

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2014
OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Statement

of the

Pan-African Women's Empowerment & Liberation Organisation (PAWLO-Germany e.V.)

On behalf of

Women Against Discrimination

30 September 2014

Warsaw

We the Women Against Discrimination, from 10 participating States would like to express our deepest gratitude to HDIR for giving us the opportunity to participate.

We have identified the empowerment and respect of women of the most vulnerable groups as our main issues of concern for the realisation of all political, social, economic and cultural rights as well as indigenous and other collective rights. We therefore recommend the governments, regional organisations and institutions involved in the process to take all measures necessary to effectively ensure that:

- 1) the life, work and presence of women of any religion, cultural background, ethnic origin, legal status in terms of residence rights, physical and mental ability and age be respected and empowered;
- 2) have access to legal advice for prevention of any form of discrimination and violence, and for asserting their rights and to all legal means and instruments to do so;
- 3) be economically empowered and independent;
- 4) can build up structures for the sharing of relevant information;
- 5) shall receive adequate support when necessary so as to be able to exercise their parental rights and obligations;
- 6) children be maintained in their community and receive gender sensitive education;
- 7) women have access to education and training, including professional training, according to their own perspectives;
- 8) have access to relevant legal means for hate crimes, hate speech, racism, sexual violence, religious intolerance and all forms of discrimination, to be systematically prosecuted;
- 9) be trained to occupied relevant functions in the media, the police forces and the legal system in order to ensure the adequate portraying and assessment of our activities, religion and cultures

We urge all people participating in this event to prove their solidarity by walking their talk and not only by making commitments in solemn declarations and statements. This especially applies to the support that shall be granted to HDIR, the European plan of action and continuity of efforts to combat racism, xenophobia, Islamophobia in the perspective of the decade for the People of African Descent and Beijing + 20 and intolerance against Moslem women. This also includes our involvement in the all these process at OSCE, national, regional and international levels.

We take ourselves the commitment to make our contribution towards the realisation of these aims by exercising solidarity among ourselves and showing respect to each other.

Thank you for your attention.