

# Communiqué

## The Africa we want: Post 2015 Africa wide CSO Consultations

Held in Monrovia, Liberia 23 – 25 October, 2012

### *Overview*

The dialogue process themed ‘The Africa we want’ is a Civil Society initiative that provides the Post-2015 consultation partnership with an opportunity to reflect on Africa’s current challenges and opportunities of meeting MDGs and asserting a powerful set of new global development goals post 2015. It also provides space for civil society actors to share and collectively assess existing CSO strategies and elements for CSO grassroots engagement and mobilisation strategy towards the United Nations General Assembly in September 2013.

The Africa We Want dialogue process puts in the spotlight on-going African Civil Society mobilisation processes in including consultations held in Bamako, Dakar, Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Limbe and Rio de Janeiro and includes all other dialogues that are taking place at the grassroots, national and regional levels aimed at defining the way forward ahead of the 2015 limit.

This Communiqué asserts priority actions needed prior to 2015 with respect to completing the MDGs, new goals for the Post 2015 framework and actions required by national governments, regional bodies, the Secretary General’s High level panel on Post 2015 and the United Nations.

### *Preamble*

Reiterating that the rights of peoples and states to develop imply the recognition of the rights of the populations to overcome poverty, and elimination of conditions that generate inequity and social exclusion. Equally critical are the rights of people to live in harmony with nature based on their cultural and religious values.

Putting into perspective the efforts to address food security, peace-building, conflict prevention and management and women’s rights within the framework of community-led initiatives.

Recognising that Climate change is an increasingly important reality affecting African communities and having a direct impact on their livelihoods and means of survival. Therefore, sustainable development functions must consider the need to put in place enablers that shield local African populations from the harmful effects of climate change.

*Therefore, we as African Civil Society, being cognizant of our noble vision, hopes, and aspirations for the acceleration and actualization of MDGs to make development concrete in the lives of women, children and other citizens, reached a decision and ambitiously recommend that the following be considered to ensure concrete development positively impacting the lives of men, women and children in African communities:*

- The quest for sustainable development goals and the Post 2015 agenda provide an opportunity to review and build on the current MDG framework by addressing the gaps and emerging issues such as equity, gender, social protection and inclusion, human rights, governance, water and sanitation, energy, employment and environmental sustainability.
- The process of developing a global development framework should be accessible to ensure inclusiveness of ordinary people especially vulnerable women, youth, older persons, people with disabilities and people living with HIV. Therefore, all stakeholders need to engage processes that generate interest and ensure the active participation of all stakeholders, especially those directly affected by the impact of our inability to meet all the of the MDGs which we consider as a basic minimum. They should therefore be consulted and their views brought on board.
- African governments enhance transparency, inclusion of affected communities and judicious management of resources including land, minerals and other natural resources as well as the incomes derived from them.
- African governments should put in place mechanisms to achieve “Zero Hunger” by 2030 including meeting the Maputo Declaration Commitment.

- Governments and nations put in place legal instruments to enshrine the right to food of citizens in their national constitutions and that countries should be given incentives if they pursue this requirement and sanctions if they fail to comply
- Governments and nations should enforce and implement legal instruments that they have committed to for the development of women and enjoyment of rights as enshrined therein.
- The ultimate direction that the Post 2015 process takes ought to be fully citizen and civic-driven, with adequate components that give the local populations and communities the ability to drive the process and ensure that the needs addressed are derived from real needs.
- Governments put in place mechanisms to ensure 100% coverage for water, sanitation and hygiene by 2030
- Governments especially in Africa must improve investment opportunities in the areas of science and technology that will make maximum impact for development on the continent.