



Civil Society Organizations will advise AU Member States on how youth can contribute to sustainable development and peace and security in Africa

The 18th GIMAC Pre-Summit, a Shadow Event to the African Union Summit, will focus on the key issues affecting the youths in Africa and will bring recommendations at the AU Head of States Summit.

The 18th Pre-Summit Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the African Union (AU), a shadow event of the AU Summit organized by the Gender is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC), a network of more than 50 Civil Society Organizations, will take place the **27th and 28th** of June in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in CEMAC Parliament (Parliament States of Central Africa).

This meeting, organized by Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) in partnership with the Gender Cluster of the Economic Social and Cultural Council of AU (ECOSOCC-AU) and with the support of the Minister of Social Affairs and Women Promotion of Equatorial Guinea, the Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice (MRFJ) and the International Labor Organization (ILO), will provide a chance for stakeholders and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to deliberate on **how young people can contribute to peace and security, socio-economic growth and sustainable development on the continent.**

Concretely, the GIMAC network will focus on **“Accelerating Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development”** discussing about the issues that affect young women with emphasis on Violence against Women in Conflict and Post-conflict Situations, Gender and Climate Change/Climate Justice and Gender and Social Economy. A session will be devoted to the **AU Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)** with a view of highlighting the role of the gender cluster and updates on current issues. Important personalities will take place in these debates as **Ms Eulalia Envó Bela**, Minister of Women’s Promotion in Equatorial Guinea and **Ms Bineta Diop, FAS Executive Director and recently named as one of the 100 most important people in the world by TIMA Magazine.**

This is an opportunity for civil society organizations in Africa to come together, to develop a common agenda, to advocate to governments and the African Union for accelerated and increased action on existing commitments, and to monitor and evaluate the progress being made on gender mainstreaming.

After two days meeting, a document comprising **the most vital recommendations of the 18th GIMAC Pre-Summit** will be brought by an advocacy delegation of GIMAC to the AU Head of States Summit (30 June and 1st July). Therefore, the Pre-Summit Meeting will provide a key platform and window of visibility to carry the GIMAC network’s recommendations to the highest levels of AU debate and discussion. In addition, women from the frontline of conflict realities, high-level spokeswomen, UN NGO representatives and regional campaign networks from Africa will contribute to the deliberations and recommendations

PRESS CONFERENCE

A press Conference will take place on Tuesday 28 June 2011 at 10.30 a.m in the Parliament of the CEMAC.

We hope to meet you there.

For media inquiries please contact in Malabo:

Maria Berenguer

Tél.in Malabo : + 240 222 053 440

Email : acomunicationdk@fasngo.org

Or **Moussa Diop**

Tel. In Malabo: + 240 222 044 965

Email : communicationdk@fasngo.org

For further information, please visit FAS website www.fasngo.org

For further information on the last GIMAC please click <http://www.fasngo.org/17th-GIMAC-Pre-Summit.html>