

WEPBI NEWSLETTER

FEBRAURY 2023

POLITICS AND WOMEN INCLUSION

Since Nigeria's return to democracy in 1999, one key trend has been women's underrepresentation in politics, women's representation in elected and appointed offices in the country is not only low but keeps declining, despite concerns and efforts by a wide range of stakeholders to improve women's political participation and achieve gender equality.

Nigeria is a signatory to the World Conference on women in Beijing, which advocates 30 per cent affirmative action and National Gender Policy (NGP) recommendation of 35 per cent affirmative action for a more inclusive representation of women both in elective and appointive positions. Nigeria is also a part of the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), The Beijing platform for Action (BPFA), Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa, and The Gender Agenda of Africa 2063, amongst others, Yet assessment of the performance of female candidates in Nigeria's most recent general elections revealed a disturbing trend: women's representation in elective and appointive offices has not only failed to increase, but appears to be in decline. Elections in Nigeria are monetized and transactional in nature and women are socially disadvantaged will not to participate effectively. Apart from the deliberate denial of women to contest in the last concluded election, the election has come to be one that is characterized by violent attacks by thugs which was reported in several polling unit across the nation, with stolen ballot boxes, shooting at voters and burning of electoral materials.



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK Oguadimma Ijeoma Joy

Bina Efidi Jennier is a name that will forever remain green in the minds of Nigerians as far as the 2023 general elections is concerned, she was attacked by thugs as she was waiting in the line along with other electorates to cast her vote at a Local Government in Surulere Lagos during the presidential and senatorial election. Notwithstanding the facial injury and psychological anguish she suffered, she resisted being intimidated or prevented from exercising her civic right.

This act shows the zeal that women have in participating in electoral processes and how they can even do better if given a healthy political atmosphere.

In Nigeria, Bina's attack was just one out of the numerous attacks, violence and voter intimidation that women go through when they show interest in participating in electoral processes such as voting or vying for electoral positions.

Truth be told, for women to actualize their fullest potentials, they must be actively engaged and involved in shaping their own economic and social reality through direct participation and representation. Hence, CSOs, the electoral body, political parties, The media, masses and security personnel have huge roles to play being custodians of democracy.

There should be interventions not just focused on female voters but also on female aspirants, to curb any form of intimidation/ harassments during elections, most especially collaborative interventions focused on instigators of violence which are the political parties, candidates, The Independent Electoral Commission (INEC), and the media.

The eradication of political violence is a key in advancing women's political participation, also condensing political violence before and after the poll will allow women to participate fully.



THE QUEEN'S SUMMIT

In our society today, young women are thriving towards building a meaningful life for themselves even with the increasing rate of unemployment, political instability, loss of jobs, political exclusion, and the continuous decline of women's participation in the electoral process, in the light of this WEPBI on the 10th of February organized 'The Queens Summit' which is an annual seminar, for young female entrepreneurs and leaders, which geared towards boosting their self-confidence, by providing them the platform to share their thoughts/ experiences, as well as gain knowledge and build sustainable networks

The theme of this year's Queens Summit is 'Young Women Becoming Unstoppable Entrepreneurs and Leaders with the Topic "The Woman in Me"'.

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WEPBI LAUNCHES HER FIRST QUATERLY PRODUCED MAGAZINE "THEWOMAN"



WEPBI on the 10th of February launched her first quarterly published magazine 'THE WOMAN'; the informative magazine is well a detailed piece highlighting issues across Life style, health, women inclusion in govemance, gender equality etc. The magazine is another veritable tool WEPBI is using to promote the interest of women and showcase their leadership as well as entrepreneurial potentials.

Click on the link to access this informative piece.
<https://wepbi.com/en/2023/02/10/arrival-of-women-voices-wepbi-launches-the-woman-magazine/>



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WOMEN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



CALL FOR REGISTRATION

SOME LEADERS ARE BORN WOMEN, MAKE GOOD USE OF THIS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY AND REFINE YOUR LEADERSHIP POTENTIALITIES AS A WOMAN



This is a special call for all young women who aspire to be great leaders, use this golden opportunity to equip yourself for the future.

Click on the link below to register:
<https://wepbi.com/en/women-leadershipacademy-registration/>

for more information call
07017989093

Women Leadership Academy (WLA) is a brainchild of WEPBI specially designed for young women to equip and train them on leadership skills, entrepreneurship, and personal development.

Click on the link to register

<https://wepbi.com/en/women-leadershipacademy-registration/>

For more inquiries, you can call - 07017989093

APPRECIATION

Special Thanks To Global Affairs Canada
For Your Sponsorship and To Action Aid
For Their Support



One Girl
One Pad

RAISING THE RURAL GIRL CHILD FOR A
BETTER FUTURE

Poor menstrual hygiene is a major challenge for young girls in the rural areas, WEPBI has a project, One- Girl- One Pad and the aim of the project to help improve the menstrual hygiene of young girls, especially those in the rural areas.

We solicit for your support:
Fidelity bank

Account name : One Girl one pad project
Account numer :5700038066



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