



The Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy
MIFTAH

Action plan for the Follow-up of the recommendations of the Conference Women Call: One Country, One People, One Flag

(2015 -2016)

MIFTAH aims at empowering effective leadership to enhance democracy and good governance and raise public awareness towards the rights and responsibilities of active citizenship. To advance this end and based on the results of the Conference: Women Call: One Country, One People, One Flag, which was jointly organized with a group of Palestinian civil society organizations and UNDP on the 15th of June, 2015 in Ramallah concomitantly with Gaza through video conferencing.

The conference closing statement called for immediate achievement of national reconciliation through a full and immediate implementation of the Cairo Agreement for National Reconciliation and in accordance with the 'Shati' Agreement. It also stressed on the need for achieving a social contract based on the concept of citizenship and the recognition of women's rights in political participation based on the Palestinian Declaration of Independence and the Palestinian women's rights document ratified by women's movement in Palestine. Finally, the statement confirmed the necessity for political pluralism in society and the participation of all, first and foremost women, in the building and development process, and for all to live in freedom and dignity according to the law.

A major result of this conference is that women groups were sensitized on the importance to join their efforts and initiatives so as to be able to make their voice heard by politicians and policy-makers. Women from different political groups including but not limited to: Hamas, Jihad, Fatah and Leftist Parties have agreed on one vision for: "One Country, One People and One Flag". They unanimously agreed to follow up on the recommendations of the conference. As a result, a follow-up committee was formulated of around 20 CSOs in the occupied Palestinian territory, to jointly coordinate and implement the recommendations of the conference and action plan.

Objective:

1. Strengthen effective and institutionalized communication between women of different political factions, the elites, civil society, local government, private sector and grassroots and marginalized communities.
2. It further aims to advance the engagement of women and young women, women leaders and civil society in advocacy efforts to promote women and youth participation in decision-making processes, including in reconciliation and peace-building.

Interventions

1. Public Mobilization for national reconciliation and monitor the process

- Organize **follow-up meetings with relevant Civil Society Organizations** at both West Bank and Gaza, to consolidate efforts and ensure collective work to put in place to follow up the recommendations of the conference” Women Call for National Unity : One Country, One People, One Flag”.
- Organize **32 meetings** at the districts level to promote mobilization of youth and women at grassroots level and respond to their political and social marginalization through peaceful and popular pressure to advance women's role in achieving national reconciliation.
- Develop **one position paper that outlines women positions and recommendations for policy-makers and political factions on:**
 - a) Support women participation and inclusiveness in reconciliation and peacemaking efforts
 - b) Support women’s access and influence at high-decision making levels.
- Organize **a dialogue session** including women and youth leaders at the grassroots level with political leaders and policy makers, to address urgent issues and advocate on influencing policy formulation that promotes women's participation in reconciliation efforts and to hold political leaders accountable for not taking actions to achieve national unity.

2. Forming National Initiatives and Campaigns

The focus of lobbying activities will be the adoption of mechanisms for citizens’ participation, accompanied by media and advocacy campaigns to improve governments’ accountability and transparency towards the inclusiveness of women and youth in national reconciliation and peace-making. The campaigns will be based on and will use the outcomes of the different activities

including conference recommendations and national agreements and commitments. Suggested media activities include:

- **Broadcast one-hour show on a local radio station** entitled “*Women’s Call for...*”: to raise the issue of women political participation with focus on women in reconciliation efforts and unity government formulation as referred to in the conference declaration, including interviews with women activists, political leaders, decision makers and officials, youth activists to hold them accountable and push towards taking actions in this regard.
- **Printing of Leaflets (Conference Declaration and Position Paper (Arabic and English)**
- **Advertisements** in newspapers (letters addressed to president and high officials including PLC members, Council of Ministers, and PLO representatives)
- **Audio-visual Spot** to deliver **messages** that address women recommendations as stated in the closing statement of the conference.
- **Animated 4-minute video: competition** among young women in both West Bank And Gaza to produce an animated video to reflect women's call for reconciliation.

3. Spread concepts of tolerance and civic peace among the Palestinian society

Activities will support women and youth outreach initiatives at the districts level to spread concepts of tolerance and civic peace among the Palestinian society, through presentations of academic papers that focus on social cohesion, civic peace and civic engagement.

Support women and young women **initiatives** to further promote networking and media lobbying towards ensuring women and youth demands politically engage in reconciliation and peace-making efforts are taken into consideration by decision and policy-makers, and to push towards achieving reconciliation and national Unity.