



GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY CAMPAIGN TO END CHILD, EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE

Capacity Building Seminar for African Parliamentarians on Addressing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM)

Parliament of Ghana | Auditorium Job 600

March 2nd and 3rd, 2016

Accra, Ghana

With the kind support of



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Background

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is an NGO network of over 1,302 individual legislators from 143 countries working on human rights issues. In 2014, PGA launched its *Global Parliamentary Campaign to End Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM)* to raise awareness about this harmful practice, mobilize its network of Parliamentarians to discuss and address its root causes and consequences in the lives of girls and women in their countries and regionally, and empower them to strengthen their national legal and policy frameworks to accelerate its eradication.

Purpose of Seminar

- Follow-up on the commitments adopted by Parliamentarians in Ghana (2014) and Tanzania (2015) on CEFM and assess their preliminary results;
- Build political support to foster an enabling legal and policy environment that protects women's and girls' rights;
- Facilitate engagement between members of Parliament (MPs) and all relevant stakeholders working in this field, especially between MPs and civil society;
- Promote cross-learning among African Parliamentarians to consolidate a network of peers working together to end CEFM in the region;
- Discuss strategies on how to implement and monitor at the national level *PGA's Global Parliamentary Declaration to End Child, Early and Forced Marriage* in line with Sustainable Development Goal's target 5.3 calling to an end of this practice;
- In Ghana, build capacity and political support among MPs on the current development of a National Strategic Framework to End Child Marriage led by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection as well as in harmonizing the Children's Act with the Child and Family Welfare Policy (2015).

Agenda

Day One – Wednesday, 2 March 2016

9:30-10:00 a.m. Registration of Participants

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Opening Session & Welcoming Remarks

Chair: Hon. Alban Bagbin, MP, Majority Leader & Chair of PGA's National Group, Parliament of Ghana

Hon. Joe Ghartey, Second Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Hon. Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration, Republic of Ghana
H.E. Mr. Christopher Thornley, High Commissioner of Canada to the Republic of Ghana
Hon. Irene Naa Torshie Addo, MP & former PGA Board Member, Parliament of Ghana

11:15-11:45 a.m. *Official Photograph
Coffee & Tea*

11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Session 1: Causes, consequences and challenges of CEFM: what can parliamentarians do?

Chair/Facilitator: Hon. Irene Naa Torshie Addo, MP & former PGA Board Member, Parliament of Ghana

Presentation and Discussion of the Girls Not Brides Toolkit on “The Role of Parliamentarians to end child marriage”

Ms. Ruth Koshal, Senior Africa Engagement Officer, Girls Not Brides

Testimony of a child bride: Ms. Kombian Patience Lamisi, Tamale, Northern Region, Ghana

Interactive Discussion

12:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Session 2: Utilizing regional and international fora and key outcome documents to foster and effect change: the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage and PGA’s Parliamentary Declaration on CEFM

- The role of Parliamentarians in the implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and other international and regional common positions to end child marriage

Chair: Hon. Elizabeth Sackey, Member of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Video Message: Ms. Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda, Goodwill Ambassador African Union’s Campaign to End Child Marriage

Mr. M. Bawa Amadu, Assistant Representative of UNFPA, Ghana

Advocate Karen McKenzie, Head of Human Rights, Commonwealth Secretariat

Hon. Gifty Eugenia Kusi, Member of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Q & A

2:00-3:00 p.m. *Lunch*

3:00-4:00 p.m.

Session 3: Improving synergies among Parliamentarians, religious and traditional leaders, civil society and the media to end child, early and forced marriage

Interactive Discussion moderated by: Ms. Valerie Msoka, Lead Media Advisor & former Executive Director of TAMWA, Tanzania

Hon. Alexander Afenyo-Markin, Member of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Mr. Evans Sinkari, Program Manager, Christian Children’s Fund of Canada (CCFC Ghana)

Q & A

4:00-5:20 p.m.

Session 4: The Ghanaian Case – Assessing progress and obstacles in the implementation of legislation and national policies to address child, early and forced marriage (CEFM)

- Development process of Ghana’s National Strategic Framework on Child Marriage
- Report back on PGA’s Accra Statement of Commitment on CEFM (2014), Accra, Ghana

Chair: Hon. Patricia Appiagyei, Member of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Hon. Ursula Owusu-Ekuful, Member of Parliament & PGA Board Member, Parliament of Ghana
Ms. Dinah Adiko, Coordinator, Child Marriage Unit, Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) Domestic Violence Secretariat, Republic of Ghana
Mr. George Dery, Programme Manager for the Upper West Region, ActionAid Ghana

Q & A

End of Day 1

Day two – Thursday, 3 March 2016

9:45-10:00 a.m. Projection of a segment of the film “Difret” (*full film available at <http://geni.us/Difret>*)

10:00-11:00 a.m.

Session 5: The Tanzanian Case – Opportunities & challenges to harmonize legislative frameworks on women’s rights in conformity with the country’s regional and international commitments

Chair: Hon. Dalaly Peter Kafumu, Member of Parliament, Tanzania

Hon. Jasson Samson Rweikiza, Member of Parliament, Tanzania

Hon. Mary Machuche Mwanjelwa, Member of Parliament, Tanzania

Ms. Valerie Msoka, Lead Media Advisor & former Executive Director of TAMWA, Tanzania

Q & A

11:00-11:15 a.m. Coffee & Tea

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Session 6: Cross-Regional Sharing – Experiences & Best Practices from Peer Parliamentarians in Africa

Chair: Hon. George Loh, Member of Parliament, Parliament of Ghana

Hon. Esther Mcheka Chilenje, Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Malawi

Hon. Juliano Victoria Picardo, Member of Parliament, Mozambique

Hon. Jessie Majome, Member of Parliament, Zimbabwe

Q & A

12:15-1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15-2:30 p.m.

Session 7: Recommendations to strengthen national legal and policy frameworks on CEFM and improve coordination among all key stakeholders

Chair: Hon. Emmanuel Kwasi Bandua, Chairperson of Foreign Affairs Committee, Parliament of Ghana

Hon. Nana Oye Lithur, Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Republic of Ghana

Hon. Jasmine Toffa, Member of Parliament & Chair of Gender and Population Committee, PGA National Group, Zimbabwe

Ms. Susan Namondo Ngongji, UNICEF Country Representative, Ghana

Dr. Ndonwie Peter, National Executive Secretary, Girls Not Brides-Ghana

Q & A

2:30-3:30 p.m.

Closing Session and discussion & adoption of outcome document

Co-Chaired by Hon. Ursula Owusu-Ekuful, Member of Parliament & PGA Board Member, Parliament of Ghana, and Hon. Jasson Samson Rweikiza, Member of Parliament, Tanzania

Ms. Susan Namondo Ngongi, UNICEF Country Representative, Ghana

Rapporteur: Dr. David Donat Cattin, Secretary-General, Parliamentarians for Global Action

End of Day 2