

## **PROGRAMME OF WORK**

### **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN: THE ROLE OF THE MINISTRY OF GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT**

**LIBERIA  
12-14 MARCH 2007**

*Monday 12 March*

8.00 – 8.30	<b>Registration</b>
8.30 – 8.45	<b>Introduction and background</b> ( <i>Saras Jagwanth</i> )
8.45 – 9.00	<b>Participant introductions and expectations</b>
9.00 – 9.30	<b>The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women: context, background and objectives</b> ( <i>Dorcas Coker-Appiah</i> )
9.30 – 10.15	<b>Obligations in the Convention - article by article</b> ( <i>Dorcas Coker-Appiah and Elize Delpont</i> )
10.15 - 10.30	Tea
10.30 – 12.30	<b>Obligations in the Convention – article by article (continued), including general recommendations of the Committee</b> ( <i>Dorcas Coker-Appiah and Elize Delpont</i> )
12.30 – 2.00	Lunch
2.00 – 4.30	<b>Parallel working groups on the role of national machineries in implementation of the Convention: what needs to be done?</b>

Participants should include in their discussion the following:

- (i) What is the role of the MGD? How does the MGD staff intervene? When do they intervene?
- (ii) Priority areas for intervention (for example violence against women, discriminatory traditional practices);
- (iii) Tools and mechanisms available to the Ministry for addressing the priority areas (for example law reform, the development of national action plans, public education and awareness-raising, partnerships with stakeholders). Participants should identify specific details of what needs to be done to ensure implementation of the Convention (for example the content and type of law reform required, the partners in an awareness raising campaign);
- (iv) The main barriers and constraints to effectively using the tools and mechanisms.

Each working group must select a rapporteur to report back to the plenary session.

*Tuesday 13 March*

9.00 – 11.00

**Report back from working groups**

Each group will report back for a maximum of 10 minutes. **This will be followed by a discussion on good practices from other national machineries on mechanisms for implementation** (*Dorcias Coker-Appiah*)

11.00 – 11.15

Tea

11.15 – 1.15

**Parallel working groups on the role of national machineries in implementation of the Convention: how can it be done?**

Participants must remain in the same working groups and discuss the strategies available to the MGD to effectively deliver the priorities identified in the earlier discussion. Participants should include in their discussion the following:

- (i) How can the Ministry effectively develop and take forward the tools and mechanisms required for implementation, and overcome constraints identified earlier;

(ii) What are the sources of support available for effective implementation;

(iii) What mechanisms should be put in place for co-ordination and collaboration, including with other government departments and civil society.

Each working group must select a rapporteur to report back to the plenary session.

1.15 – 2.30

Lunch

2.30- 4.30

**Report back from working groups**

Each group will report back for a maximum of 10 minutes. **This will be followed by a general discussion on good practices from other national machineries on the strategies for effective use of tools and mechanisms, including sources of support and collaboration and coordination** (*Elize Delport*)

*Wednesday 14 March*

9.00 – 11.00

**The reporting process in assessing the status of implementation** (*Elize Delport and Dorcas Coker-Appiah*)

11.00 – 11.30

**The Optional Protocol to the Convention** (*Dorcas Coker-Appiah*)

11.30 – 12.30

**Workshop evaluation and closure**

12.30 – 2.00

Lunch