

EVENT REPORT

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

TANZANIA

RICHARD SHABA
CORINNA GRABOWSKI
JULIE GOUDET

OCTOBER 2017

Workshop “In Defense of youth and women’s constitutional and legal rights”

On Wednesday, October 18th, the Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) organized together with the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) a workshop under the theme “In defense of youth and women’s constitutional and legal rights”. The event took place at the Maru Maru Hotel in Unguja, the main island of the archipelago of Zanzibar, and was the first joint event between ZAFELA and KAS.

Ms. Hamisa Mmanga, Board member of ZAFELA, opened the event. She emphasized the necessity of the fight for the protection of children and women in Zanzibar and Tanzania in general. The country is ranked very high in terms of teen pregnancies. Two out of five young girls are married before the age of eighteen. More generally, girls and women are often marginalized in Tanzania. Thus, they are mostly deprived of their right to education and are more exposed to health, economic and social risks. ZAFELA supports them mainly by informing them about their rights as well as providing capacity building for young women.

The moderator, Ms. Munira Humud, director of the Zanzibar Chamber of Commerce, invited the participants to introduce themselves. Richard Shaba, Programme Coordinator of KAS, briefly presented the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. He underlined the importance of the rule of law and reminded the participants that democracy requires that people are aware of their rights and can access them. Thus, civic education and protection of marginalized communities are key components when fighting for democra-

cy. Richard Shaba also highlighted the partners of the KAS in Tanzania and was hopeful that ZAFELA would also become KAS partner.



Moderator, Munira Humud (left), and KAS Programme Coordinator, Richard Shaba (right)

After a group photo, the moderator, Ms. Munira Humud, invited each participant to write down their expectations from this workshop. Ms. Jamila Mahmoud, Director of ZAFELA, made the first presentation under the topic “Components and principles of leadership”. She asked the ZAFELA members to reflect and relate the topic to the situation within the organization. She summarized the contributions with a Gold and Ewans’ quote - “the process of guiding followers in a certain direction in pursuit of a vision, mission or goal”. By extension, there are several leadership types. Jamila Mahmoud finally led the ZAFELA team in direction of a democratic leadership. She stressed the importance for a good leader to dialogue with others. She concluded by giving the participants sentences which highlight strong leadership - “I admit, I made a mistake”, “You did a good job” or even very simple words like “we”.

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Jamila Mahmoud presented the Components and Principles of Leadership

Subsequently, the moderator, Munira Humud, split the participants into two groups and gave each a different assignment. The group work results revealed areas which ZAFELA needs to look into with the view to improve the same. ZAFELA members felt that their organization should form more coalitions / cooperation with other entities for better resource utilization.

The afternoon session started with the second presentation by Almasi Mohamed Ali, Secretary General of Zanzibar Youth Forum (ZYF). The topic was "Women, Peace and Security management". He explained that peace can be perceived as the absence of violence, or as a situation of stability, which is accepted by most of the community members. He also reminded the participants that around 50% of the human population are women. Thus, "How can one possibly attempt to create and maintain peace and security while excluding women?", he asked. Women are the most affected by the different, often interconnected, forms of violence around the world. For example, up to 80% of internally displaced persons are women and children as a result of violence.



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Almasi Mohamed Ali talked about Women, Peace and Security management

However, as Almasi Mohamed Ali called to mind, women can also be violent, although this phenomenon tends to be overlooked because of stereotypes and the male-domination in fields like terrorism, criminality and counter-terrorism. It is important to note that in most cases violence is linked to marginalization of a group or individual. Finally, the Secretary General of ZYF stressed the role of women as peace-building agents. Indeed, in most communities, women are in charge of the early education of children, which gives them the opportunity to impact beliefs and values of the society.

Munira Humud thanked the ZAFELA members, the presenters and the KAS members for every successful and interactive workshop. She then invited Richard Shaba to give a vote of thanks. Richard Shaba expressed KAS appreciation for the good work being done by ZAFELA. He thanked them for doing good preparation work and was convinced that this workshop shall form the base for future collaboration between ZAFELA and KAS.



Group picture