



National Assembly of the
United Republic of Tanzania

Seminar for East and Southern African Parliaments

Preventing and responding to violence against women and girls: From legislation to effective enforcement



Inter-Parliamentary
Union

Dar es Salaam, 5-7 December 2012

Organized by
The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the National Assembly of the United Republic
of Tanzania

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

5 December 2012

9 -10 a.m.

Opening session

10.15 a.m.-12 noon

Session 1: Violence against women and girls: Forms, causes, consequences and overview of strategic approaches in East and Southern Africa

Violence against women has reached epidemic proportions and spares no society. It can take many forms and appears everywhere: domestic violence, sexual abuse in schools, sexual harassment in the workplace, early or forced marriage, female genital mutilation, sexual assault, rape as a weapon of war, etc. This session seeks to shed light on the root causes and consequences of the various forms of violence against women and girls in the world and in East and Southern Africa. Discussions will also focus on trends in terms of responses to end this scourge.

Presentations

Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

12.10-1.30 p.m.

Session 2: Regional and international legal instruments to address the problem of violence against women and girls

This session will examine the regional and international legal instruments dealing with violence against women. Special emphasis will be placed on the way the relevant instruments set standards with a view to obtaining results at the national level. It will also look at the role parliament plays in ensuring compliance with regional and international obligations in the field.

- *The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence against Women (CEDAW)*
- *The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol)*

Presentations

Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

1.30-3 p.m.

Lunch

3-5 p.m. **Session 3: Process and challenges of developing and effecting legal reform on violence against women**

Participants will examine the elements of the legislative process required to put an end to violence against women by analysing how violence is addressed in national legislation, identifying loopholes, defining the objective of legislative reform, consulting all interested parties, in particular those who will have to apply the law, resorting to experts, etc. The discussion will focus on the various components of legislation and examples of good practices, including parliamentary strategies for legislating and preparing the public to accept a relevant law.

Presentations
Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

6 December 2012

9.30-11 a.m. **Session 4: Implementation of legislation: Costing violence against women and ensuring adequate funding**

The direct and indirect costs of violence against women are extremely high for victims/survivors, their families, communities and countries as a whole. During this session, attention will be paid to costing violence against women and the role of parliament in making these costs visible in the national budget. The session will focus on how gender-responsive budgeting can contribute to better implementation of legislation and plans of action to combat violence against women.

Presentations
Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

11.10 a.m.-1 p.m. **Session 5: Implementation of legislation: Monitoring and overseeing government action**

It is important to legislate in order to obtain results, but it is equally crucial to ensure proper enforcement of legislation. The session will look at the role of parliament in monitoring progress and overseeing government action in relation to the implementation of legislation and national policies on eliminating violence against women. Special emphasis will be placed on the role of parliamentary committees. Specific attention will be paid to adequate responses in place for victims, and on cracking down on perpetrators and combating impunity. The session will also deal with the coordinated action of the various key stakeholders.

Presentations
Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

1-2.30 p.m. **Lunch**

2.30-5 p.m. **Session 6 (first part): Working groups on legislation and effective enforcement**

1) Domestic violence	2) Violence against women and HIV/AIDS	3) Female genital mutilation and child marriage
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7 December 2012

9.30 - 10.45 a.m. **Session 6 (second part): Reports of the working groups on legislation and effective enforcement**

Presentations of the reports

- 1) Domestic violence
- 2) Violence against women and HIV/AIDS
- 3) Female genital mutilation and child marriage

Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

11 a.m.-12.30 p.m. **Session 7: Preventing violence against women and girls and creating an enabling environment**

What can be done at different levels of society to help prevent violence against women and girls? The discussion will be centred on primary prevention and social change. Participants will examine what measures that can be taken to bring about a change in attitude and behaviour. Presentations and discussions will focus on education and awareness-raising campaigns and other initiatives taken by the media, civil society, etc. The importance of working with boys and men in gender-based violence prevention programmes will also be highlighted.

Presentations

Question-and-answer session and plenary debate

12.30-2 p.m. **Lunch**

2 - 2.30 p.m. **Presentation of the IPU programme "Parliaments Take Action on Violence against Women"**

2.30-3.30 p.m. **Session 8: Summary of the seminar**

Lessons learned

Follow-up action

Presentation of final conclusions by the General Rapporteur

3.30-4 p.m. **Closing session**
