

8WAMM 12 – 14 June 2007

Financing Gender Equality for Development and Democracy

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Background

- WAMM - a triennial meeting
- Mandate – Strategic Plan (CW)
 - CPoA for Gender Equality (2005-2015),
which has 4 critical areas
- Partners Forum – 8-10 June
 - Civil society, parliamentarians,
business women, MDG related issues
- Informal ministerial consultation

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8WAMM

- Tracking the money for gender equality
- Rationale for financing - smart economics, relationship with growth
- Focus on AIDS, conflict
- National machineries and public sector
- Launch of Gender and Trade resource materials – Gender and Trade Action Guide, website and a volume on Financing Gender Equality- commonwealth perspectives

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Headline Messages

- Meeting CW overarching democracy and development (MDGs off track) objectives not possible unless domestic and international funding for gender equality/empowerment of women/girls is scaled up significantly
- Twin track approach of gender mainstreaming plus gender specific interventions is needed
- Needs greater accountability for gender impact of existing expenditure plus increased funding for gender equality/empowerment of women/girls
- Gender equality is smart economics – but also a human right

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Gender Responsive Budgets

- Finance Ministries must play a lead role in GRB
- and NWMs need the capacity to support
- Considerable CW experience of GRBs but nowhere yet 100% effective: long haul
- Sex disaggregated data is essential for the evidence base and to track impact – availability and use needs strengthening
- Engage civil society in the budget process

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Gender and Aid Effectiveness

- Aid can't be effective without gender equality. Apply gender analysis to track gender impact of aid resources (same for post conflict aid, Aid for Trade).
- Critical to engender High Level Review of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in September 2008 (needs a Round Table for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment)
- Strengthen capacity and resources of NWMs to participate in National Development Strategies and new aid modalities such as Budget Support, (experience of UNIFEM), strengthen M & E role,
- Donors should fund women's movement/civil society to increase accountability/country ownership

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Gender and Trade

- Aid is important in some contexts but trade can empower women economically
- Increase women's capacity to compete in markets/gain market access
- NWMs, Ministries of Trade need capacity to engender trade negotiations. Women must be included in trade negotiations.
- Growth: Govts must create enabling environment for women to scale up businesses/go global through appropriate fiscal, monetary and exchange rate and trade policies

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Microfinance and Innovative Financing

- Critical assessment of microfinance
- Women need equal access to affordable finance
- Policy interventions to make markets work for women
- Create national funds for micro finance and enable women to graduate to small and medium enterprises.
- Women should have greater role in management of these funds at all levels.
- Document good practices, experiences, models of innovative financing in the CW
- Establish a CW exchange programme
- Innovative funding programmes to leverage and link with private sector funding

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Financing HIV & AIDS Interventions: Implications for Gender Equality

- Gender inequality is a driver of HIV epidemic
- ABC approach assumes women/men same level of control/autonomy – not so. Female controlled methods critical
- Girls/women vulnerable: stigma, discrimination, caregivers. Strengthen property/broader rights.
- Donor funding influential, donor policy can drive outcomes for women/girls; need flexible gender sensitive funding
- Set gender transformative indicators (not only sex disaggregated)

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Investing in Gender Equality: Promoting Peace and Democracy

- politics is man's domain/ patriarchal culture/campaign funds/party nominations constrain women in politics: needs affirmative action.
- CW Global role model scheme?
- CHOGM should review CW progress 30% target
- modern military state excludes women
- violence/abuse to girls/women from own troops and peacekeepers
- UNSCR 1325 groundbreaking but ignored: gender audit post conflict funds/cost implementation of UNSCR 1325
- post conflict opportunity to transform politics/society. Cover disarmament and demob but not reintegration and rehab
- ensure funds for NWM capacity building to monitor peace and post conflict interventions

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The Gender Architecture

- globally: support for new, independent, properly resourced UN agency for women
- funds to strengthen OSAGI to implement 1325
- NWMs should be placed at highest political levels of government, headed by a Cabinet Minister, and adequately funded
- build capacity of NWMs to engage with other ministries and reach lower levels of society
- document good CW models of effective NWMs

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And finally.....

- Use the new M and E framework to monitor the PoA
- Take messages from 8WAMM to CW Finance Ministers
- And CHOGM in Kampala
- And CSW 2008

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