



Statement on the Rwenzori Women Convention on Ending Gender Biases in the
Rwenzori region seated at Lisieux Hotel, Fort Portal, 8th March 2022.

Theme: "Break the Bias"

We the undersigned stakeholders from the Rwenzori region gathered at Lesieux Hotel Fort Portal, to discuss the gender biases in the Rwenzori region, their causes, and effects under the space organised by Action for Women Foundation (AWF) in partnership with Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ) with support from UN Women under the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund;

Having defined gender as the characteristics of women, men that are socially constructed.

And agreeing that it includes norms, behaviours and roles associated with being men, women, girls and boys they vary from society to society and it being a pre-conceived idea/opinion about someone or something;

Having ascertained that gender biases take the forms of inequality in employment, education, access to health service and resources, inheritance and property ownership, freedom of expression, decision-making, leadership, justified male aggression and that woman not assertive enough.

Having explored and discussed the causes of gender biases as culture, religion, ethnicity, inferiority complex, education, illiteracy/ignorance, upbringing/mentorship, intermarriages, struggle for power/jealousy,

Having agreed that the effects of gender biases include early marriages and teenage pregnancies, separation/ divorce, domestic violence, poverty, school dropout mostly for girls, discrimination, low involvement in decision making, child labour, inferiority complex and death

KASCIURE PHIONAH Kasemire

AHA SIBUKI JANE Jane

BRIDGES KABATEMAM

Musuma Olivia Olive

Musuma Olivia
Kasemire
Jane
Bridges
Kabatemam

Kemrose
Koromir
Antherindoro
Koromir
Pulak
Bukoh

Kabateam Kate Kabatemam

R. Kabateam

Kansiime Mary

We came to a consensus that; Commitments from women leaders in the mini convention

1. Women council chairpersons to attend PTA meetings in their sub counties and sensitise parents and teachers to break biases that that demean/ oppress the girl child for example "girls don't drive heavy trucks
2. To advocate for mentorship sessions for men before marriage so as to prepare them to face the new life
3. To give equal mentorship opportunities for both boys and girls
4. To mobilize women to form SACCOs so as to improve their economic strength
5. To promote talents of women and girls by organizing them to form football teams and engage in other sports events
6. To popularize male engagement so as to receive an upper hand of men in women empowerment endeavors and bias breaking
7. Women leaders committed themselves to report and follow up cases of Gender Based Violence in their communities
8. To encourage women to participate in politics and take on positions which society deems to be for men e.g area councilors, area MPs etc

We thus commit ourselves to;

- Rising awareness and sensitization of the public about the gender biases.
- Liaising with the ministry of education/ ministry of gender to influence the education curriculum.
- Enacting and implementing bylaws/ policies that are gender responsive and transformative and popularize the gender responsive laws already in existence.
- Engaging men and boys in the discussions so as they are also aware of the gender biases.
- Creating awareness on the new law of succession.
- Mainstreaming gender in all sectors (education, livelihoods, production)
- Ensure gender budgeting in all sectors
- Engaging the religious and cultural leaders to promote positive attitude change.
- Encouraging positive parenting.

Hhungu Jeteress
Makamewingu Zawadi
AJUSA MARIOT
Nobanda Njome

Tuseje Convent

Uchiro
Kanyonyuzi
Njome

- Dissemination of information in communities concerning gender biases
- Acting as positive role models
- Ensure that women are aware of the parish development model (PDM)
- Due to the effects of Covid-19, we provide psycho social support to pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, their caregivers and/or parents and instilling hope to these young girls for a bright future

END

Signed by: ~~Hyakwera~~

~~HA~~

~~HA~~

~~Iradae~~ EMILY IRADUKUNDA

Katua. KATUURA SHARON

~~anlesi~~

Kagoro MELISSA

~~Frank~~

KINTU FLORENCE (Haw)