



WIC NEWS

The monthly Bulletin of the
Women's Information Centre

WOMEN'S INFORMATION CENTRE

From WIC's
Management 1

Issues
- Wives of
Diplomatic
Corps in Tan-
zania Help
Orphan Chil-
dren 2

-WIC partici-
pates at IWD
Exhibitions 3

The Ministry in
Action
- W o m e n ' s
Commission
Resolution 4

-Stand for
Political Posts 5

WIC Documenta-
tion Centre 6



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"Institutional Strength-
ening of the Ministry of
Community Develop-
ment, Gender and Chil-
dren"

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Page 1

FROM WIC'S MANAGEMENT

Dear Readers,

The highlight of this issue of the WIC News bulletin is to the International Women's Day 2004 (IWD) celebrations, held in South Unguja region, Zanzibar.

On the *issues* section, we present an article on the wives of Diplomatic Corps giving aid to two orphan centers, and another on the Women's Information Centre (WIC) representing the Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children (MCDGC) at the IWD exhibitions held at Tunguu grounds, Zanzibar.

On the *Ministry in Action*, we bring you two articles; one is on the resolutions adopted by the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), which focused on the UN theme of the IWD, "*Women and HIV/AIDS*". The other article on this section focuses on the call made to women to join politics by the First Lady, Hon. Mama Anna Mkapa, guest of honour of the climax of the IWD celebration.

The *Documentation Centre* section puts emphasis on books about the IWD and suggests some related internet links.



The IWD Climax: A parade by women in the Armed Forces

Enjoy the reading,

WIC Management

ISSUES

WIVES OF DIPLOMAT CORPS IN TANZANIA HELP ORPHANED CHILDREN IN SOS CENTRE

The wives of diplomatic corps of Zambia, Angola, Djibout, and Kenya donated about 500,000 Tanzania shillings to two-orphanage centres in Zanzibar. The centres, which benefited from the contribution, are Save Our Soul (SOS) children village and the Government owned House of Orphaned Children. The wife of the Angolan High Commissioner, Mrs. Lucretia Quimoma, presented the donation to the two centers.

Speaking at the same occasion, the wife of the Zambian High Commissioner, Mrs. Margaret Simuyanda, said that all the countries they represented, are experiencing problems of orphans and of homeless children because of the HIV/AIDS pandemic. She said that she hopes that the donation will be used for the purpose for the orphaned children.

Receiving the donation on behalf of the SOS village, the director, Mr. Nassor Nassor, thanked the wives of the diplomats and assured them that the money will be used for the orphans at the village. He said that the SOS village was established in 1993 as a result of the initiative of the then President of Zanzibar, His Excellency Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Currently the village accommodates 73 orphaned children. It consists of family houses, a kindergarten, a sport ground and an attached secondary school. When it fully occupied, it will offer a new home to 120 children.

The Director of Social Welfare in Zanzibar, Ms. Asha Hamdan, receiving the donation on behalf of the government owned centre, thanked the wives of the diplomatic corps for their support. She said that currently the center, which was established by the first President of Zanzibar, the late Abeid Amani Karume in 1965, is experiencing shortage of beds and transport, the building is very old and needs renovation, so the money would be used for such purposes.

The wives of diplomatic corps were in Zanzibar during the celebrations of the International Women's Day, which were held in South Unguja region in Zanzibar, from 4th to 8th March 2004.



@SOS Children's Villages

SOS children's villages build families for children in need, help them shape their own future and share development of their communities. The village is funded by the foundation of the late Austrian Mr. Herman Gmeiner, who was the founder of the first SOS children's village in Imst Austria in 1949, to help caring for orphaned children after the 2nd World War.

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WOMEN'S INFORMATION CENTRE (WIC) PARTICIPATE AT IWD EXHIBITIONS

ISSUES

The Women's Information Centre (WIC) was established in 1997 in Dar es Salaam within the context of the project "Institutional Strengthening of the Ministry of Community Development, Women's Affairs and Children", financed by the Italian Government and implemented with the technical support of the Italian Association for Women in Development (AIDOS). The WIC is under the department of Policy and Planning of the MCDGC.

WIC has four major areas of operation, the coordination unit, which oversees administrative issues and coordinates issues of research, training, information and communication to visualize the MCDGC, a documentation centre, which keeps documents focusing on the Ministry's Mandate, i.e book on community development, women, children all with a gender perspective, an information/communication unit which focuses on making the Ministry visible in its activities, and a Women Information Window (WIW), which provides women with information and advisory services on training, scholarship, and job opportunities.

WIC was invited to participate in the celebrations of the International Women's Day, (IWD) which took place in South Unguja Zanzibar, by setting up a book exhibition. The books exhibited reflected the themes of the IWD. The International theme was "Women HIV/Aids" and the national theme was "Take Gender into account for Development". Other documents exhibited included brochures, such as those about WIC, WIW, the WIC News bulletin, audio-visual material such as Video, Radio Cassette, CD-Rom, Posters in both English and Swahili and a friendly Swahili version of the Women and Gender Development Policy.



Mama Mkapa visited WIC pavilion during the IWD celebration.

The IWD exhibitions were opened by the Hon. Mohamed Aboud Mohamed, Minister of Trade and Industries, Zanzibar and were attended by many dignitaries including H. E. Mama Anna Mkapa, first lady and H. E. Mama Fatuma Karume, the mother of the President of Zanzibar. Many of the dignitaries visited the WIC pavilion. About 230 people visited the centre and each had reading material to take away.

WIC was among exhibitors, who included, women groups, Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) focusing on women entrepreneurship and on issue affecting women, such as those focusing on HIV/AIDS, and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). On the climax day, the 8th March, there was a parade by the women in all the armed forces including Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF), Police, Prisons and militia.

"This year the International Women's Day took place at Zanzibar, and The UN theme was Women and HIV/AIDS while the national theme was Take Gender Issues into account Development"

UN WOMEN'S COMMISSION RESOLUTION

THE MINISTRY
IN ACTION

***“The CSW urged governments to expand access to treatment, in a progressive and sustainable manner, including the prevention and treatment of opportunistic diseases and effective use of antiretroviral medication as well as promote access to low cost-effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products.*”**

The United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) concluded its forty-eighty session in New York, U.S.A with the adoption of agreed resolution on the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality for women, one of the main themes of the session.

Also adopted as orally revised, were agreed resolutions on other main themes of the session, women equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace building as well as resolutions on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS.

The resolution on women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS urged governments to take all necessary measures to empower women and strengthen their economic independence, protect and promote their full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms to enable them to protect themselves from HIV infection.

The CSW also urged governments to expand access to treatment, in a progressive and sustainable manner, including the prevention and treatment of opportunistic diseases and effective use of antiretroviral medication as well as to promote access to low cost-effective drugs and related pharmaceutical products.

Resolution on the measures taken and progress achieved in the follow up and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Special Session of the UN General Assembly in mainstreaming gender perspectives in entities of the United Nations System. The CSW expressed its concern about the remaining shortcoming for a full implementation of gender mainstreaming into all policies and programs of the United Nations Systems, including inadequate support for and follow-up to gender equality policies and strategies, poor utilization of gender analysis, inadequate monitoring mechanisms, and a number of ongoing critical institutional constraints.

The forty-eighth session of the CSW, decided that the forty-ninth session will focus on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Outcome Document of the twenty-third Special Session of the UN General Assembly through the expanded use of interactive dialogue, and with broad-based participation of the government delegations at the highest level of responsibility and expertise, and of civil society organizations within the United Nations Systems, bearing in mind the need to integrate a gender perspective in the implementation and review of the Millennium Declaration.

In her closing remarks, the UN Assistant Secretary General, Mr Kofi Annan, and the Secretary General's Special Advisor on Gender Issues and the Advancement of Women, Ms Angela King, said that, the achievements of CSW had been overshadowed by the tragedy in Spain. She said that delegates had managed to overcome many complexities in order to adopt the conclusions and the report. The session had accomplished a great deal regarding gender mainstreaming in the United Nations System. It had also broadened interactive debates with members of other commissions and had chartered the way forward, particularly on the role of women in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The Tanzania delegation of 11 people from mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar was led by the Minister for Community Development, Gender and Children, Dr Asha-Rose Migiro. It included the Permanent Secretary Mrs Hilda Ausi Gondwe, the Regional Commissioner for Singida Ms Halima Kasungu.

STAND FOR POLITICAL POSTS

THE MINISTRY

The International Women's Day is the story of ordinary women as makers of history rooted in the centuries-old struggle of women to participate in the society on an equal footing with men. Every year on March 8, millions of women and men around the world celebrate the International Women's Day. The Commemoration in year 2004 nationally was held in Zanzibar.

The first lady Mama Anna Mkapa during the climax urged Tanzania women to run for political posts in the coming general elections instead of cashing on special seats. These elections will take place next year in October 2005. The International Women's Day were held at Bung, 50 kilometers from Zanzibar town, in South Unguja in Zanzibar. She said that Tanzania has made a leap forward in recognizing women's rights and equality, adding that the women should now compete for political posts. " We should not sit down and wait for free seats in parliament and councils. We should contest for the seats and other women should lend us a hand", she said. She cautioned that supporting women contestants could only bear fruit if the candidates possess the required qualification.



The first lady commended the government for implementing gender sensitive programs, which have contributed greatly to thwart discrimination against women. She mentioned some of them as the provision of social services like health, education and water. The first lady challenged fellow women to appreciate the government's efforts to improve their well being instead of lodging endless in their rights.

Mama Mkapa underscored the need for women to continue pressurizing the government to implement effectively policies related to women and children affairs. She added that although women contribute greatly in various sectors of the economy, notably in agriculture, they do not own resources and they are not involved in decision-making.

The Deputy Minister for Community Development, Gender and Children, Hon Shamim Parker Khan, speaking during the same occasion, said that the policies and international conventions to which Tanzania is a party, allow women and men to acquire, use and own resources according to their individual needs. She called for active participation of women and men at family level in making laws, policies and development programs. She added that despite various measures being taken by the government to raise the position of women and men, women have not yet caught up with men.

The International Women's Day celebrations, in South Unguja created, great awareness to the grassroots. The climax was preceded by a procession of hundreds of women. These were followed by a parade of women in the armed forces including the people's defence forces, the police, the prisons, the national service and the militia. These we led by a brass band from the defense forces. Also present were the wives of top government leaders, such as Mama Mwanamwema Shein, Esther Sumaye, Mama Fatma Karume, the mother of the present President of Zanzibar His Excellency Amani Abeid Karume, and Asha Shamsi Nahodha. Others were the wives of members of the diplomatic corps from Kenya, Djibouti, Zambia and Angola.

"The first lady commended the government for implementing gender sensitive programs, which have contributed greatly to thwart discrimination against women"



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The views expressed in
this bulletin do not
necessarily represent
the views of the
Minsitry of Community
Development, Gender
and Children

WIC DOCUMENTATION CENTRE

WIC documentation centre represented the MCDGC at this year's International Women's Day, as an exhibitor from the Ministry at Tunguu Grounds, in South Region Zanzibar. A number of documents in its collection were displayed, others disseminated in particular publications produced by the Ministry and WIC, this year's theme: "*Mainstreaming Gender for Development*" Women and HIV/AIDS as the International theme. WIC documentation centre wishes to inform its users that it has a lot in stock on this particular theme. Some of the key documents on the subject now available for consultation in the centre are: "*A quick guide to gender mainstreaming in development planning*"; "*Assessment of gender mainstreaming in Sub-Saharan Africa: a review of UNDP supported activities*" and "*Mwanamke na uongozi: jenga tabia ya kujiamini katika uongozi*".

ABSTRACTS OF KEY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE IWD

1. *A quick guide to gender mainstreaming in development planning*, by Vivienne Taylor, 1999.

The book is based on the recognition that gender inequality operates at all levels and in all sectors of society, and thus needs to be addressed aims to ensure that women and men benefit equitably from all that society has to offer, and are equally empowered to affect governance and decisions.

2. *Assessment of gender mainstreaming in Sub-Saharan Africa: a review of UNDP supported activities*, by UNDP, 2000.

This study aimed at assessing gender mainstreaming in the programmes and projects supported by the UNDP in mainstreaming gender into all policies and programmes in Sub-Saharan Africa, with a view of assisting national governments as well as civil society in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The study report reveals a considerable UNDP's progress in promoting gender mainstreaming at policy level and contributed to the promotion of gender equality through its programming interventions.

3. *Mwanamke na uongozi: jenga tabia ya kujiamini katika uongozi*, Kimetolewa na ENVIROCARE, 2003.

Kijitabu hiki kimeandaliwa kwa ajili ya mafunzo ya kujenga uwezo na tabia ya kujiamini katika uongozi na hasa uongozi bora wenye kufuata sheria na kuheshimu haki za binadamu. Kijitabu hiki pia kinaeleza jinsi ya kujenga uwezo wa kujiamini katika uongozi kwa kuelezea stadi za mawasiliano zinazoweza kuondoa woga wakati wa kuongea na hasa katika mikutano ya hadhara. Pia kimeleenga kuboresha uongozi wa wanawake katika kutumia nafasi zao kushawishi maamuzi au sera katika mabaraza husika kwa kuwapa mbinu za kuibusha masuala ya kijinsia kwenye nyanja mbalimbali, ili kuwezesha kufanya maamuzi na kutunga sera zenye mitazamo ya kijinsia, kwa nia ya kujenga usawa kati ya wanawake na wanaume katika urali wa kufikia rasilimali muhimu kwa maendeleo ya mtu binafsi na jamii kwa ujumla.

USEFUL LINKS

1. <http://www.un.org/events/women/iwd/2004/index.html>

This is the UN official website for the International Women's Day 2004, with the theme "Women and HIV/AIDS" As women now account for over 50 per cent of those infected with HIV worldwide, the web site claims the importance of placing women at the centre of the fight against HIV/AIDS . It is a rich multi-lingual resource site with links covering among others, its [History](#), [Women's Day 2003](#), [Programme](#), [Media Advisory](#), [Gender & HIV/AIDS Portal](#) and [Global Issues: Women](#). It has a collection of key information on the of strengthening the capacity of women in responses aimed at preventing HIV transmission.

2. <http://www.peacewomen.org/un/ecosoc/CSW/CSW2003.html>

This website provides accurate and timely information on women, peace and security issues and women's peace-building initiatives that advocate for the integration of gender analysis in the governance, peace and security work of civil society actors, the UN system, and governmental bodies for implementation of [UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security](#). Links to many useful resources and to the UN Commission on the Status of Women are given.