



Message from the Coordinator



Hilda Stuart
National Coordinator WHRDC - Tanzania

Dear readers,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to read our first newsletter ever since the inception of our noble organization the Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania (CWHRDs-Tz). Ours is a non-governmental organization established in 2019 to make a strong movement of Women Human Rights Defenders in Tanzania. The Coalition envisages a Tanzanian/Society where all women and girls are free from all sorts of human rights abuses with our mission being to empower, protect and strengthen a vibrant movement of WHRDs. This newsletter highlights some of the activities which were implemented during the year 2021, under its One Year Implementation Plan 2021-2022, which contains five outcomes derived from five objectives.

During the year 2021, the Coalition conducted a digital security training to create understanding on the safe use of digital platforms to Women Human Rights Defenders and Women leaders and launched the WHRDs Safe online (Wanawake Watetezi Salama Mtandaoni) Campaign. The coalition marked various International events to promote women's and girls' rights. The Coalition also engaged the government especially through the Ministry responsible for gender to inform them about its existence, vision, mission and objectives as well as other ministries such as the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, the Prime Minister's Office, PMORALG as well as the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance. As a result of all these activities, we have been able to introduce our organization to various partners within and outside the country.

Allow me to thank all our partners government and non-government entities as well as development partners for their financial and material support without which we would have not been able to engage in this noble work.

Kindly enjoy your reading and please drop a line or two in case you feel like doing so.

Hilda Stuart
National Coordinator WHRDC - Tanzania



Coalition launches anti GBV Online Campaign in TZ

WOMEN in Tanzania can now sigh with relief following the launch of an online GBV platform to address the situation, thanks to efforts by the WHRDCs in Tanzania

The platform was launched in November 2021 as the Coalition joined the rest of the world to mark the International Women Human Rights Defenders Day during the 16 Days of Activism against GBV 2021 in the country. Titled 'Wanawake Watetezi Salama Mtandaoni', meaning safe haven for women rights defenders online, the platform is meant to protect women human rights defenders and women in leadership against online gender violence.

During the event, participants utilized the

day to discuss on ways to address issues of femicide, intimate partner's violence, online gender based violence as well as sexual harassment at the working place where they came with various resolutions as way forward.

The event brought together 83 participants (67 female, 16 male) composed of WHRDCs members in Tanzania, representatives from CSOs, the Principal Secretary, Director of Legal Affairs and Commissioner of Social Welfare from the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children. Others were from the Attorney General's Office and the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, Development Partners from UN Women, Swiss Embassy as well as the UN OHCHR EAST Regional Office.



Delegates pay attention during the commemoration of the Women Human Rights Defenders Day for the year 2021



Women Human Rights Defenders honored for their work

SIX women human rights defenders received awards during the commemoration of International Women Human Rights Defenders Day held in November 2021. The coalition provided an award to them as the 2021 champions of the year in the country.

Those who won an accolade were Esther Pamagila for her work towards ending GBV to women and girls in rural communities, Rose Sarwatt for her voice to defend and protect widows' rights in Tanzania, and GelineFuko for her tireless services to promote the Rule of Law and Democracy in Tanzania.

Others are Sophia Donald for her efforts to empower and raise voices of girls' Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Fransisca Damian for her efforts towards creating spaces for young women's voices and participation in economic empowerment.

Also in the list was a renowned activist in the country Gema Akilimali who received an award as a role model and mentor in championing women's rights in Tanzania.



Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Jingu (3rd left) during the commemoration of the Women Human Rights Defenders Day.





Coalition promotes women's participation in peace building

AMONG activities conducted for the year 2021 were to promote women's participation in peace building where the Coalition conducted a Strategic Meeting to present by-laws in Bagamoyo District, with its target being women, local government authorities, community and religious leaders in the two wards of Dunda and Magomeni. As a result,

the Coalition managed to increase awareness of 77 participants on issues related to women's limited participation in peace building and conflict resolutions such as existence of male dominance in all levels of decision-making and patriarchy. The engagement led to the draft model by-law getting community views and buy-in to increase its acceptance and overall implementation.



2021 IWD dialogue comes with strategies to address GBV



Advocate Hilda Daldu, the Coordinator of the WHRDs(standing) issues a welcome note during the Commemoration of the International Women's Day in Dodoma.



Delegates to the International Women's Day conducted in Dodoma.

IN March 2021, the coalition joined the rest of the world to mark the International Women's Day. During the day, stakeholders managed to identify sexual harassment issues that women and girls face in their daily life, discuss the impact of sexual harassment to the health and reproductive health of women and girls and to come up with solutions. The dialogue managed to come out with several resolutions one being to protect girls with disabilities against sexual harassment as they can not defend themselves. A call was also made to establish a neutral board to deal with sexual harassment cases in higher learning institutions as well as to engage religious and traditional leaders to address the vice. Other resolutions were to increase men's engagement to raise their awareness on GBV acts and sexual harassment as well as to provide mental health services to women and girls who encounter GBV and sexual harassment acts. The session brought together 58 participants (44 women, 14 male).



Women Human Rights Defenders from the Eastern Horn of Africa display their bracelets with anti GBV messages when they paid a courtesy call at the Coalition in 2021.

Coalition takes anti GBV messages all way to Eastern Horn of Africa

IMEDIATELY after the commemoration of the 2021 IWD, the Coalition took measures to work on the resolutions where in July 2021 an awareness creation workshop on GBV and emerging issues during the COVID 19 outbreak was conducted. At the end of the session, the 30 participants to the event managed to develop 15 anti GBV messages while also developing 300 bracelets with the same messages which were shared with the Eastern and Horn of African rights defenders members. A roll up banner with GBV messages was also posted on social Media pages of the Coalition.



A group photo of women human rights defenders after they designed anti GBV messages.



WHRDC builds capacity of women rights defenders on digital security

DURING the year 2021, the CWHRDs-TZ conducted three Digital Security Training sessions to 60 women human rights defenders and women leaders in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma and Mwanza. The session was meant to strengthen their awareness on safe use of social and digital networks for women leaders, WHRDs as well as to identify ways to prevent and reduce cybercrime and violence against them.

During the session, trainees were able to develop a safety action plan for individuals and organizations. As a result of the session, participants were able to gain new knowledge on strong password settings in their digital devices to secure their sensitive information. This is likely to reduce threats to their security especially in these days of digital harassment and intimidation. Participants were also able to learn on how to use social media effectively to campaign on human rights violations so that justice is served to its victims on time.

Apart from WHRDs, other participants were women leaders from the Commission for Human Rights and Good Government (CHRAGG), Ministry of Gender, Community Development, Women and Special Groups, and PMORALG, Women leaders at the Regional Office from Nyamagana and Illemela Districts, Ward Councilors as well as the Police Gender Desk in Mwanza region.



Capacity building on safe use of social media to women human rights defenders in Mwanza. Nyamagana DCgraced the workshop.



Training on safe use of social media in Dar es Salaam



Institutional capacity at the top of its priorities

DURING the year 2021, the coalition conducted an organization Assessment workshop as part of organizational development where they were supported by the Wellspring Philanthropist Foundation. The assessment was meant to assess the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges and to come up with priority areas of organizational development. Participants for this organization assessment exercise were some WHRDs TZ Member organizations

and individuals, five members of the Board of directors and staff members of the coalition. The assessment came up with some priorities that should be worked on to make the coalition to grow where major priorities identified during the assessment include; Strategic Plan, Governance and Monitoring and Evaluation. Other priorities were on programming. Immediately after, a series of workshops were conducted to enable staff to develop a strategic plan for the year 2022-2025

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Coalition adheres to governance issues

DURING the year 2021, the Coalition for WHRDs TZ was able to secure a rental office and managed to procure and purchase various working equipment such as Laptops and Desktops, Camera, Water Dispenser and Office Cabinet. Quarterly Board Meetings were also conducted to review Coalition activities

implemented during the previous quarter and endorse the plan for another quarter. The Board received, considered and approved the Activities Implementation Report from the Secretariat with various inputs directing the Coalition to implement activities according to its Vision and Mission. The Board also received, considered and adopted the financial report.

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Coalition lives to its word, saves woman rights defender from wrath

DURING the year 2021, the coalition provided legal support to a woman human rights defender who was attacked and arrested at midnight at the airport accused of using an online TV channel while airing issues of gender based violence. The accused WHRD was detained for three days under police custody while her working equipment was held as exhibition for evidence during a court case. The coalition provided support to her and the family until her release.

Coalition prevents nude images from going viral

THE Coalition managed to provide legal assistance to a university student whose nude images were in the verge of going viral in social media where after a press release by the Coalition, TCRA took action where it closed 4 twitter accounts which were at the centerfold of spreading nude pictures of girls. The regulatory authority went as far as to write an official letter to the Coalition to inform them on the actions taken.



Intervention by Coalition leads to resignation of NGO board chair

During the year 2021, the Coalition pursued a case where its member refused to bow down to sexual advances made by her boss, a board chairperson where she lost her job as a result. As a result, the board suspended its chairperson to pave the way for an investigation on the issue before the Annual General Meeting forced him to resign. A mediation meeting was held where the organization will pay her salaries for the demotion and for unfair termination.



Nipashe 1/12/2021



shoto), akitoa
mpya kupi-
na mizigo.

Kinara ukatili wa kijinsia atunukiwa tuzo maalum

Na Godfrey Mushi, MOSHI

KINARA wa utetezi wa haki za binadamu na mwongoza njia wa vita dhidi ya ukatili wa kijinsia ngazi ya jamii katika eneo la Moshi Vijijini mkoani Kilimanjaro, Easter Mlay, ametunukiwa tuzo maalum ya kutambua mchango wake kutokana na kuibua visa vingi vya ukatili vinavyotishia uhai wao.

Katibu Mkuu wa Wizara ya Afya anayeshughulikia Maendeleo ya Jamii, Dk. John Jingu, kabla ya kumkabidhi tuzo hiyo, alisema kwa kuwa Mlay ni mmoja kati ya wanawake wanaogusa maisha ya watu na mtu anayeamini katika haki, serikali pamoja na wadau wanaopambana na vita hiyo wameamua kumpa heshima ya kutambua mchango wake katika jamii.

Tuzo hiyo ilitolewa na Jukwaa la Wanawake Watetezi wa Haki za Binadamu Tanzania, kwa kushirikiana na serikali.

Tunahitaji wanawake aina ya Mlay, tuzalishe wanaharakati wengi zaidi ambao wanaweza kutusaidia kuibua visa vya ukatili wa kijinsia na kutafuta majawabu ya matatizo yao.

"Yeye ni mfano kati ya wengine na sisi kama serikali tunamuunga mkono kwa anayoyafanya, licha ya kuwa hana rasilimali fedha, zaidi ya akili na uzalendo alionao.

Tunawashukuru sana Jukwaa la Wanawake Watetezi wa Haki za Binadamu Tanzania kwa kutambua mchango wa Shirika la KWIECO, Easter Mlay katika kupambana na ukatili wa kijinsia vijijini."

Zaidi aliongeza: "Easter ni mmoja kati ya wanawake wanaharakati 140 waliohamasishwa ndani ya jamii na kujengewa uwezo na Shirika la KWIECO kupitia Mradi wa Ujenzi wa Nguvu ya Pamoja katika Kupambana na Ukatili wa Kijinsia dhidi ya Wanawake na Watoto mkoani Kilimanjaro, unaofadhiliwa na Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFT).

Easter ni Mkazi wa Kijiji cha Lole, Kata ya Mwika Kaskazini katika Halmashauri ya Moshi na amekuwa mstari mbele katika kutoa elimu, kuibua, kutoa taarifa na kufuatilia matukio ya ukatili wa kijinsia dhidi ya wanawake na watoto katika kata yake na maeneo ya jirani na kuhakikisha wahanga wanapata haki zao za msingi.

a kwa sababu
iyopanda miti,

L
rama kubwa
nye kitalu na
lakini mwisho
jiani," alisema.
daji miti, Mku-
nashauri hiyo,
kuifutilia miti

tunarudia ku-
e tuliyopanda,
hi hasa katika
ko ndiko kuna

ts Agency, am-
ha Afya Maro-
a kupitia mbio
ijamii zinaabu-
ukuza uchumi