

EVENT REPORT

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung e.V.

TANZANIA

STEFANIE BRINKEL

RICHARD SHABA

DECEMBER 2017

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In Defense of Constitutional and Legal Rights: A Case of Zanzibar Women and Youth

WORKSHOP WITH ZAFELA ON PEMBA

On Sunday, 10th of December 2017, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and the Zanzibar Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) jointly convened a workshop on constitutional and legal rights focusing on women and youth on Pemba Island which belongs to the Zanzibar archipelago. 20 people took part in the event, 14 of them residing on Pemba Island and 6 participants coming from Unguja Island.

During the welcome ceremony Safia Hija, chairperson of ZAFELA, welcomed all participants. In a short round of self-introductions facilitated by the moderator Richard Shaba, program coordinator of KAS in Tanzania, the participants introduced themselves. Thereafter Daniel El-Noshokaty, resident representative of KAS in Tanzania, delivered greetings from KAS. Additionally, all participants were asked to express their expectations of the workshop and Richard Shaba elaborated on the objectives of the event.

Subsequently, Jamila Mahmoud, director of ZAFELA, gave a presentation on components and principles of leadership. After defining leadership she explained the continuum of different leadership styles, ranging from an authoritarian to a democratic way of leadership. Additionally, she elaborated on the role and responsibilities of a delegate pertaining to leadership styles. She continued to point out key components of effective leadership and explained the vital meaning of self-awareness for a leader and

added that “outstanding leaders see the whole picture” and were “confident in themselves and their ideas”.



Jamila Mahoud, director of ZAFELA, giving a presentation

The participants then discussed the content of her presentation and shared their views. It was reported that women and youth on Pemba are facing oppressions in various ways ranging from the family to the society level. In order to defend rights of women and youth strong leadership and advocacy from organization like ZAFELA as well as empowerment of women in general was needed, the participants noted.

Thereafter Almasi Mohamed Ali, Secretary General of the Zanzibar Youth Forum (ZYF), elaborated on women and youth as marginalized groups and gave a presentation on the topic “women, peace and security management”. Among others, he was asking “How can one possibly attempt to create and maintain peace and security while excluding women?” The participants jointly discussed this question and shared their views on the topic in general. It was agreed that women as custodian of cultures and

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traditions possess an important role as peace-building agents. To be able to practice this function more empowerment and awareness rising was needed, the participants said. Until today a lot of women on Pemba were in a situation where their environment makes it difficult to speak out and to dare to go to court in case of any violation of their dignity and rights, a participant noted.

It was agreed that the efforts of ZAFELA as an institution to support and defend the rights of women and youth needs to be extended and that the cooperation between ZAFELA members on the two island of the Zanzibar archipelago, Unguja and Pemba, shall be strengthened. The participants thanked KAS for making this workshop possible and giving the participants space to share their views and to foster their cooperation.



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Group picture

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