

## **STATEMENT OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE WOMEN OF COTE D' IVOIRE**

### **BY WOMEN PEACEMAKERS PROGRAM- AFRICA**

As we observe the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of International Women Day, **The Women Peacemakers Program-Africa (WPP-A)** stand together in strong solidarity with the women of Cote d'Ivoire and call upon all parties in the Ivorian crisis to uphold the rights and safety of Ivorian women. In the wake of heightened attacks against un-armed women who were simply expressing their universal rights of freedom of expression, participation and assembly by engaging in a nonviolence demonstration , we call for a sense of respect for dignity, justice, and equality to uphold the civil and human rights of women in Cote d' Ivoire, regardless of their political affiliation.

We condemn the use of the military to cut short the lives of helpless women. We urge for the safety and protection of all women to live free of fear and intimidation in Cote d' Ivoire.

We further deplore the absence of women in the mediation team so far engaged, and urge the active participation of women in the Ivorian peace process.

Above all, we find appalling the prevailing culture of silence on the horrific crimes against women and humanity and call on ECOWAS and AU to ensure that perpetrators are brought to book.

We urge all forces and militia to fulfil Cote d' Ivoire's commitment to uphold the human rights of all members of the country and globe.

We wish to reiterate that Security for all means security for women.

In light of this, we call upon all parties involved in the crisis to immediately:

- **Exhibit respect for women and refrain his forces from indiscriminately turning the gun on them.**
- **Uphold the civil liberties and human rights of all individuals, regardless of their political beliefs and gender.**
- **Recognize the contribution of women in the development of democracy in Cote d' Ivoire**

- **Guarantee the safety of women in Cote d' Ivoire.**
- **End harassment of women in Cote d' Ivoire.**
- **Uphold the UNSCR 1325 and its related resolutions on Women Peace and Security which Cote d' Ivoire has ascribed to.**

**SIGNED:**

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|---|--|
| 1. Aimée Espérance Matungulu-                           | <b>WPP/DRC</b>                                       |
| 2. Viviane Lengelo-                                     | <b>COFERD, Congo DRC</b>                             |
| 3. Angela Mutale Munthali-                              | <b>Catholic Diocese Of Ndola, Zambia</b>             |
| 4. Flora Francis Bringi -                               | <b>Sudanese Organization for Non-</b>                |
|   | <b>violence And Development (SONAD), South Sudan</b> |
| 5. Bouaré Bintou Founé Samaké –                         | <b>Women In Law And Development</b>                  |
| <b>In Africa (WILDAF), Mali</b>                         |  |
| Netsai Mushonga-  | <b>Women's Coalition Of Zimbabwe</b>                 |
| <b>(WCOZ)</b>   |  |
| 6. Sandrine Nkurikiye-                                  | <b>Radio Publique Africaine, Burundi</b>             |
| 7. Seconde Nyanzobe-                                    | <b>Fountain Isoko For Good</b>                       |
| <b>Governance And Integrated Development, Burundi</b>   |  |
| 8. Laura Anyola Tufon-                                  | <b>Justice And Peace Commission, Cameroon</b>        |
| 9. Lucy Wambui Ndung'u -                                | <b>International Conference Of The</b>               |
| <b>Great Lakes Region - Multifunctional Youth Forum</b> |  |
| 10. Abigail M Renner-                                   | <b>Peace And Conflict Studies Department</b>         |
| <b>FBC/WIPNET, Sierra Leone</b>                         |  |
| 11. Aurélie Razafinjato –                               | <b>VLMF, Madagascar</b>                              |
| 12. Tiohozon Ibrahima Coulibaly-                        | <b>WANEP-Côte D'ivoire</b>                           |
| 13. Becky Adda-Dontoh-                                  | <b>Mothers For Active Nonviolence (MOFANv),</b>      |
| <b>Ghana</b>  |  |
| 14. Mrs Rosaline B. Obeng-Ofori -                       | <b>Gender/Human Resources Development</b>            |
| <b>Consultant, Ghana</b>                                |  |
| 15. Dr. Nemata Majeks-Walker -                          | <b>The 50/50 Group Of Sierra Leone</b>               |
| 16. Sharon Groenmeyer-                                  | <b>Soka Gakkai International</b>                     |
| 17. Victoria Daaor -                                    | <b>Elohim Development Foundation, Nigeria</b>        |
| 18. Béatrice Bikoroka-                                  | <b>Women For Peace And Development (W.P.D),</b>      |
| <b>Rwanda</b>   |  |

19. Mama Adama Keita- **Partenariat Recherches Environnement Médias (PREM) et journaliste à la radio diffusion télévision guinéenne**
20. Jeanne Bitsure- **Réseau des Femmes et Alliés Artisans de la Paix, Burundi**
21. Caroline Claire Yankep- **Dynamique Mondiale Des Jeunes, Cameroun**
22. Léontine Djima Konou Idohou - **Réseau pour l'Intégration des Femmes des Organisations Non Gouvernementales et Associations Africaines Section Bénin (RIFONGA-Bénin)**
23. Sylvie Ses Akme - **Femmes, Droits Et Développement (FE2D), Cote d'Ivoire**
24. Valentine Makou Kapoko- **Ligue des Femmes pour l'Education- Cameroun (LIFE-Cameroun)**
25. Seraphine Nisabwe - **Centre des Femmes pour la Paix, Burundi**
26. Adjo Lewis- **Mothers For Active Nonviolence (MOFANv), Ghana**
27. Zéinab Traore- **Organisation du Fleuve Makona pour la Paix (OFMA -Sierra Leone/ Libéria/ Guinée)**
28. Ernest Razafindraibe - **Mouvement International pour la Réconciliation Madagascar -Comité Régional Toamasina**