



REPORT ON KNOWLEDGE CREATION AND AWARENESS CAMPAING OF ARTICLE 14 OF MAPUTO PROTOCOL

Organized by the Muslim Peace Network (MPN), Nigeria in Collaboration with Baobab for Women's Human Rights

Date: 28th August 2025

Venue: Hotel 17 Kaduna, Nigeria

Introduction

The Muslim Peace Network (MPN) convened a high-level programme themed on Women's Rights, Sexual and Reproductive Health, and Religious Perspectives. The event was designed to foster dialogue between faith leaders, women's rights advocates, health professionals, and youth actors to advance women's empowerment and well-being in Nigeria and across Africa.

With support from Baobab for Women's Human Rights, the event provided a platform for reflection on global issues such as Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), regional frameworks such as the Maputo Protocol, and contextual insights from religious perspectives.

The programme was also an opportunity to showcase the Muslim Peace Network's achievements, particularly in community outreach, interfaith dialogue, and digital advocacy visibility on social media.

Objectives of the Programme

The event aimed to achieve the following:

1. Educate and sensitize participants on SRHR and its global context.
2. Promote awareness on the Maputo Protocol as a key African framework for advancing women's rights.
3. Highlight the importance of women in society through religious and cultural lenses.
4. Document and share the milestones and visibility of the Muslim Peace Network (MPN).
5. Strengthen collaboration between faith-based leaders, civil society organizations, and the health sector.
6. Encourage community-level engagement in health and wellness practices.

Programme of the Day

1. Arrival of the Guests

Participants, including youth groups, women leaders, religious representatives, and dignitaries, arrived at the venue and were received by the organizing team.

2. National Anthem

The Nigerian national anthem was recited, instilling a sense of unity and patriotism.

3. Opening Prayer

Both Muslim and Christian clerics were invited to lead prayers, underscoring MPN's interfaith approach to peacebuilding and inclusivity.

4. Introduction

The event moderator introduced key dignitaries, facilitators, and partner organizations, setting the tone for an engaging session.

5. Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman welcomed all participants and emphasized the need for unity in addressing women's rights. He highlighted how women's empowerment directly impacts peace, social cohesion, and national development.

6. Brief History of the Muslim Peace Network (MPN)

Delivered by Suleiman Isah. He outlined MPN's founding in 2020, its registration under CAC/IT/NO 149004, and its consultative status with the African Union ECOSOCC. She highlighted MPN's work in interfaith mediation, community outreach, and capacity building.

7. MPN Activities and Social Media Visibility

Presented by **Suleiman Isah**, MPN's Monitoring & Evaluation Manager. He showcased MPN's growing digital presence, noting how platforms such as Facebook, X (Twitter), Tiktok and Instagram have been leveraged for campaigns on peace, climate change, and women's empowerment. He stressed the importance of social media as a tool for advocacy and global engagement.

8. Importance of Women in Society – Religious Perspective

Delivered by **Amb. Imam Hussain Mankanjuola**, Executive Director of MPN. He emphasized the roles of women as caretakers, educators, and leaders within religious contexts. Drawing from Islamic teachings, he highlighted the significance of protecting women's rights to education, dignity, and participation in governance, and warned against cultural practices that undermine women's status.

9. Understanding the Maputo Protocol

Delivered by Dr. Zainab Sulayman Titilope of Psychiatric Hospital Kaduna Mrs Ene Ede Director Partnership and Linkages of Baobab for Women's Human Rights. They provided an in-depth explanation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003), commonly known as the Maputo Protocol. Their presentation emphasized its provisions on women's political participation, reproductive health rights, and protection against harmful practices such as early marriage and gender-based violence.

10. Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in the World Context

Delivered by Andrai Nikolaidou, Executive Director of People Forward (Cyprus). Her presentation placed SRHR within the global development agenda, linking it to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health & Well-being) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality). She drew attention to challenges faced by women in low- and middle-income countries, including stigma, lack of access to reproductive health services, and unsafe abortions.

11. Health Exercise

A short but impactful session was conducted to encourage participants to prioritize physical and mental health. The exercise served as a reminder that advocacy for women's rights also includes promoting holistic well-being.

12. Closing Remarks

The closing session highlighted the key takeaways:

- Women are central to social progress and must be empowered across all sectors.
- Faith-based approaches can reinforce human rights advocacy when rooted in inclusivity.
- Regional frameworks like the Maputo Protocol provide a strong legal foundation for gender equality in Africa.
- SRHR remains an urgent global concern requiring both grassroots and policy-level interventions.

13. Closing Prayer

The event ended with a joint prayer, reaffirming commitment to peace, justice, and gender equity.

Key Speakers' Profiles

- **Andrai Nikolaidou** – Executive Director, People Forward (Cyprus). Expert in youth work, ecosystem building, and SRHR advocacy.
- **Mrs Ene Ede** – Director Partnership and Linkages of Baobab for Women’s Human Rights. A frontline advocate for women’s rights and gender justice in Nigeria.
- **Amb. Imam Hussain Makanjuola** – Executive Director, Muslim Peace Network (MPN), Nigeria. Peace advocate and interfaith leader with a strong focus on women’s rights from religious perspectives.
- **Dr. Zainab Sulayman Titilope** – Psychiatric Hospital Kaduna. Delivered the historical overview of MPN.
- **Suleiman Isah** –Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, MPN. Expert in digital advocacy and program evaluation.

Highlights of the Programme

- Interfaith inclusivity was demonstrated through shared prayers and diverse participation.
- MPN’s digital visibility was recognized as a pioneering tool for grassroots peace advocacy.
- The Maputo Protocol was demystified, making its provisions clearer to grassroots participants.
- SRHR was discussed in a global-to-local framework, linking international commitments to community realities.
- Active engagement of youth and women ensured intergenerational participation.

Outcomes of the Programme

1. Increased awareness on SRHR and Maputo Protocol among participants.
2. Strengthened partnerships between MPN and Baobab
3. Commitment by religious leaders to integrate women’s rights messages in sermons and community dialogues.
4. Renewed energy around social media advocacy as a tool for community mobilization.
5. Establishment of follow-up mechanisms to monitor participants’ actions post-event.

Next Steps and Recommendations

1. **Follow-up Workshops:** Organize localized training sessions on the Maputo Protocol and SRHR.
2. **Documentation & Dissemination:** Publish simplified guides on SRHR and women’s rights for grassroots communities.
3. **Strengthen Digital Campaigns:** Scale up social media advocacy to reach rural and urban youth.

4. **Engage Policy Makers:** Use the momentum from this programme to influence state-level gender policies.
5. **Health Integration:** Collaborate with health institutions for regular wellness sessions during MPN events.

Conclusion

The programme successfully created a safe and interactive platform to discuss sensitive but critical issues affecting women in society. By integrating religious perspectives, regional legal frameworks, and global health discourses, the event established a holistic understanding of women's rights.

Muslim Peace Network reaffirmed its role as a tech-driven, interfaith, and youth-inclusive organization committed to strengthening peace, justice, and gender equality in Nigeria and beyond.

Photo Gallery:



Representatives of the President of the Rotary Club of Kaduna State Chapter giving a remarks



Cross section of participants at the Event



Executive Director of Muslim Peace Network making his presentation



Dr. Zainab Sulayman Titilope of Psychiatric Hospital Kaduna. Delivering her paper presentation



Group Photograph of Participants



Cross section of participants at the Event