

Report
2nd Africa Conference of grass roots women -
Bamako 23 to 25 MAY 2017

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I. Connections

The World Women's Conference of grass roots women is an international movement of women which plays an important role in mobilizing grass roots women and their organizations for defending women's rights given the various crises, that hit women with full force (due to poverty, unemployment, migration, climate change, violence based on sex, armed conflicts, wars e.g...)

The Africa Conference took place in Bamako from 23 to 25 May 2017. This meeting of African grass roots women is a logical consequence of the first meeting in Lomé which ran from 10th to 14th July 2012, in order to strengthen the movement on that continent. It took place with delegates from four African countries and with two German representatives of the worldwide women's movement.

1. Contents

1.1. General content

The general discussion at the Africa Conference of grass roots women involved the rights of women in connection with the armed conflicts and the refugee crisis.

1.2. The specific content

Specific topics are the following:

* To contribute to knowledge and changes of the problems of African women in armed conflicts, radicalization and the refugee crisis. To contribute to the change, the knowledge of alternative answers to the problems which the African women are confronted with in the situation of armed conflicts, of radicalization and the refugee crisis.

* Let us strengthen an environmental change, exchange experiences about our life conditions with grass roots women from Africa and from different continents and let us find answers.

* Working out an action plan and a resolution for the African grass roots women in close connection with grass roots women from all over the world, at the end of the meeting in Bamako.

- * Let us organize more frequent exchange in Africa among the African members
- * Initiating permanent actions, which will give the African delegates an important financial contribution for the process

2. Achieved results

- * Designing a Facebook account
- * Organizing an African week once a year in Europe – the first will take place in October 2017 in Germany.

These new permanent activities

- * Suggesting conferences and debates
- * Supporting a film and publishing a book about the African organizations
- * Selling local products and crafts from all different regions with the contribution of 5% per country to the World Women's Conference
- * Release to return to support the of local women's organizations
- * Finding of agriculturally processed products from different regions of Africa as a general activity of grass roots women

II Course

The conference started at 10 o'clock in the conference room at the "Centre Amadou Hampathé Ba" in Bamako, district Missira.

The opening ceremony was initiated by the coordinator of the "Association Routes du Sud" "Awa Meité van Til. She welcomed all delegations (African and German) as well as different participators of various Malian local organizations.

She then gave the floor to all the present delegates for presenting themselves with their structures and activities.

After these greeting words visitors could present themselves- Here their names to keep them in mind:

- * Marie Paula LOGOSU TEKE, delegate from Togo, chairman of federation... women
- * Micheline Wendyam KABORE, chairman of the Association of Women and Development in Burkina Paso
- * Nancy Mbuakania MANBU, delegate from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Association of Active Women of Congo
- * Suse BADER, Coordinator of Europe for the World Women's Movement, accompanied by Elvira Duerr, translator for French/German.

The present structure of the grass roots women were presented; all participants actively participated in the debates and all focused on their various main interests. The various statements resulted in women having a challenge to stand up together.

A hospitable lunch break with about 40 Malian grass roots woman took place. Work for the delegates restarted at 3 o'clock p.m. about the organizational structures in Germany as well as in Europe. This completed the activities of the first day.

The second day of the conference was meant as a framework for the African delegates to discuss the prospects of the African movement. It focused on proposals of how the movement can be independent. The solutions corresponding to the order they were mentioned.

Conclusion

The second Africa Conference of grass roots women has proved to be an important step towards the revival of the African movement.

The new perspectives resulting from this are voluntariness and mobilization without absence of the coordinators who will be really present.

Attachment I I

Photos (names accordingly)

Marie Paula LOGOSU TEKE

Suse Bader

Micheline Wendyam KABORE

Nancy Mbuakania MANBU

Program

May 23th

Conference opening

10: 00 h arrival of the guests

10:30 h Welcome by Mrs. Awa Meité of Til, coordinator of "Routes du Sud " and delegate from Mali and organizer of the 2nd Africa Conference of grass roots women

- Welcome for Mrs. Suse Bader, coordinator of Europe and on the history of the World Women's Conference

- Welcome for Marie Paula LOGOSU TEKE, delegate from Togo, chairman of the "Cercle de Liaison and d'entraide Fémine "

- Welcome for Ms Nancy Mbuankania MANBU, delegate from the Democratic Republic of Congo, chairman of....

- Welcome for Mrs. Micheline Wendyam KABORE, coordinator of the African world women's movement, chairman of the "Association Femmes and Développement du Burkina Faso "

11:30 h opening of the debate with various women's associations of grass roots women from Mali, who were invited to the 2nd Africa Conference of grass roots women

13.00 h Musical interlude with guitar by Mouneissa, first female bassist of Mali

13:30 h visiting the weaving workshops of Awa and lunch time

15:30 h end of first conference day

24. MAY 2017

8:00 h internal debates

* results and evaluation of the 1st Africa Conference of grass roots women in Lomé 2012 as a source of inspiration

* African financial participations in the process of the World Women's Movement of grass roots women

* Lunch time

* Ways and means of improvement of Africa internal communication

* Design of a Facebook account to inform about activities of the countries

17: 00 h end of second conference day

25. MAY 2017

8:00 h of internal debates

- * Working out and completion of the book
- * Clarifying the internal regulations
- * Proposal for an action plan
- * Lunch time
- * Consultation with the German delegates
- * Conception and program for the African week in Germany in October 2017

17:00 h Ending of the 2nd Africa Conference of grass roots women