

2011 Annual Report

Background

Although "The Maldives Study on Women's Health and Life Experiences 2007" has shown that violence against women is a serious problem that not only violates women's human rights, but also has devastating effects on their families and the community at large, impunity to violence and denial of justice to victims of violence have continued to be the norm due to lack of systematic efforts to address the problem.

Against this background, a group of concerned women founded Hope for Women, aimed at ending VAW and promoting gender equality. The Organization was registered with the Ministry of Home Affairs on 19th January 2010.

Administration

Following the election of the Executive Committee of the Organization on 13th October 2010, all the activities are planned and endorsed by the Ex Co, and administered under its supervision and support.

Events and Activities

In 2011, the following activities were carried out:

1. Supported the Institute of Local Governance and Development in training the women who contested the first ever local council elections on leadership and the importance of women's participation in politics.
2. Conducted short training sessions for secondary school children (girls and boys) in three local schools.
3. Issued press releases condemning recent incidents of rape and other forms of VAW, while also calling for justice to be restored to victims.
4. Organized a silent march on the streets of the capital city, in collaboration with the concerned government agency, to protest against repeated incidents of violence, and the gang rape of a 75 year old widow.
5. Conducted civic education programs for interested parties on gender and violence against women.
6. Raised issues of gender injustice and violence against women with policy makers.
7. Promoted a discussion in the media on causes, consequences and alternatives to women's rights violations.
8. Consultated with the Ministry of Islamic Affairs on the need to engage Islamic scholars in addressing gender based violence and raising public awareness from an Islamic perspective.
9. Lodged complaints with the relevant Ministries, about certain Islamic scholars advocating female genital cutting as a religious practice, and showed leadership in speaking out against such practice, while also lobbying with the government to announce a policy of zero tolerance and to outlaw the practice.
10. Increasing public awareness on domestic violence through media and training programs.
11. Initiated dialogues with the highest authorities in the National Defence Force to secure the assurance that the first Maldivian contingent to UN peacekeeping will be trained on measures to prevent violence against women and girls in post conflict zones. Also offered to provide the training for free.

Planned Events and Activities

1. To conduct a series of workshops across the nation raising awareness on the prevention of VAW, especially sexual abuse.
2. To start up workshops raising awareness on GBV at the island and atoll level.
3. To initiate gender sensitization training programs for the police and army.
4. To collect and decimate statistics regarding domestic violence
5. To write the CEDAW shadow report.
6. To publish booklets on the Domestic Violence Act

Acknowledgement

Hope for Women thanks those parties who support the organization financially and through other means, in addition to those who support the organization in the implementation of its activities.

31st December 2011

Hope for Women

Financial Statement January - December 2011

	Workshop	Additional Activities	UNDP Proj	Total
	Rf	Rf	Rf	Rf
Received	0	0	68,050	68,050
	0	0	68,050	68,050

	Workshop	Additional Activities	UNDP Proj	Total
	Rf	Rf	Rf	Rf
Spent	6,456	3,730	0	10,186
	6,456	3,730	0	10,186

Account balance as of 31 December 2011: 95,455/-

Sign

1. Aneesa Ahmed
2. Rashida Yoosuf
3. Aishath Azima Shakoor
4. Amal Mohamed
5. Shirani Naeem

- President
- V. President
- Treasure
- Secretary
- G. Member