

OIC/3-WCOD/2010/MECH.

**Mechanism
for
the Implementation of the
OIC Plan of Action for the Advancement of Women**

**Submitted to the
Third Ministerial Conference
on
Women's Role in the Development of OIC Member States**

**19 – 21 December 2010
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran**

Mechanism for the Implementation of the OPAAW

I. Actions at the level of the Member States and the OIC

1. Individual Member States may determine a Focal Point for identifying the key areas of concern to their women population and draw up appropriate programmes.
2. To raise awareness among women of their rights, responsibilities and their potential to constructively contribute to national and social development, the Focal Points should take the initiative in organizing national and international workshops and seminars with the participation of women from all levels in society.
3. The Specialized Organ for Women in Cairo, once operational may supplement national efforts to implement the provisions and recommendations of the OPAAW in coordination with the OIC General Secretariat.
4. The Member States may develop clear plans, strategies and comprehensive studies to face up the challenges and send them along with their reports of the achievements to the OIC General Secretariat for the data compilation.
5. To take effective measures to protect women as a vulnerable group from discrimination, and violence and ensure that such abuses are effectively investigated, prosecuted and punished.
6. To promote systematic efforts to monitor discrimination against women in employment, housing, access to service and other areas of society in order to increase knowledge of such trends.
7. The women victims of discrimination, violence, etc must be encouraged and given necessary help to file complaints.
8. Good Practices should be shared among the Member States.
9. Women Poverty alleviation programmes such as micro-credit should be undertaken.
10. Access to education for women including the poor and those living in rural areas must be given top priority.
11. Compulsory and free education for all women up to the primary/ high school level be encouraged.
12. The education curricula must ensure true message and teaching of Islam, its principles and values as well as advocating diversity.
13. Family institution should be strengthened so that the children would be brought up with moral values and the lofty teachings of Islam.

14. Positive public debate about rights of women in Islam may be encouraged and supported financially by the OIC Member States, Muslim civil society organizations, communities and the media.
15. The OIC in coordination with the concerned Member States should monitor closely women related incidents as well as improvements and take necessary measures.
16. The OIC should regularly sensitize the OIC Member States on Women issues and ask their feedbacks and reports on various issues.
17. The OIC and the Member States should continue to convene, attend and monitor workshops taking place in different parts of the world and discuss relevant subjects.
18. The General Secretariat should coordinate activities of the concerned OIC bodies with the Member States in organizing meetings, workshops and conferences on women related issues.
19. The relevant organs of the OIC in particular the IDB, ISESCO, IIFA, IRCICA and ICCI should organize or finance workshops/training programmes for advancement of Muslim women in coordination with the General secretariat.
20. Access to social amenities such as recreation and sport to develop women mentally and physically must be ensured. In this case, Member countries may consider crating facilities exclusively for use of women.

II. Actions at the Level of the Civil Society

1. To establish a network of reputed Muslim think tanks or NGOs that could exert efforts in promoting the status of women
2. To encourage and urge Muslim think tanks and NGOs in the Western countries to develop closer contacts with their Non-Muslim counterparts and remain engaged on a regular basis.
3. To encourage schools, youth forums and educational institutions to organize lectures and seminars on women's rights so that the concept is better understood and developed within the younger generation.

III. Actions at level of Media

1. The Islamic Media should be encouraged to actively report on the matters related to the issues of women and their advancement.
2. The OIC and the Member States should arrange/co-sponsor and support conferences and events on women involving media people to sensitize them about the rights of women in Islam.

3. To take initiative in disseminating well written research articles and papers on women's rights from the Islamic perspective.
4. To prepare documentaries or make movies on the role of women and their contribution to the society as well as to glorious past of Islam and Muslims and the present day advancements.
5. To strengthen law enforcement against violent hate crimes and provide adequate resources to law enforcement bodies.