will also be discussed.

CO-SPONSORS:

1. Ministry of Women Affairs, Osun state, Nigeria.
2. WorldWIDE Network Nigeria: Women in Development and Environment.
3. HIC- Women and Habitat African Working Group.
4. UNANIMA International.